
NEWS RELEASE

**Louisiana
Department of State**



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Feb. 8, 2013

SECRETARY SCHEDLER WARNS BUSINESSES ABOUT MISLEADING LETTERS USING NEW EMAIL NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

After launching a commercial email notification system aimed at protecting Louisiana business owners from fraud and identity theft earlier this year, Secretary of State Tom Schedler today announced its first practical application. Anyone can subscribe to the system which generates messages regarding changes to commercial entities, non-governmental correspondence, office closures and most importantly, warnings involving possible fraudulent activity.

“I am truly excited about the use of email notifications by our Commercial Division to protect Louisiana business owners. The system is efficient, timely and has been well-received by those who have subscribed. They honestly appreciate the heads up,” says Secretary Schedler. “Just this week, we were able to notify businesses concerning correspondence from a company named Corporate Records Service related to annual reports that are not required by my office. We have turned this case over to the Attorney General’s Office for the appropriate legal follow-up as described in R.S. 51:391, and my office will be sending the company a cease and desist letter.”

Attached are both the official Annual Report Renewal Notice from the Louisiana Department of State Commercial Division as well as an annual minutes form from Corporate Records Service. **Corporate Records Service is not affiliated or associated with Louisiana state government in any way.** It is a private company, and Louisiana corporations are not required to report to or have any dealings with this company. Any reports sent to Corporate Records Service will not fulfill the reports that are due to the Department of State under Louisiana law.

In the past year, Commercial Division customers have also received correspondence from Louisiana Corporate Compliance Business Services and Corporate Compliance Company. These companies are also not affiliated or associated with Louisiana state government in any way.

Subscriptions to the system are voluntary, and individuals are able to easily sign up via the website while viewing a corporations record. Once subscribed under the specified entity, notifications will be sent if any changes are made to that company. In addition, the system will generate messages if an annual report is not filed on time; a business is not in good standing; or a business is revoked. Subscribers can also opt to receive messages via text.

Business owners are encouraged to contact the Department of State’s Commercial Division for more information at 225.925.4704 or commercial@sos.la.gov.