



OAKLAND COUNTY CLERK/ REGISTER OF DEEDS WARNS RESIDENTS TO BEWARE OF SCAM MAILINGS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AUGUST 7, 2023

CONTACT:
clerk@oakgov.com / 248-858-0561

[OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN] - **Oakland County Clerk/ Register of Deeds Lisa Brown** is sounding the alarm about misleading mailings received by area residents under the guise of representing Oakland County and tax collection offices.

Over the past several weeks, numerous area residents contacted the Oakland County Register of Deeds office after receiving a postcard through the mail with the heading "County Deed Records" and "Home Warranty Division." The postcard threatens a "lapse in coverage" and contains language clearly designed to agitate recipients. Emblazoned with terms like "Property Lienholder," "Final Notice" and "Registration is Required," recipients are urged to call a 1-800 telephone number. The notice is a sales marketing ploy for home warranty policies priced at thousands of dollars annually.

A separate mailing emblazoned with the heading "Third Notice" references a state tax lien and offers a "target settlement amount." Like the first example, these mailers contain urgent threats of "property loss, a bank levy, wage garnishment, or all of the above" and urge recipients to call a 1-800 telephone number to "help us to help you satisfy this debt." These mailings are not authorized by any department of Oakland County government. Under no circumstances should residents send money.

"Unfortunately, scammers and fraudsters are getting more and more savvy in the ways they attempt to bait and mislead homeowners. I urge people to be wary of unsolicited demands for money," said **Lisa Brown, Oakland County Clerk/ Register of Deeds**. "If you receive these or similar suspicious communications in your mailbox, please know that it is not from my office and has no bearing on the status of your property. The best course of action is to dispose of these the same way you would any other piece of junk mail."

A third example of misleading mail, received by some area business owners, carries the heading "Notice of Tax Lien" and references tax liens on property that has in some cases already been paid off. These mailers share the common denominator of employing urgent and threatening language, raising the specters of "imprisonment" and "wage garnishment, seizure of property or assets." Again, these mailings are not official communications and under no circumstances should residents send money.



OAKLAND COUNTY CLERK/ REGISTER OF DEEDS WARNS RESIDENTS TO BEWARE OF SCAM MAILINGS (continued)

“Upon being notified of this particular scam, I called the number on the mailer myself,” said **Clerk/ Register Brown**. “The 855 number was answered ‘tax offices’ but is clearly not a government entity. I cannot stress enough to ignore these bogus threats and, when I doubt, call my office, not them.” The number for the Oakland County Clerk/ Register of Deeds office is 248-858-0561 or email deeds@oakgov.com.

The Oakland County Register of Deeds offers the Property Records Notification (PRN), a free service to keep residents proactively informed about any documents filed relating to their real estate.

“The threat of property fraud is real and, while thankfully rare, something every homeowner should be vigilant about,” said **Clerk Brown**. “That’s why I established the Property Records Notification (PRN), a free service that sends an email notification whenever a document is recorded in the Oakland County Register of Deeds office with an enrollee’s chosen search term, like your home address for example. This is just one of the services we provide to help make life a little more secure for Oakland County residents.”

Brown received national accolades for her free program. PRN is an important protective measure that keeps enrolled homeowners apprised of any activity on their property records and to let residents know of changes. Create your account and empower yourself by visiting www.ocmideeds.com and signing up today.

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Oakland County
Notice No. [REDACTED]

Notice of Tax Lien

7/21/2023

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tax Amount	\$65,218
Filing County	Oakland
PIN	[REDACTED]
Creditor	State Of Michigan
Notice Number	[REDACTED]
Call	1(855)200-8270
Hours	6AM to 6PM M-F
Respond by	8/4/2023

You Received This Notice Because:

- We have received information that a judgment filed against you for unpaid taxes.
- A lien has been filed causing this balance to be categorized as seriously delinquent.
- This balance may be eligible for settlement.

What You Should Do Immediately:

- Call our office toll-free at 1(855)200-8270.
- Assess settlement options.
- Place your case in compliant status to avoid potential collection activities.

To avoid enforcement actions such as wage garnishment, seizure of property or assets, or levy, we strongly encourage you to contact us at 1(855)200-8270 by 8/4/2023. Please be aware that failure to respond may result in further collection actions being taken against the debtor.

As taxpayer, you have the right to retain licensed tax professionals or attorneys to assist you in understanding of your tax liabilities and rights. You are also entitled to the right of appeal in disputing balances, penalties, interest, or the ability to pay. It is the duty of the tax agency to provide you with such rights.

If any amount is credited against the tax liability for which the levy was imposed, other than the costs recovered, this communication shall not be construed as a bill. To dispute any further assessments, liens, or collection activities, please contact us at 1(855)200-8270.

★SAMPLE★

Est Penalties	\$6,522
Est Interest	\$9,783
TOTAL DUE	\$81,523
RESPOND BY	8/4/2023