



Oregon Association of REALTORS® Wire Fraud Advisory

Buyers and Sellers should take extreme caution when wiring funds in real estate transactions. Cybercrime continues to have widespread impacts on Oregonians, and the real estate industry is no exception. Scams are sophisticated and continually changing, which requires Buyers, Sellers, and industry partners to be on constant alert to identify and report questionable practices.

Accordingly, in each real estate transaction, you are advised of the following:

- ✓ At the beginning of the transaction, always discuss in person or over the telephone with verified licensed professionals the wiring process, intended timelines, parties, and details of the planned transaction;
- ✓ Do not rely solely on electronic communications (e-mail, text messages, etc.) when conducting wire transfers;
- ✓ Always independently confirm wiring instructions (including account and routing information), either in person or by telephone, with a trusted and verified person before taking final steps to wire funds;
- ✓ Never send personal information, such as social security numbers, routing and account numbers, and/or credit numbers, unless it is done through a secure/encrypted e-mail or delivery system; and
- ✓ Monitor your e-mail account for unrecognized activity and never click on links or attachments in unverified e-mails.

If you believe you are the victim of a suspicious wire transfer, we advise that you immediately contact your bank, escrow agent, and real estate professional. In addition, please contact the FBI at (503) 224-4181 and file a complaint using the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) at: <https://www.ic3.gov>.

The undersigned hereby acknowledge(s) receipt of this notice and the risks associated with, and the vulnerabilities of electronic transfer of funds. The undersigned further agree that if electronic transfer of funds is utilized in this transaction, they hereby hold the Brokerages, their agents and the designated title and escrow company harmless from all claims arising out of inaccurate transfer instructions, fraudulent taking of said funds and/or any other damage relating to the conduct of third parties influencing the implementation of transfer instructions.

[] Buyer [] Seller (*Check One*)

Date

[] Buyer [] Seller (*Check One*)

Date