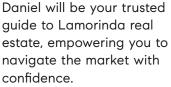
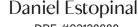
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SCAM Alert for Contra Costa County Taxpayers

By Vera Kochan

Scammers are using every form of media in order to bilk an unsuspecting public out of their hard-earned cash. Whether it's by text, a phone call, an email or a letter delivered inadvertently via the United States Postal Service, consumers must be ever vigilant when receiving "it's too good to be true" news, because more often than not, it

The latest scam to make the news targets taxpayers, more specifically, property owners. The Contra Costa County Assessor, Gus S. Kramer, issued a July 28 press release, warning taxpayers of the latest consumer scam alert after several residents reported receiving documents in the mail with regards to having their property's taxes reassessed.

The press release stated, "These mailers have the appearance of an official government document. However, the correspondence is not

from the Contra Costa County Assessor. Nor does it come from any other Contra Costa County Office."

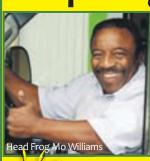
Kramer's office went on to state that "current scam mailers are requiring both a \$40 county filing fee with the Clerk of the Assessment Appeals Board for a formal appeal, and a contingent fee of 30% of any tax savings as a result of filing the application. Property owners should know that the Contra Costa County Assessor's Office does not charge a fee to complete an informal value review."

Any property owners who believe that the current market value of their property is less than the assessed value can file a "Request for Value Review" form with the county assessor's office for free. Visit: http://www.cccounty.us/assessor and select "Review Your Value" for a downloadable application.

California Attorney General Rob Bonta has also posted additional warnings on his office's State Department of California -- Department of Justice website: https://oag.ca.gov/consumers/general/prop_tax_scam. "Companies using official-sounding names like "Tax Review," "Tax Adjusters" and "Tax Reassessment" seek to scam homeowners who are worried about their property taxes and declining property values. They send misleading mailers that look like official government agency documents to trick you into sending them money to try to lower your property taxes. They also use addresses like "Regional Processing Center" to make you think the mail is coming from a government agency. Sometimes, they threaten to impose a late fee if you don't send them money by a certain date.

If anyone believes that they have been a victim of this scam, file a complaint with the Attorney General's Public Inquiry Unit, or write to: Attorney General's Public Inquiry Unit, P.O. Box 944255, Sacramento, CA 94244.

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Nixle: Text your zip code to 888777 or go to www.nixle.com Lafayette Police Department: 3471 Mt. Diablo Blvd. 925-283-3680 Chief of Police, Ben Alldritt

925-299-3221 Police Department Tip Line 94549Tip@gmail.com Police Department Traffic Issues

94549Traffic@gmail.com **Moraga Police Department:** 329 Rheem Blvd., 925-888-7055 Chief of Police, Jon King ext. 7049
Orinda Police Department: 22 Orinda Way 925-254-68 Chief of Police, Ryan Sullivan 925-254-6820 925-254-6820

Orindatip@cityoforinda.org **Lafayette Police** Department Incident **Summary**

Report July 23 - Aug. 5

911 Calls (includes hang-ups) Suspicious Circumstances Suspicious Subject Suspicious Vehicle Service to Citizen Patrol Req./Security Check Public/School Assembly Check Supplemental Report Vacation House Check Welfare Check Ordinance Violation Vehicle violations Auto Burglary

3500 Block Brook St. Hit And Run Misdemeanor Police Department 1000 Block Upper Happy Valley Rd.

Reckless Driving
Los Palos Dr./Glenside Dr. Moraga Rd./Moraga Blvd. Reliez Valley Rd./My Rd. Reliez Valley Rd./Rossi St.

Laurel Dr./Deer Hill Rd.

Olympic Blvd./Olympic Oaks Dr. Tc - Property Damage Mt. Diablo Blvd./El Nido Ranch Rd. 1100 Block Rahara Dr. Mt. Diablo Blvd./Village Center 1000 Block Brown Ave. 700 Block St. Mary's Rd. 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3200 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Vehicle Theft
Deer Hill Rd./Oak Hill Rd.
Other criminal activity Commercial Burglary 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. Grand Theft

3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. Petty Theft
Police Department

3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. Residential Burglary 10 Block Black Forest Ct.

Shoplift
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (4)
3200 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. Nuisance to the Community Disturbance-domestic 1500 Block Reliez Valley Rd.

