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Register of Deeds Office earns awards

Bernard J. Youngblood, Wayne County Register of Deeds, received two national awards in July. The National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National Association of County Recorders, Election Officials, & Clerks (NACRC) recognized the office for their work with property fraud.

The Wayne County Property Fraud Task Force, the first in the nation, addresses the fraud issues relating to land title property fraud. Created cooperatively with three county departments, the Register of Deeds, Prosecuting Attorney and Sheriff, the fraud unit investigates citizen complaints referred to it by all city, township, federal and state law enforcement agencies within Wayne County, as well as the individual homeowner who walks into the office to file a complaint regarding an alleged property fraud. Each complaint is investigated first by a member of the team from the Register of Deeds' office. If it is determined to have merit, it is then handed over to the sheriff deputies for their review. While evaluating the alleged fraudulent land transaction, a prosecuting attorney is included in those cases that are evolving into criminal prosecution. These "fraud fighters" direct 100 percent of their time toward investigating mortgage and deed fraud within Wayne County, which is unique from traditional law enforcement efforts.

The Wayne County Register of Deeds office is committed to providing cutting edge services that allow residents and businesses to easily and efficiently record documents related to land transactions. Documents are instantly recorded upon receipt at our office and available on the internet. Their website can be used to search for real estate related documents recorded in our office since 1986. To access their website visit: <http://www.waynecountylandrecords.com>