

**For Immediate Release:**

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**For More Information Contact:**

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**Jesse White Warns Businesses of Statewide Corporate Solicitation**

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White is warning businesses to beware of a solicitation letter targeting Illinois corporations.

A firm called Annual Business Services is contacting Illinois businesses in an attempt to collect a \$125 fee to fill out a corporation's "corporate minutes." The fake notice states that the fee must be paid by January 9, 2015. White recommends that corporations do not reply to the solicitation.

The Illinois Business Corporation Act does not require corporations to file an "Annual Minutes Form" or pay such a fee with the state or any private entity. The only fee that corporations must pay is the fee that is paid with their annual report. Illinois corporations should be on the alert for this and similar attempts to collect fictitious fees.

"The problem is that the form this bogus firm is sending out looks similar to our Secretary of State's annual report form," White said. "We are concerned that companies may be filing the form and paying the \$125 because they believe they are filing their annual report with us, as required by law."

If a business would like to file a complaint in regard to the solicitation, please contact the Illinois Attorney General's Consumer Fraud Division at (800) 243-0618.

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