

FORT BEND COUNTY CLERK

LAURA RICHARD COUNTY CLERK

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Protect Your Home from Scammers and "Dirty Deeds" with Fort Bend County Clerk's Free Property Fraud Alert Program

Fort Bend County, TX – October 15, 2024 – The threat of theft crimes are rising, and all too often victims are unaware that their homes, properties or businesses have been stolen. Recently, <u>KPRC</u> <u>Click 2 Houston</u> and <u>WFAA Dallas</u> ran investigations into several cases of property theft that involved citizens who had no idea their property had fallen victim to "Dirty Deeds". In response to these rising threats, Fort Bend County Clerk Laura Richard has made available the Property Fraud Alert program.

"Subscribers to Property Fraud Alert are notified via email or by phone if their name is found on a document recorded in the Fort Bend County Clerk's Official Public Records, allowing them to respond to a possible fraudulent document in a timely fashion. The service is quick and easy to sign up for, and all information provided by the subscriber is held at the highest level of security protection," Clerk Richard said. "Unfortunately, property theft can happen to anyone. The best protection against scammers and their criminal acts is to be proactive. I am proud to promote the Property Fraud Alert program and to bring awareness to the citizens of Fort Bend County. Together we can protect your most valuable investments- your home, business or any property you own in Fort Bend County."

The Fort Bend County Clerk's office currently has over 9,500 subscribers that have taken advantage of the **FREE** Property Fraud Alert program, and based on previous sign up trends, expects another 500 to finish up the 2024 year.

Clerk Richard would also like to remind the public that many of the County Clerk's services are available online. Search property records, request certified copies, and find the forms you need for birth, death, business, and marriage licenses. For more information, visit the County Clerk online at https://www.fbctx.gov/countyclerk.

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