

From: Baker, Stephen - FS

Sent: Friday, January 15, 2016 11:36 AM

To: Nehl, Ryan - FS; Cheyne, Christy A -FS; Beverlin, Steven K -FS; Burton, Shilo D -FS; Loudermilk, Michael -FS; Guidry, Dianne - FS

Cc: Pilip-Florea, Shoshona M -FS; Enzer, Maia J -FS

Subject: employee safety message

Hey folks,

Below is the employee safety message about potential sovereign citizen actions. Michael Loudermilk provided helpful input and Shoni signed off. Feel free to tweak as needed for local employees. It doesn't appear that BLM or FWS has a similar message so I've shared this with them so they can use or modify for their needs.

Stephen

We've received reports that there are now individuals in the area associated with the sovereign citizen movement who might "appoint" themselves judges and try to issue indictments, serve papers, or arrest local officials and/or federal employees. There is a concern they may attempt to set up their own courts and have trials. These individuals and their actions have no legal authority. However, in the unlikely event they do take any of these actions, their conduct is still a cause for concern.

Be careful if approached by a stranger who tries to engage you in a conversation about the authority or illegitimacy of the federal government. Do not engage in any way or allow them to begin a debate. If someone tries to give you a document, do not accept it. Walk away. If you receive something in the mail, contact law enforcement and have them examine the document with you to help determine its authenticity.

There are also concerns about the potential for "paper terrorism," where these individuals might attempt to file liens on property belonging to local officials or federal employees. These activities also have no legal authority but there is little to stop these individuals from attempting such actions. Once a lien or suit is filed, which is considered a crime, it can take many months of frustration for you to resolve.

Be cautious about unfamiliar documents received in the mail, especially something that appears to be a legal document. Report any suspicious activity to law enforcement. Most federal employees are entitled to free credit monitoring, and federal law allows for one free credit report a year.

Most important, please be cognizant of your surroundings and alert law enforcement of any concerns you might have. Our law enforcement officers are working closely with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. We are grateful for their dedication and support.



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