

Wire fraud continues to impact the real estate industry, now with direct attacks on homebuyers. Cyber criminals use spoofed email addresses and phone numbers to request that deposit money or funds needed for closing be sent to a different bank account.

If you receive a phone call, text message or email indicating that the wiring instructions have changed – **STOP**. Immediately contact someone using a trusted phone number (not the number in the message or on the caller ID) and verify those instructions before you wire funds.

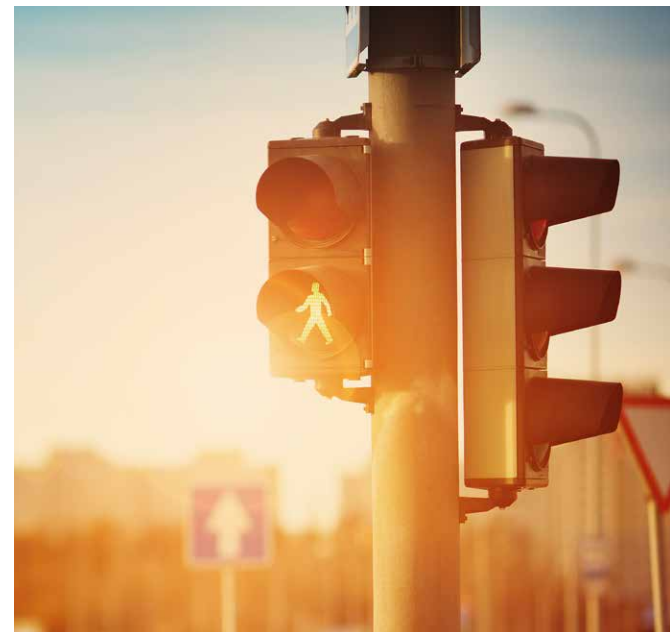
Many criminals use a sense of urgency to trick victims into thinking the funds must be sent immediately. Don't send your money under pressure. Call us at the phone number on this brochure first.



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Wire Fraud Prevention Plan:



Stop.



Call



Verify

Trusted Phone Numbers.

Consider taking a photo of these numbers to have on-hand.

Property Address:

Buyer(s)/Seller(s) Number(s):

Real Estate Agent(s) Number(s):

Lender Number:

Attorney Number:



In 2017, the Internet Crime Complaint Center (iC3) reported over 300,000 complaints with more than \$1.4 billion in losses.

\$56 million came from real estate transactions.

—2017 Internet Crime Report (FBI)



If you receive an **EMAIL** message with wiring instructions

If you receive a **TEXT** with wiring instructions

If you receive a **PHONE CALL** with wiring instructions or to confirm receipt of email/text

CAUTION:
DO NOT REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE!

Tell caller you are going to hang up and execute the **FRAUD PREVENTION PLAN**

CALL at least one of the numbers below
(not a number provided in the email/text or by phone caller)

TALK to one or more of the trusted parties below to **VERIFY** the instructions

Send Wire