

LARRY W. WARD COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

Assessor P.O. Box 12004 Riverside, CA 92502-2204 (951) 955-6200

www.riversideacr.com www.riversidetaxinfo.com County Clerk-Recorder P.O. Box 751 Riverside, CA 92502-0751 (951) 486-7000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 23, 2011

New Riverside County Measure Combats Real Estate Fraud

Property owners in Riverside County will soon have a new safeguard against real-estate fraud that, in some cases, has led to property being sold without the owner's knowledge.

Beginning Sept. 1, the Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder will issue property owners a courtesy notice within 30 days of a deed or similar document being recorded on any property.

"We hope this new program will help protect property owners from swindlers who try to commit real-estate fraud," said Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder Larry Ward.

Problems arise when scammers file fraudulent documents and then sell a property or use it to secure a loan without the true owner's knowledge. State law requires that after a document is recorded, the original must be mailed to the address on the document. But even when documents are filed legally the property owner's address is not always listed as the mailing address. That means owners might not know for months or years that illegal instruments have been recorded against their property.

The new notice will be mailed to property owners regardless of the address listed on the document. It will explain that a document was recorded and will include a copy of the first two pages of the recorded document. Contact information for the Riverside County District Attorney real estate fraud unit also will be included, in case the owner suspects fraud.

Ward hopes the new notice will quickly alert homeowners to possible fraud and help prosecutors investigate questionable activity, limiting the number of innocent victims. The notices also should help deter real estate fraud and reduce losses from these crimes, he said.

Notices will be sent after the filing of a deed, mortgage, trust deed, construction trust deed, easement, easement deed, partial easement, partial easement deed, reinstate trust deed and trustees deed (upon sale).

See below for sample notice.





Document # 2016-0548092

COURTESY NOTICE

CONFIRMATION OF RECORDING OF A DOCUMENT

Dear Homeowner.

The Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder and the District Attorney of the County of Riverside are committed to protecting its residents from fraudulent land transactions. In that regard, we are monitoring all recordings of Deeds and Deeds of Trust and other similar documents and are sending out "Courtesy Notices" regarding recent property recording transactions.

The Recorder's records indicate that a document affecting your real property was recently recorded. A copy of the first two pages of the document is shown on the reverse side.

IF THE TRANSACTION IS CORRECT, NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON YOUR PART.

If you have questions regarding this notice, you may visit the Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder website at www.asrclkrec.com and look for the section titled "Real Estate Fraud". Please be aware that this notice is generated and mailed by an outside source on behalf of the Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder for Riverside County.

If you are unaware of this transaction, you may wish to contact the County of Riverside District Attorney's Real Estate Fraud Unit by calling 1-877-723-7779. You may also fill out a Real Estate Fraud Complaint Form, which can be forwarded to the District Attorney's office. This form may be found on the District Attorney's website at: https://rivcoda.org/. From the home page click "The Office", "Special Prosecution", "Real Estate Fraud Unit" then click "Real Estate Complaint Form." You may also telephone your local law enforcement agency to have this matter investigated.

Sincerely,

PETER ALDANA

Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder P.O. Box 751, Riverside, CA 92502-0751

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(951) 486-7000 <u>www.asrclkrec.com</u>

MICHAEL HESTRIN
District Attorney
3960 Orange Street, Riverside, CA 92501
(951) 955-5400 https://rivcoda.org/

Mind History





RE: Document # 2016-0548092

AVISO DE CORTESIA

CONFIRMACIÓN DE REGISTRO DE UN DOCUMENTO

Estimado Propietario:

El Asesor-Actuario del Condado-Registrado de Riverside y el Fiscal del Condado de Riverside están comprometidos a proteger a sus residentes de transacciónes fraudulentas en bienes raíces. Por esta razón estamos monitoreando todos los Registro de Escrituras, o Escrituras de Fideicomiso, y otros documentos similares. Estamos enviando "Avisos de Cortesía" relacionados con registros de bienes raíces recientes.

Los archivos del Asesor-Actuario del Condado-Registrador indican que un documento que afecta sus bienes raíces se registró recientemente. Una copia de las primeras dos páginas del documento registrado están incluidas.

SI LA TRANSACCIÓN ESTA CORRECTA, NO SE REQUIERE ACCIÓN DE SU PARTE

Si usted tiene preguntas sobre de este aviso, usted puede visitar la página web del Asesor-Actuario del Condado-Registrador del Condado de Riverside en www.asrclkrec.com y busque la sección titulado "Real Estate Fraud." Por favor, tenga en cuenta, que este aviso es generado y enviado por una fuente externa de parte del Asesor-Actuario del Condado-Registrador para el Condado de Riverside.

Si usted no está al tanto de esta transacción, es posible que desee comunicarse con la Unidad de Fraude Inmobiliario del Fiscal del Distrito del Condado de Riverside llamando al 1-877-723-7779. También puede llenar un Formulario de Queja de Fraude Inmobiliario, que puede ser reenviado a la oficina del Fiscal de Distrito. Este formulario se puede encontrar en el sitio web del Fiscal de Distrito en: https://rivcoda.org/. En la página de inicio, haga clic en "La Oficina", "Fiscalía Especial", "Unidad de Fraude Inmobiliario" y luego haga clic en "Formulario de Queja Inmobiliaria." También puede llamar a su agencia local de aplicación de la ley para que se investigue este asunto.

Sinceramente,

PETER ALDANA

Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder P.O. Box 751, Riverside, CA 92502-0751

Eter aldere

(951) 486-7000 <u>www.asrclkrec.com</u>

MICHAEL HESTRIN District Attorney

3960 Orange Street, Riverside, CA 92501 (951) 955-5400 https://rivcoda.org/

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MAIL TAX STATEMENT AS DIRECTED ABOVE

BEC/aa

Exhibit A

Lot 0 of Tract 12345, map book 6 pages 7-9 of Riverside County maps

Courtesy Notice FAQ's

Question:

Why is the return address on the Courtesy Notice envelope not the address for the Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder for the County of Riverside?

Answer:

An outside source generates and mails the notices on behalf of our department. The return address area will display the logo for the Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder for Riverside County with the address of our vendor.

Question:

Why am I receiving this notice if I sold my property to someone else?

Answer:

The notice is sent to the last assessee (owner of record) reflected in the Assessor records. The purpose of the notice is to alert the current property owner should a fraudulent Deed, Deed of Trust or other similar document be recorded against the property. If you are aware of the recording, no further action is necessary. If you are not aware of the recording and you suspect that fraud has been committed, you may wish to contact the County of Riverside District Attorney's Real Estate Fraud Unit at the email address or phone number cited on the notice.

Question:

What are some other reasons why I might receive a Courtesy Notice for a recording?

Answer:

- Deed of Trust/Mortgage recorded for re-financing purposes
- Deed of Trust/Mortgage recorded for a loan taken out on the property
- Deed recorded to change the vesting (example: putting the property in the name of a trust)
- Deed recorded to add/remove a spouse, friend, family member, etc. to/from title