

# Help Protect Yourself from Wire Fraud.

Real estate wire fraud is real | Learn how to be WireSafe

## What can I do to help keep myself and my purchase WireSafe?

### ***There are steps you can take to help protect yourself.***

Wire fraud is real and home buyers and sellers are the biggest targets. For this reason, we have developed the WireSafe program to help educate customers on wire fraud. Be WireSafe by following these 4 steps every time.

#### **CALL, DON'T EMAIL**

Confirm all wiring instructions, including specific banking information, by phone before transferring funds. Use the phone number for your closing agent/escrow officer provided on their website or from a business card. Never rely on phone numbers in email communications.

#### **BE SUSPICIOUS**

It's not common for title companies to change wiring instructions and payment information.

#### **CONFIRM EVERYTHING**

Ask your bank to confirm the account number and the name on the account before sending any wire.

#### **VERIFY IMMEDIATELY**

Call your closing agent/escrow officer to confirm the funds were received.

Remember to inquire before you wire. Be WireSafe.

## I think I might have been a victim of wire fraud. What do I do?

### ***Were you the target of wire fraud?***

If you think you may have been the victim of wire fraud, here are some steps you must take. Time is of the essence – every second and minute counts. Contact banks, transaction parties, and law enforcement immediately upon discovery.

#### **Immediately call your bank**

- Ask them to issue a recall notice due to fraud for your wire
- Ask them to reach out to the receiving bank's fraud department to:
  - Notify them of the recall due to fraud
  - Ask for a freeze on the account involved

#### **Report the crime to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3)**

- <https://bec.ic3.gov>

#### **Report the crime to Law Enforcement**

- Local Police/Sheriff
- FBI Field Office
- Secret Service

 WIRE SAFE™ | Inquire before you wire!

 CHICAGO TITLE®