

New FinCEN Rule for Real Estate Transactions

What Real Estate Agents and Customers Need to Know

The **Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN)** has issued a new rule, effective December 1, 2025, requiring **title companies and closing attorneys** to collect and report information about certain **non-financed residential real estate transactions**.

What Is the Rule?

This rule applies to transactions where **residential real estate is purchased by a legal entity or trust**, even if no mortgage is involved. FinCEN's goal is to increase transparency and prevent the use of real estate for **money laundering and illicit finance**.

Why Is This Information Being Collected?

- To **comply with the Bank Secrecy Act**
- To help law enforcement **identify suspicious activity**
- To ensure **transparency in high-risk transactions**

For more information, please contact your local agency representative, or visit our website at **oldrepublictitle.com**.

What Information Will Be Collected?

Title companies or closing attorneys may ask for:

- **Beneficial ownership information**
- **Identification documents**
- **Details about the purchasing entity or trust**

This information is **securely reported to FinCEN** and is not used for marketing or sales purposes.

Helpful Tips

for Real Estate Agents & Customers:

Start Educating Early

Talk to your clients about these new requirements before they enter into a transaction.

Plan Ahead

Encourage buyers to have their documentation ready early in the process.

Support Your Title Company

Understand that title companies are following federal law, not adding red tape.

Understand Reasonable Reliance

Title companies and closing attorneys can reasonably rely on the information provided by buyers or their representatives. This means they don't have to verify every detail, as long as the information appears accurate and complete.

Stay informed: For more details, visit www.fincen.gov.

