



Tuscola County Register of Deeds Office

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Quarterly Newsletter

Quit 'Bugging' Me: Suspicious Letters Hit Mailboxes

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As the weather warms, and the bugs decide to once again return to the air (and window screens), it seems they've brought with them some other unwelcome visitors.

Recently, our office has been receiving an influx of notifications about letters county residents have been getting in the mail. These letters are from numerous entities, but they all share similar content – a request to purchase property that isn't for sale. They often contain the legal descriptions of said properties, and attached purchase agreements for property owners to fill out. While these letters may not be outright scams, they can cause distress for those who are then worried someone might have transferred their property without their knowledge.

Our office recommends sending these letters to the Sheriff's Office, so they are aware, as well as bringing them into our office. We keep copies of these letters to aid in keeping residents informed of current and past scams.

Some Peace of Mind

In light of these letters, and other possible scams, the Register of Deeds Office has recently implemented a Property Record Alert system (which can be accessed through the county website) that will allow residents to be notified when documents are recorded under a registered name.

Marianne Brandt



STATE TAX LIEN SCAM

Alongside these Purchase Request letters, the Register of Deeds office has become aware of another suspicious mailing that has been sent out to residents. These involve unpaid State Tax Liens.

These documents often state the property owner may be 'under investigation' by the State of Michigan for unpaid State Tax Liens – even if they've already been paid off.

Both State Tax Liens and their Releases are recorded with the Register of Deeds office. If you believe you've received one of these scam mailings, don't hesitate to call our office. We can confirm whether or not a Release has been recorded for a State Tax Lien that is on file with our office.