



## From the Office of Secretary of State John A. Gale

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### **Business mailer persists in causing confusion with Sec. of State**

LINCOLN – A mailing targeting those who do business with the Secretary of State’s office is once again causing confusion. John Gale says the solicitation, which requests a payment of \$150 in exchange for the preparation of documents, did not originate from his office.

“Non-profit corporations and limited liability companies (LLCs) are getting ready to file their biennial reports with my office, which is why this mailer is turning up now,” Gale explained.

Several calls have been fielded by the office, from people wondering if documents provided by the company are in fact, necessary or required, in order to file with the Secretary of State’s office.

“They are not,” said Gale. “While information requested in the solicitation has some similar information that we request from business entities to update their records, hiring this company does not meet any obligation by those entities to file their annual and biennial reports with the Business Services Division.”

The mailing, from the Nebraska Council for Corporations, includes a form and instructions for providing information and the payment requested.

Gale said that notices mailed from his office are easily recognizable. They contain his name and title, the image of the Great Seal of Nebraska. They also include contact information for the Business Services Division.

“The quickest and most convenient way for business entities to file with our office is to do so online,” reminded Gale.

Starting on December 1, a message will appear on the front page of the Secretary of State's website ([www.sos.ne.gov](http://www.sos.ne.gov)) letting business entities know about upcoming deadlines. Then when the filing period opens on January 3, users will be able to click links posted on the website to access the appropriate online filings and forms.

"More and more businesses are reporting to us online, which is a huge convenience to them and certainly expedites processing for entities and our office," Gale noted. "However, all entities should be aware that this mailer is not something that my office requests or requires in order to fulfill the obligations that need to be met to remain in good standing in Nebraska."

Anyone with questions or concerns about unusual business mailings or those requesting payments can direct inquiries to the State Attorney General's office. Complaints can be filed directly at: <https://protectthegoodlife.nebraska.gov/file-consumer-complaint>.

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