

# Beware of Wire Fraud When Buying a Home

According to the FBI, from 2013 through 2017, there have been losses from reported cases of wire fraud of **\$5.52 BILLION**.

It is estimated there are **4,000 HACK ATTEMPTS** per day nationwide. - FBI

## IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT BE A VICTIM:

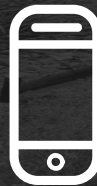
1. Using a previously know phone number, call the supposed sender of the email to authenticate the change request - don't call the number on the email.
2. If you suspect fraud, immediately notify the financial institutions and escrow agent involved in the transaction.
3. Contact your local law enforcement authorities and file a complaint with the FBI's Internet Crime Complain Center at [bec.ic3.gov](http://bec.ic3.gov).

Every day, hackers try to steal your money by emailing fake wire instructions. Criminals will use a similar email address and steal a logo and other info to make it look like the email came from your real estate agent or title company. **You can protect yourself and your money by following these steps:**

### BE VIGILANT



- **Call, don't email:** Confirm your wiring instructions by phone using a known number before transferring funds. Don't use phone numbers or links from an email.
- **Be suspicious:** It's uncommon for title companies to change wiring instructions and payment info by email.



### WHAT TO DO IF YOU'VE BEEN TARGETED

- **Immediately** call your bank and ask them to issue a recall notice for your wire
- **Report** the crime to [www.IC3.gov](http://www.IC3.gov)
- **Call** your regional FBI office and police
- **Detecting** that you sent money to the wrong account within 24 hours is the best chance of recovering your money.

### PROTECT YOUR MONEY



- **Confirm everything:** Ask your bank to confirm the name on the account before sending a wire.
- **Verify immediately:** Within four to eight hours, call the title company or real estate agent to confirm they received your money.

For more information about the home closing process, please visit:

**[homeclosing101.org](http://homeclosing101.org)**

*This is for informational purposes only and should not be considered legal advice.*



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