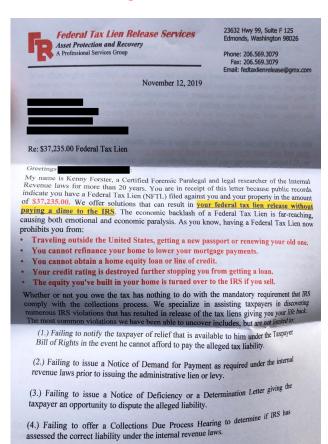


SAFE Alert! Tax Lien Letter Scam

Be aware of this new letter scam!

A couple who was purchasing a new home received a letter about an IRS Federal Tax Lien filed against them and their property in the amount of \$37,235.00. The letter also provided alarming details of what could happen to them, their home, their credit ratings, and all they could lose as a result of the alleged Lien. Telling the couple that even if they don't owe this tax, the IRS will continue the collection process and how they can use their specialized services to help them fix it.

What would you do? Would you be fooled?



For so long Buyers/Sellers are being warned about Cyber Fraud and email scams to steal their

money, discouraging the use of email (insecure) and prompting any instructions sent in email to be ignored, then immediately making a phone call to verify any new or changed instructions.

A letter like this could be asking for a Fee to assist you in getting the Tax Lien cleared, asking for a wire transfer, or credit card or bank account information. They could possibly come back to you for more money before it's settled.

Don't let the social engineers win. This is their game - to scare you into taking action before you have had a chance to think and playing on your emotions. They want you to act fast, and hopefully make a mistake so they can profit from it. But remember, whether it's email or snail-mail, always call with questions on new or changed instructions, if you have questions or concerns, or if anything just doesn't feel right.

Be alert! Social engineering can take place with a phone call, email, or snailmail. If you have questions, concerns, get conflicting instructions, a new instruction that might not make sense, or a scary letter like this one, you should pick up the phone and verify!