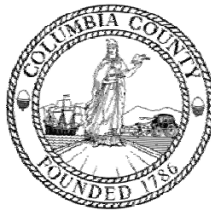


Columbia County
Office of the County Clerk
560 Warren Street, Hudson, NY 12534
Holly C. Tanner
County Clerk/County Commissioner of DMV



Patrizia Gallo, Deputy Clerk
Cathy Eggleston, DMV Supervisor

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Contact: Holly Tanner

County Clerk Warns Residents of Potential Deed Scam

Hudson, NY – County Clerk Holly Tanner has heard from several county residents who have received an unsolicited letter in the mail from New York Record Retrieval, Inc., offering to sell a certified copy of your deed for the “low” price of \$59.50. The letter is very specific states Tanner, because deed information is public record, so they will have your address, the book and page of your specific deed and even the date that your deed was recorded at the County Clerk’s office. Clerk Tanner warns residents to NOT be fooled by this scam.

“A copy of your deed can be obtained from my office for .65 per page”, states Tanner, “and if you want it certified it is an additional \$5.00. In no way should residents be duped into thinking that they need to spend \$59.50 for a copy of their deed.” This is a scam that has been going on for some time around the state, said Tanner and thanks to legislation by Senator Steve Saland, these companies are now required to state on their letter that certified copies of deeds can be obtained for a small fee from your county clerk, but the text is at the bottom of the letter and some residents may miss it. “A typical deed is 4 or 5 pages, and therefore the cost, even with a certification fee of \$5.00, would very rarely be more than \$10.

If residents receive this letter in the mail, Tanner advises them to toss it, immediately. “I wouldn’t even open it, but if you do and it offers to sell you an “official copy of your deed for \$59.50” or any other amount, – throw it right in the trash or recycle bin. Any resident needing a copy of their deed, or if there are questions regarding your deed, please contact the County Clerk’s office – 518.828.3339 or via email – htanner@govt.co.columbia.ny.us . The Clerk’s office is open Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Clerk Tanner also wishes to remind people to utilize their local DMV via mail to CC DMV, 560 Warren St, Hudson, NY 12534; the drop box located at the side entrance of the DMV building or by visiting in person. “By using your local DMV you help keep taxes low by letting the county retain 12.7 percent of the transaction fee. If you go on-line or mail to the state address the county receives zero retention”, stated Tanner. The DMV hours are 9:00 – 5:00, Monday through Friday, and 9:00 – 6:45 on Thursdays.