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**News Release**

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**Gale comments on report on fraudulent UCC claims**

LINCOLN – Nebraska Secretary of State John Gale announced a new report designed to help state business filing agencies enhance their policies for removing fraudulent Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) filings from the public record.

The National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) released the report following a yearlong study on bogus UCC filings. Gale was a co-author of the report.

The report addresses the persistent challenges that state government officials and the individuals who are targeted by bogus UCC claims often face. The report is specifically written for policy makers who are working on laws and practices to address the growing problem of fraudulent UCC filings that target innocent victims with bogus liens against the victims' property.

"Given the ongoing filing of fraudulent UCC filings in the past several years in Nebraska, this report is helpful in identifying ways that Nebraska and other states can provide expedited relief to victims and help to keep our UCC records accurate and reliable," remarked Gale.

The NASS report provides substantive guidance for states seeking to develop faster, less costly options for keeping bogus liens out of public records, noted Gale.

"UCC bogus liens have been filed against judges, elected officials, law enforcement officers, banks and citizens, among others, where the filer has a grudge and wants to entangle the victims in loss of credit worthiness and impose bogus debt that freezes private property titles," Gale added.

"We hope to see legislation adopted in Nebraska in 2013 to address this problem," he said. "We will continue to be vigilant in protecting our citizens from these spurious claims."

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