



Recorder of Deeds alerts property owners that advertised deeds aren't required

JOLIET - Recorder of Deeds Laurie McPhillips is reminding Will County homeowners that once a deed is registered with her office it is a permanent property record that will always be available to them.

“My office has received numerous calls from concerned citizens about a mass mailing which suggests the need for homeowners to obtain a certified copy of the deed to their property,” said McPhillips. “The company sending this advertisement is not associated with the Recorder’s Office or any governmental entity.”

The company is offering to furnish citizens with a certified copy of their deed for a fee, after the client provides the firm with credit card information or a check for \$79.50.

Recorder McPhillips wants property owners to know that a certified, or stamped, copy of that deed can be obtained at any time for a fee much less than the \$79.50 required by the advertisement.

Stamped copies are available at the Recorder’s office, 58 E. Clinton St., Suite 100, for \$1 per page, and certified copies are available at the cost of the original recording, which typically ranges from \$18 to \$28.

Senior citizens who need to obtain a copy of their deed for property tax exemption purposes are provided those for free.

“If someone wants to have a certified copy of their recorded deed, they can get that from us from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. any work day,” said McPhillips. “But the document on file here is permanent so there is no real need to have a copy. In addition, original documents are ultimately returned to the homeowner, although sometimes through the attorney or title company.”

In addition, the Recorder of Deeds’ Office has implemented its online document search system at www.willcountyrecorder.com.

Citizens will be able to print or download public documents online for \$2 per document, and certified copies can be ordered and mailed within two business days.

Public terminals are already available for searching documents during office hours.