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Overpriced Deed Copy Resale Business Targets St. Louis Homeowners, Again

An alert St. Louis City homeowner received a solicitation from a business, located in a North Shore suburb of Chicago, offering to sell her a copy of her property deed at a steep price. She did the right thing, contacted the office at City Hall that records land deeds and provides copies.

"The company offers an unnecessary, expensive service with a ridiculously long response time. We urge homeowners to just ignore these solicitations," says Sharon Quigley Carpenter, St. Louis City Recorder of Deeds & Vital Records Registrar.

The mailing ([copy, homeowner's information redacted](#)) came from National Record Service, Inc., a deed copy resale business currently at 3375 Commercial Avenue, Northbrook, Illinois 60062 with phone number 888-480-2711.

The company has operated under numerous names, including previously solicited from a mailbox in Fulton, Missouri. [issued consumer alerts on the company since 2007.](#)

[National Deed Service, and
The St. Louis City Recorder & Registrar has](#)

National Record Service purchases certified copies of real estate deeds for \$5.00 to \$7.00 each from the St. Louis City Recorder & Registrar and resells them to homeowners for \$59.50 each, second copy discounted to \$20.00. Previously the company's copy fee was \$87.50 per deed.

The solicitation includes, "The U.S. Government Federal Citizen Information Center website recommends that property owners should have an official or certified copy of their deed... This document provides evidence that your property was transferred to you."

"Here, most homeowners do not need certified copies of their property deed. If you do need or want a copy, that's our job. We're the safe deposit box for your recorded deeds. In the event of some calamity affecting our office in City Hall, we have a real-time off-site back-up system outside of St. Louis."

The company's website states, ["National Deed Service, Inc. makes every effort to send out your deed within thirty to sixty days."](#)

"Our office provides over the counter deed copy service, in most cases, within a few minutes. Mailed copies usually go out same day the request is received."

St. Louis City homeowners with questions about deed copy services may call the St. Louis City Recorder & Registrar's Land Records Department at 613.3149.

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