

Deed Scam

Companies based out-of-state are soliciting consumers statewide offering to sell them copies of the deed to their home and a property assessment profile often charging anywhere from \$60 to \$80. The residents of Herkimer County should be aware that companies marketing such requests are not related to the County Clerk's Office or any other Herkimer County Department. Deeds for land in Herkimer County are recorded and maintained as a permanent record at the County Clerk's Office and the original deed is returned to the property owner or their attorney. If another copy of the deed is needed, you can request one from the County Clerk's office at any time. You will be charged a copying fee ranging from \$1.30 up to approximately \$5.00.

The Property Assessment Profile they are trying to sell is information that can be obtained without cost from the County Real Property Department, Treasurer or the town or city where the property is located. There currently is not a law against companies selling you this information. If you receive anything in the mail about your property records that seems questionable, you can contact Sylvia M. Rowan, County Clerk, at 315-867-1129.