

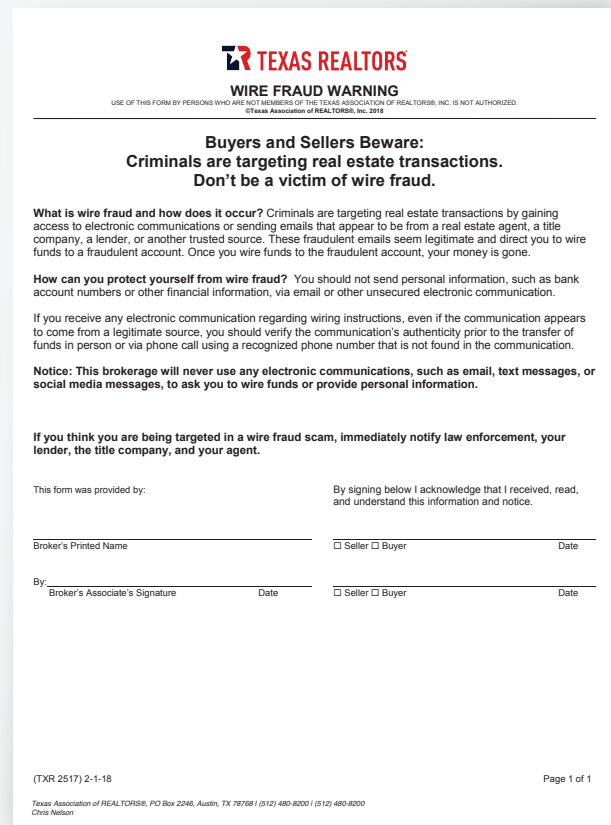
THE FORM THAT COULD SAVE YOUR CLIENTS A FORTUNE

Wire fraud is a real threat,
but good communication can protect
buyers and sellers
from losing tens or hundreds
of thousands of dollars.

You've seen the statistics: thousands of consumers getting swindled out of hundreds of millions of dollars through real estate wire fraud every year. But big numbers like those sometimes don't feel urgent or real. Just imagine, then, if one client—*your* client—called you in a panic to ask about the \$140,000 down payment that he wired but the title company has not received.

Some agents start educating consumers about wire-fraud prevention at the first buyer meeting or listing presentation. Continued cautions, especially as the financial part of the transaction approaches, can also help.

You can share the Texas REALTORS® *Wire Fraud Warning* (TXR 2517) with your clients. This informational form explains what wire fraud is and how people can prevent it. Presenting this form and getting your clients to sign it also reduces your risk of a lawsuit if a client does fall for a fraudulent scheme.



TEXAS REALTORS
WIRE FRAUD WARNING
USE OF THIS FORM BY PERSONS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®, INC. IS NOT AUTHORIZED.
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Buyers and Sellers Beware:
Criminals are targeting real estate transactions.
Don't be a victim of wire fraud.

What is wire fraud and how does it occur? Criminals are targeting real estate transactions by gaining access to electronic communications or sending emails that appear to be from a real estate agent, a title company, a lender, or another trusted source. These fraudulent emails seem legitimate and direct you to wire funds to a fraudulent account. Once you wire funds to the fraudulent account, your money is gone.

How can you protect yourself from wire fraud? You should not send personal information, such as bank account numbers or other financial information, via email or other unsecured electronic communication.

If you receive any electronic communication regarding wiring instructions, even if the communication appears to come from a legitimate source, you should verify the communication's authenticity prior to the transfer of funds in person or via phone call using a recognized phone number that is not found in the communication.

Notice: This brokerage will never use any electronic communications, such as email, text messages, or social media messages, to ask you to wire funds or provide personal information.

If you think you are being targeted in a wire fraud scam, immediately notify law enforcement, your lender, the title company, and your agent.

This form was provided by: _____ By signing below I acknowledge that I received, read, and understand this information and notice.

Broker's Printed Name _____ ☐ Seller ☐ Buyer _____ Date _____

By: _____ ☐ Seller ☐ Buyer _____ Date _____
Broker's Associate's Signature _____

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You can find the *Wire Fraud Warning* form in zipForm, other Texas REALTORS®-approved forms vendors, and at texasrealestate.com/realtorforms.