



BEWARE: WIRE FRAUD

In 2016 the Internet Crime Complaint Center saw a

480%

increase in complaints from title companies targeted by email scams.**

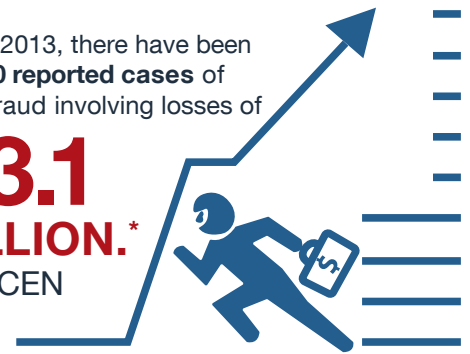
- FBI



Since 2013, there have been **22,000 reported cases** of wire fraud involving losses of

\$3.1 BILLION.*

- FinCEN



HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

FRAUDULENT WIRING instructions are being sent to real estate agents, title companies and customers



BE WARY

of free, web-based email accounts; they are easily hacked.



ALWAYS VERIFY

changes in payment instructions and confirm requests for transfer of funds.



BE SUSPICIOUS

of requests for secrecy or pressure to take action quickly.

IF YOU THINK YOU MIGHT BE A VICTIM:



Using a previously known phone number, call the supposed sender of the email to authenticate the change request - don't call the number on the email.



If you suspect fraud, immediately notify the financial institutions and escrow agent involved in the transaction.



Contact your local law enforcement authorities, and file a complaint with the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center.

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