

MEDIA RELEASE

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CLERK & COMPTROLLER SHARON R. BOCK LAUNCHES

PROPERTY FRAUD ALERT

Anyone can sign up for this FREE service to monitor their property records

West Palm Beach, FLA. (June, 2015) – Clerk & Comptroller Sharon R. Bock has launched Property Fraud Alert, a free service that helps people protect their property from fraud by monitoring documents such as deeds and mortgages recorded in Palm Beach County.

According to the FBI, property and mortgage fraud is the fastest growing white collar crime in the United States. Scammers file fake deeds, making it appear as if they own homes that are not actually theirs. These scammers then trick people into giving them money to rent or buy those homes.

Using Property Fraud Alert, anyone can register to receive free alerts when a document is recorded using their name or their business's name. When users receive an alert, by email or phone, they can verify the activity was initiated by them and not someone attempting to commit property fraud.

“To help combat this type of crime, I urge everyone to sign up for this free service,” said Clerk Bock. “Property fraud is a serious issue and finding ways to protect our customers is vital.”

The public can sign up for the Clerk’s Property Fraud Alert service by visiting the clerk’s website at mypalmbeachclerk.com/property-fraud-alerts. Anyone who believes they have been the victim of fraud should contact their local law enforcement agency.

The Florida Constitution established the independent office of the Clerk & Comptroller as a public trustee, responsible for safeguarding public records and public funds. Clerk Sharon Bock is directly elected by and accountable to Palm Beach County residents. In addition to the roles of Clerk of the Circuit Court, County Recorder and Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, the Clerk & Comptroller is the Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Auditor for Palm Beach County.