



Loudoun County, Virginia

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News Release

Office of the County Administrator/Public Affairs and Communications
1 Harrison Street, SE, P.O. Box 7000, Mailstop #03, Leesburg, VA 20177-7000
703/777-0113 • Fax 703/771-5841

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Media Contact: Anna Nissinen, Public Affairs and Communications Officer
703-777-0113, anna.nissinen@loudoun.gov

Clerk of Circuit Court, Commissioner of Revenue Advise Residents to be Wary of Mail Solicitation

Loudoun County Clerk of the Circuit Court Gary M. Clemens and Commissioner of the Revenue Robert S. Wertz Jr. are advising residents to be wary of a mail solicitation from a Washington, D.C., firm offering to provide residents a copy of their deed for a fee of \$83.00. The letter, which has recently been received by some Loudoun residents, advises that for a fee of \$83.00, a homeowner will receive a copy of the deed to their property and a complete property profile, including the property address, the owner's name, comparable values, a legal description and a parcel identification number.

Clemens and Wertz want all Loudoun residents to know that homeowners can obtain the same information referred to in the solicitation for relatively low or no cost. All of the information to be provided by the firm is public information available from the offices of the Clerk of the Circuit Court and/or the Commissioner of the Revenue. A homeowner can obtain a copy of a deed for 50 cents per page from Clemens' office. Most of the other information is available for free online through the Commissioner's office at www.loudoun.gov/parceldatabase.

"You don't need to spend \$83 to acquire public information about your home or property," said Clemens. "The typical residential deed that is executed at a homeowner's real estate settlement is two pages. So, most homeowners would pay only \$1.00 to obtain a copy of their deed."

Clemens does not believe the company is doing anything illegal but may be taking advantage of residents who are not aware that they can easily obtain public information about their property at little cost. "Mr. Wertz and I just want Loudoun property owners to know there is a much less expensive way to obtain this same information," said Clemens. "I hate to see residents waste money on something they can get for free," said Wertz.

More information about obtaining a copy of your deed from the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court is online at www.loudoun.gov/clerk or by calling 703-777-0270. For more about the property information available from the Commissioner of the Revenue, visit www.loudoun.gov/cor or call 703-777-0260.

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