Disturbing The Peace 3900 Block Los Arabis Dr. Drunk In Public 3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. Loud Music

Toledo Dr./Toledo Ct. 3700 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. 900 Block Kelley Ct. Stanley Intermediate School

Loud Party 3900 Block Franke Ln. 3400 Block Hamlin Rd. Public Nuisance 3500 Block Golden Gate Way Olympic Blvd./Branch Las

Trampas C 1000 Block Brown Ave. 900 Block 2Nd St. (2)

3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2) Vandalism 500 Block St. Mary's Rd. Other

Animal Cruelty 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. Animal Cruelty - Unfounded 3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. Loitering 900 Block Moon Ct.

Trespass 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. Unwanted Guest 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2) 3200 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. 3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. Violation Custody Order

Police Department 1400 Block Tichenor Ct. 3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. Moraga Police

Department Incident **Summary** Report



911 Calls (includes hang-ups) Suspicious Circumstances Suspicious Subject Suspicious Vehicle Service to Citizen 29 Patrol Req./Security Check 12 Public/School Assembly Check Supplemental Report Vacation House Check Welfare Check

Ordinance Violation **Vehicle violations** Excessive Speed 600 Block Moraga Way Camino Recardo/Moraga Way (2)

Moraga Rd./Alta Mesa Dr Moraga Way/Coral Dr., Ori (4) Moraga Way/Ivy Dr. Moraga Way/School St. Moraga Rd./Moraga Way Moraga Way/School St. St Andrews Dr./Moraga Way

Reckless Driving
Moraga Way App Ivy Dr.
Moraga Rd./Rheem Blvd.
1500 Block Canyon Rd. Moraga Rd./Donald Dr. Campolindo High School Other criminal activity

Child Molest 10 Block Hansen Ct.

Commercial Burglary Moraga Commons Park Fraud Credit Card 400 Block Center St. Fraud False Pretenses Police Department Grand Theft

Police Department Moraga Commons Park 30 Block Laird Dr. Grand Theft Veh Parts 100 Block Miramonte Dr. Identity Theft 300 Block Constance Pl.

Petty Theft 100 Block Miramonte Dr. Petty Theft From Veh 100 Block Oxford Dr. Shoplift

Śafeway Nuisance to the Community
Disturbance-fight
1300 Block Camino Peral

Loud Music
2000 Block Ascot Dr.
Canyon Club Brewery
300 Block Rheem Blvd.

Not Available Vandalism Not Available Other

Failure To Obey Moraga Rd./Rheem Blvd. Trespass Moraga Swim And Tennis Club



Orinda Police Department **Incident Summary Report**

July 16 - July 29 Alarms
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) Suspicious Circumstances Suspicious Subject Suspicious Vehicle Service to Citizen Patrol Req./Security Check Public/School Assembly Check 18 Supplemental Report 19 Vacation House Check Welfare Check Vehicle violations

Accident Property Moraga Way/Overhill Rd. Orinda Way/Camino Sobrante

Auto Burglary 20 Block Orinda Way Dui Misd No Location Hit And Run Misdemeanor 600 Block Orindawoods Dr.

Police Department Reckless Driving Camino Pablo/Wb Sr 24 (20 El Toyonal

Moraga Way/Stein Way San Pablo Dam Rd/Wildcat Canyon Rd. Other criminal activity

Identity Theft 100 Block Ivy Dr. Residential Burglary 40 Block Muth Dr. Warrant Arrest

Orinda Way Police Department Nuisance to the Community

Loud Noise 70 Block Estates Dr. Loud Party Moragá Way Public Nuisance Camino Sobrante

Moraga Way/Brookwood Rd. Camino Sobrante Vandalism

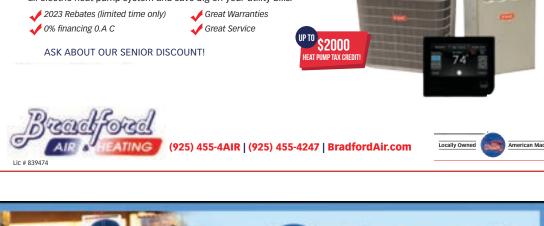
10 Block Southwood Ct. Other

Litter 40 Block Vista Del Mar Mentally Ill Commit No Location

Revocation Of Probation Theatre Sq. Terrorist Threats

20 Block Acacia Dr. Trespass Theatre Sq. Camino Sobrante(5)

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