

Bulletin No. 253 | 24 July 2014

NEWS OF REPORTED LAND TITLE FRAUD IN CANBERRA

The [announcement today by ACT Policing](#) of a reported property fraud in Canberra and subsequent investigation by authorities reinforces the need for Western Australia's (WA) property professionals to be vigilant when identifying their clients as the true owner when selling and otherwise transacting in property.

Landgate, the Department of Commerce and WA Police have published a joint media statement which can be viewed [here](#).

While it is not appropriate for Landgate to comment on the particulars of an alleged land title fraud in another jurisdiction during the investigation phase, it is a timely reminder for everyone associated in the WA property industry to implement a high standard of identity verification.

For our State, this means conveyancers complying with the WA Registrar and Commissioner of Titles Joint Practice: Verification of Identity (VOI) – which is a critical step in minimising the risk of land title fraud in WA.

Landgate urges the State's conveyancing industry to continue implementing the VOI Practice and maintain increased awareness of the risk of fraud.

We continue to work closely with the WA Police Major Fraud Squad and the Department of Commerce to protect WA's land titles Register.

To find out more about the VOI Practice, please visit Landgate's website [here](#).

In regard to VOI, Self-Represented Parties need to also visit Landgate's website [here](#).

Landgate has updated some of its 'How to Guides' for land title transactions to include VOI Practice requirements, which can be found [here](#).

For further assistance and information about the VOI Practice, please contact Landgate's Customer Service team on 08 9273 7341 or email (customerservice@landgate.wa.gov.au).

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Regards



Susan Dukes
Commissioner of Titles



Jean Villani
Registrar of Titles