



NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bethel is fighting back against property fraud by offering PropertyCheck™ powered by Cott Systems.

Bethel, CT. 01/02/2024 — Lisa Bergh, Town Clerk announced today that they have implemented Cott Systems' PropertyCheck™ in an invigorated effort to combat property and mortgage fraud in **Bethel**. This 24/7 service allows residents to sign up on the Cott Systems' RECORDhub™ website (<https://recordhub.cottsystems.com>) to receive notifications when official documents are recorded on their property. Residents can activate alerts based on their name, or property address. This is a free service to the citizens of **Bethel**.

WHAT IS PROPERTY FRAUD? 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.

Cott System's PropertyCheck™ works seamlessly in the background of the Bethel records management RECORDhub software, automatically alerting on an enrolled record if a document with matching name or address is recorded. Property owners need to opt-in by creating a RECORDhub™ account, create alerts for their name and/or property address and choose the 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 Feters, the product Implementation Specialist at Cott Systems.

Bethel 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. Lisa Bergh, Town Clerk explains, "While we have never received a fraudulent deed, I would like to offer our property owners a higher level of security in knowing they will be alerted should a document be recorded with their name attached". Lisa goes on to say "In this day and age with the prevalence of identity theft, anything I can do to prevent that from happening I will gladly sign up for".

To activate this benefit, residents of Bethel can simply sign up for **PropertyCheck**... alerts at: <https://recordhub.cottsystems.com>

ABOUT THE BETHEL TOWN CLERKS OFFICE:

THE TOWN CLERKS OFFICE IS THE OFFICIAL KEEPER OF ALL TOWN RECORDS, SPECIFICALLY BUT NOT LIMITED TO ALL LAND RECORDS OF EVERY PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE TOWN.

ABOUT COTT SYSTEMS

An innovator in records management for 135 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.



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