



WIRE FRAUD WARNING - READ THIS BEFORE SENDING \$\$\$

Wire fraud in the real estate industry has become a major concern as criminals try to steal *your* money by impersonating a title company employee or real estate agent. You may be a potential victim of an email sent by a criminal that is made to look like it is from us or from your agent. There have been other instances where a criminal uses a phone call to impersonate the title company or real estate agent. Protecting your dollars is a priority. Before sending closing funds, CALL US using a phone number you know to be accurate. Never use a phone number received in an email or from an unknown source. ***Burnet Title is not responsible for wires sent to an incorrect bank account.*** To protect your funds, please carefully read the FBI tips below and contact us if you have questions!

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

As recommended by the FBI

- Don't automatically trust the information you get in emails - even if they look legitimate.
- Verify the instructions you get independently by phone or in person.
- If you use the phone to verify the information, look up the number yourself. Don't use the number listed on the email - because that could be fake too.
- Don't just hit "reply" to answer an email dealing with your finances. Scammers can make an email address look real, but direct replies to themselves. So, take time to type in the proper email address yourself.
- Act quickly if you suspect fraud. If you contact your financial institution and law enforcement immediately, they may be able to freeze the funds before they reach the thieves.
- File a complaint with the FBI, regardless of dollar loss, at www.IC3.gov.