



HOW TO AVOID CYBER CRIME

TIPS TO PREVENT THESE HACKERS FROM ATTACKING YOU!

The Internet Complaint Center of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has seen a **270% increase in identified victims** who have actually lost money since January 2015. Over the last six months, more and more instances have occurred in the real estate industry where buyers have unknowingly wired funds to a hacker, either for a purchase and sale deposit or for closing funds, and have had their hard earned money *vanish into thin air*.

Internet Safety Tips for Buyers and Sellers:

1. Be very careful emailing any financial information. You may think you are sending the numbers to a trusted friend or colleague but unfortunately email servers are not always secure.
2. Emails from unfamiliar contacts may very well be a scam. If you do not know the sender, delete the email and do not open any attachments.
3. If you do know the sender but something doesn't seem right, call them and verify verbally to ensure the legitimacy of the email.
4. Speak directly with your agent on a regular basis to determine a plan for deposits and money transfers. You'll then be able to detect fraudulent financial transfer requests from a potentially harmful source.

***NEVER wire money to ANYONE
without first confirming verbally with your Realtor!***



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