

Seller Impersonation and Absentee Owner Scams are on the rise!

Absentee owners are often the targets of criminals who either pose as the owner offering the property as collateral for a new loan, or who intend to impersonate the owner in attempt to abscond with sale proceeds. These imposters have been known to sell the property and get away with the sale proceeds or strip any equity in the property with a new loan. The real property owner often has no idea their property has been the subject of a real estate transaction until it is too late.

Here's what we're doing about it:

As part of our ongoing effort to detect and prevent seller impersonation and absentee owner scams, we have partnered with Mitek and their identity document authentication software.



For certain transactions where the property is vacant or non-owner occupied, **Mitek's software** allows us to verify the identification of a principal to the real estate transaction as soon as the order is opened with us. Once the principal has received the request, they will be guided through the steps.



For more information on the complete Absentee Owner Protocol, contact your Escrow Officer or Sales Executive for details. Always trust Chicago Title for all your Title and Escrow service, you have a peace of mind by choosing Chicago Title.