



CONTACT:

Kathy Larkin, Town Clerk
75 Main Street
Southington, CT. 06489
(860) 276-6215 | larkink@southington.org

The Southington Town Clerk is fighting back against property fraud by offering PropertyCheck™ powered by Cott Systems.

Southington, CT. Town Clerk's Office – 04/26/2023 – Kathy Larkin, Town Clerk announced today that they have implemented Cott Systems' **PropertyCheck** in an invigorated effort to combat property and mortgage fraud in Southington. This 24/7 service allows residents to sign up through the Cott Systems' RECORDhub to receive notifications when official documents are recorded. Residents can activate alerts based on their name. There is no cost to participate.

Property fraud can occur if someone forges your identity, transfers your property into their name, and records the document. This fraudulent activity can make it appear as if that person owns your home or property, and you may not have any idea that this happened! It is, unfortunately, becoming more prevalent today as cyber criminals exploit every avenue they can to cause harm and steal from everyday citizens.

PropertyCheck works seamlessly in the background of the Southington records management RECORDhub software, automatically alerting if a document with matching name(s) is recorded. All you have to do is opt-in by creating a RECORDhub account, create alerts for your name and choose your preference of alerts – email or text message. "It's also a good idea to set up multiple alerts based on first, middle and last name variations and your spouse's name, to be sure that an alert will be triggered in case a recording happens with some kind of slight variation," says Paul Fetters, the product Implementation Specialist at Cott Systems.

Southington has partnered with Cott Systems to offer this no-cost solution, adding an additional layer of protection to records data and allowing residents to feel safer in their homes. Kathy Larkin, Town Clerk explains:

"We have had increased questions from residents about fraudulent documents being recorded in their name. I'm hoping that this free service will put people's minds at ease knowing that, when they sign up, they will get an immediate notification if something is recorded on the land records with any matching names they register. If a notification is received, and they have concerns about it, they can check the free index search they signed up for when registering for **PropertyCheck**. Or they have the option to stop into the Town Clerks Office to see exactly what was recorded and decide if any action is needed on their part. Also, copies of any land record documents on file are available from the Town Clerk's Office for the cost of \$1 per page"

To activate these **PropertyCheck** benefits, residents of Southington can simply sign up for **PropertyCheck** alerts at: www.southington.org - Go to Departments-Town Clerk and click on **PropertyCheck** and follow the directions to sign up.

ABOUT COTT SYSTEMS

An innovator in records management for more than 130 years, Cott Systems empowers local government offices to improve efficiency, provide superior constituent service, and preserve the official records entrusted to their care. Decades of dedication make it possible for Cott Systems to provide all the services a local official needs to preserve and modernize the rich history of their jurisdiction. In addition to industry-leading software solutions, Cott Systems also offers traditional data and imaging services. For more information about Cott Systems, please visit cottsystems.com.