



# 10 TIPS

## To Avoid Cyber Crime Losses

- 1** Create a log of all approved parties' phone numbers at the start of a transaction.
- 2** Avoid using free, web-based email accounts for business communications.
- 3** Prior to closing, execute an agreement with the seller/borrower indicating the method of funds transfer: check or wire.
- 4** Remember: transactions that result in a large cash payment to a refinance borrower or seller are highly susceptible to attack.
- 5** Question and confirm by phone with approved parties any deviation to the funding agreement (see 1); changes are not common and may indicate fraud.
- 6** Confirm wiring instructions by phone with approved parties (see 1) prior to sending.
- 7** Confirm receipt of wired funds by phone with the intended recipient (see 1).
- 8** Practice good cyber hygiene: keep antivirus software up-to-date, don't click suspicious links, and use strong passwords.
- 9** Slow down and stay in control; a slow, confirmed closing is still acceptable.
- 10** If you suspect fraud, act immediately; contact your bank and appropriate authorities.

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