

Don't Pay More For Certified Deeds!

Phyllis K. Walters, McHenry County Recorder, wants to notify county property owners of companies selling certified copies of deeds at over-inflated prices.

All property owners need to know that they do not have to go through a third party, or spend a lot of money to obtain a certified copy of their deed. A certified copy may be purchased for \$12, a statutory fee, by calling the County Recorder's Office at (815) 334-4128, or by visiting the office located in the McHenry County Administration Building, 667 Ware Road, Woodstock.

Once again, the County Recorder's Office has been receiving inquiries from concerned property owners regarding letters they received from a company offering to sell and mail them a certified copy of their deed for \$59.50. While this practice is not illegal, it is unnecessary and expensive.

It is suspected that one company soliciting customers has requested certified copies from the Recorder's Office which is legal under the public information laws. The company then attempts to resell the information to homeowners at a substantial profit.

A form letter sent out by the company also requests credit card information to process the order, something that consumers should always give out with caution.

Recorder Walters encourages anyone with a question regarding their deed, or interested in purchasing a certified copy to contact the Recorder's Office at (815) 334-4110, or stop by the County Administration Building at 667 Ware Road, Woodstock.