

Real Estate Transactions – Wire Fraud Warning

Real estate wire fraud is a growing cybercrime targeting buyers, sellers, REALTORS®, title companies, attorneys, and lenders. Criminals send fake emails that appear legitimate in an attempt to redirect funds to fraudulent accounts.

BEFORE YOU WIRE FUNDS

✓ CALL TO VERIFY

Always confirm wiring instructions by phone using a trusted number for the title company, attorney, or lender. Remember your real estate agent is always here to guide you, so when in doubt call your agent.

Never trust wiring instructions sent only by email.

✓ NEVER EMAIL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Do not send account numbers, passwords, or wiring details through email.

✓ USE SECURE WEBSITES

Before entering financial information online:

Look for **https://** — the “S” after http shows the site is secure

Type website addresses directly into your browser

Avoid clicking links in emails

✓ BE CAREFUL WITH EMAILS & ATTACHMENTS

Fraudulent emails can look legitimate and may contain harmful links or attachments.

✓ KEEP YOUR DEVICES UPDATED

Use current antivirus protection and keep your devices, browsers, and software updated.

COMMON SCAM WARNING SIGNS

- 🚩 Last-minute changes to wiring instructions
- 🚩 Urgent requests to send money immediately
- 🚩 Email addresses that look slightly different
- 🚩 Requests to avoid calling for verification
- 🚩 Poor grammar or unusual wording in emails

STOP & VERIFY

DO NOT SEND FUNDS UNTIL YOU VERIFY BY PHONE

If anything seems unusual, rushed, or different than expected:



Educational information provided to help clients stay informed during the real estate transaction process.

Source: National Association of REALTORS® and FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3).