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## **Southern Title Technology Director Earns CISM Designation**

(DAYTONA BEACH, FL – September 29, 2020) – Southern Title's Director of Information Security and Technology Paul Noga, CISSP, has added the Certified Information Security Manager (CISM) certification to his list of credentials.

According to Information Systems Audit and Control Association (ISACA), the CISM certification demonstrates expertise in information security governance, program development and management, incident management, and risk management. Currently, there are only 46,000 credentialed CISMs globally. Earlier this year, Noga earned the CISSP (Certified Information Systems security Professional) designation.

In addition to leading Southern Title's cybersecurity and information technology team, Noga is a member of the American Land Title Association's (ALTA) Technology Committee and Cybersecurity Committee, the Florida Land Title Association's (FLTA) Cyber Security Committee, and the Orlando Chapter of InfraGard, a non-profit organization which serves as a public-private partnership between U.S. businesses and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Robust cybersecurity systems are vital to the success of every title insurance agent today and title agents and their customers who aren't taking wire fraud seriously risk financial - and reputational – ruin.

"It's vital that Southern Title is vigilant in protecting our customers and ourselves from the daily security attacks, wire fraud efforts, and other internet-related scams," said Shelley Stewart, CLC, President & CEO of Southern Title. "Paul has been instrumental in developing a robust and secure network to prevent data breaches and protect the escrow funds of our customers and the integrity of our operations."

The cost of cyber security threats to the title insurance industry is staggering. In 2018, there were at least 11,300 victims of real estate wire fraud who lost a total of nearly \$150 million, according to the FBI. Their Internet Crimes Complaint Center (IC3) reports this number is even higher because only a small percentage of all wire fraud incidents is reported.

## References:

The <u>ALTA</u> Technology Committee is a national committee leading the industry's charge to combat wire fraud, the Committee is focused on researching technology for local title office operations, providing advice and support regarding tech-related training and education, working with industry technology vendors, and developing and publishing standards and procedures for the secure exchange of information to improve all aspects of the title business.

<u>InfraGard</u> is an association of individuals that facilitates information sharing and intelligence between businesses, academic institutions, state and local law enforcement agencies, and other participants dedicated to prevent hostile acts against the United States. InfraGard's mutual nondisclosure agreements

among its members (individuals) and the FBI promotes trusted discussions of vulnerabilities and solutions that companies and individuals may be hesitant to place in the public domain and provide access to additional threat information from the FBI.

## **About Southern Title**

Southern Title is Volusia County's leading independent title agency, specializing in providing peace of mind to Florida property owners by protecting their investment with a title insurance policy. This one-time premium policy offers safeguards for covered defects that might impact their property rights – for as long as the owners, or their heirs, have an interest in the property. In addition, the company provides residential settlement and closing services from 10 offices in Florida with locations in Jacksonville, Palm Coast, Ormond Beach, two locations in Daytona Beach, Port Orange, Deltona, and Leesburg. The company operates a Commercial Division in Ormond Beach.

Southern Title is staffed with a team of experienced professionals, including 10 Certified Land Closers and 27 licensed title agents. For the past four years, Southern Title has been named "Best of the Best" Title Company for Volusia and Flagler counties by readers of the Daytona Beach News-Journal in its annual "Reader's Choice" Awards.

Southern Title is proud to comply with the industry's Best Practices, as stipulated by the American Land Title Association (ALTA) and has earned an ALTA Best Practices Pillar 3 Certificate of Completion from Security Compliance Associates (SCA).

For more information, please view our website at <a href="www.stitle.com">www.stitle.com</a>, or call Lisa Blythe at (386) 316-3141 or lblythe@stitle.com.