



Karen M. Benschoter
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCAM LETTER FROM “COUNTY DEED RECORDS” CIRCULATES IN IOWA

[Fort Dodge, Iowa] On Monday May 1, the Webster County Recorder’s Office assisted a resident with questions about a confusing letter they received, which was quickly identified as a scam and reported to local law enforcement. The letter claimed to be from “County Deed Records” with false information about the recipient’s home warranty expiration date. The letter also contained a “renewal fee voucher” for \$199, which resembles a check and requests immediate action to call or be left vulnerable to repair costs. The Iowa County Recorders Association in partnership with Iowa Land Records confirm that this information is not legitimate. Similar illegitimate letters have been found across the country.

Thankfully, in the Webster County incident, the resident came into the Webster County Recorder’s office with questions before taking any action. If you or someone you know has received a letter claiming to be from the County Deed Records, please DO NOT RESPOND to the letter in any way.

- Do not pay
- Do not call
- Do not go to the website
- Do not return any mail requests

Webster County Recorder, Lindsay Laufersweiler, had this to say about the scam letter,

“Scams are everywhere! Thankfully this individual came into the office to research. This mailing was NOT sent by County Recorders. (Please remember to) do your research and ask questions. You’ll be glad you did!”

Since 1839, County Recorders are responsible for the maintenance and management of any official property and real estate documents in the state. The Iowa County Recorders Association was created by Recorders to provide additional resources and governance to each Recorder’s office and supporting staff. Created and maintained by County Recorders and the Electronic Services System, Iowa Land Records is an easy-to-use online database and electronic submission service that allows users to search and submit real estate documents in all of Iowa’s 99 counties. An example of the scam letter is shown below.

To find your County Recorder, go to <https://iowalandrecords.org/recorder-directory/>.

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For more information or questions about this press release, please contact Karen Benschoter, Kossuth County Recorder: 515-295-5660 or recorder@kossuthcounty.iowa.gov



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REMOVE SIDE EDGES FIRST
THEN FOLD AND TEAR THIS STUB ALONG PERFORATION


See Reverse Side For Easy Opening Instructions


9211 1174 2229

THIS NOTICE IS TIME SENSITIVE: SENT ON 4/24/2023
INFORMATION FOR THE MORTGAGEE ONLY

COUNTY DEED RECORDS
IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO THIS NOTICE REQUESTED

Lender Info: CLASSIFIED FOR PRIVACY



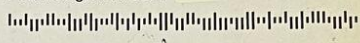


U.S.
POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 1535
UNITED STATES MAIL

VOUCHER ENCLOSED

Signature Required

64221 T174 P3 *****AUTO**ALL FOR AADC 500

To The Order Of _____
Fort Dodge IA 50501-_____


HOME SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Home Warranty Dept

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO THIS
NOTICE REQUESTED

Notice Date: 4/24/2023
Contact Phone: 1-800-301-5412
Home Owner ID: _____
Respond By: 5/25/2023

FINAL RENEWAL NOTICE

Lender Info: CLASSIFIED FOR PRIVACY

Call to verify the above information
Before the respond date expires!
Read below for more information

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED Home Owner ID: _____

ATTENTION: _____

This letter is to inform you that the property's home warranty, at _____ Fort Dodge, IA 50501 _____ secured by CLASSIFIED FOR PRIVACY, may be expiring or may have already expired.

Our records indicate that you **HAVE NOT CONTACTED** us yet to renew your Home Warranty.

Please Call IMMEDIATELY as this will be our FINAL ATTEMPT TO NOTIFY YOU 1-800-301-5412.

Without a home warranty in place, you are at risk of being financially liable for any and all repairs. However, you still may have time left to activate a Warranty on your home before it's too late. No inspection will be required and final acceptance is subject to your ability to meet eligibility requirements.

We reserve the right to revoke your eligibility for service coverage after 5 days.

PLEASE RESPOND BY: 5/25/2023 PHONE: 1-800-301-5412

Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday 8AM TO 9PM CST, SAT 10AM TO 2PM CST

To speak to a Spanish agent call between 8am and 9pm CST, Saturdays 10AM - 2PM CST
Horas de operación: Lunes a Viernes desde 8 de la mañana hasta 9 de la noche CST, SÁBADO desde 10 de la mañana hasta 2 de la tarde CST

Se Habla Español: 888-809-4797

Home Owner ID: _____ TOLL-FREE: 1-800-301-5412

▼ REMOVE DOCUMENT ALONG THIS PERFORATION ▼

Home Owner ID: _____ Expire Date: 5/25/2023

Renewal Fee Voucher

\$199.00

To The Order Of _____ Signature required for redemption

Signature: _____