WIRE FRAUD NOTICE

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REALTORS® Association of Lincoln

Criminals are attempting to impersonate escrow companies and real estate agents in sophisticated wire fraud schemes. Unauthorized individuals have been caught providing fraudulent wire transfer information to parties in real estate transactions, which direct funds to the thief. This could include a criminal contacting Buyer or Seller, directly or indirectly, in an attempt to steal funds that rightfully belong to the parties.

Never trust wiring instructions sent via email. Cyber criminals are hacking email accounts and sending emails with fake wiring instructions. These emails are convincing and sophisticated. **Always independently confirm** wiring instructions in person or via a telephone call to a trusted and verified phone number. **Never** wire money without double-checking that the wiring instructions are correct.

Always be suspicious of any requests to change wiring instructions at or right before closing. **Always** independently confirm any of the following in person or via a telephone call to a trusted and verified phone number:

- Requests to speed up the transfer to a sooner date
- Change of payment instructions
- Requests to unexpectedly modify the date of the transfer
- Any other unexpected wire transfer requests or instructions
- New transfer instructions received via email

In the event that any party believes an unauthorized request has been made for bank account information or funds, the Escrow Company should be contacted immediately. In the event that funds are transferred to a fraudulent account, there may be no way to recover these funds from the criminals involved. Contact the Omaha FBI Office, cyber crimes division, at (402) 493-8688 or https://www.ic3.gov as soon as possible.

IF IN DOUBT, ASK YOUR REALTOR®

Gary Vogler	8-5-22	Kathleen Vogler	8-5-22
Seller	Date	Seller	Date
Buyer	Date	Buyer	Date

Approved 11/15/17