

Dear Stewart Partners,

We hope all of you are staying cool during this heat wave we are experiencing. Record high temperatures and humidity are predicted throughout Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire.

In this week's update, we are providing you with the registration link for tomorrow's webinar presented by Stewart's Marketing team on Stewart's Marketing Storefront. The Storefront allows you to take advantage of pre-designed marketing pieces, which you can customize with your agency information.

We've also included a link to an article about Home Title Lock, which is a service that homeowners can purchase for a monthly fee that monitors activity at the Registry of Deeds. We're sure many of you may have seen the infomercials running on TV. Your clients may be asking about this service. The service is expensive and has received criticism. A Homeowner's (enhanced) policy of title insurance is a better value, with a one-time premium, and provides coverage for post-policy forgery as part of its covered risks. A homeowner can also sign up for free property alerts through many registries of deeds. The full article is linked below.

Lastly, we have an update on Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac's mandates relative to the use of the new 2021 loan policies. Read below for the recently issued guideline regarding when the policies will be required on Fannie and Freddie loan products



### **Stewart Agency Webinar**

Topic: Stewart's Marketing Storefront – this program is back by popular demand. Join Stewart's Marketing Manager, Sydney Sance, for a one-hour webinar. Sydney will explore Stewart's new Marketing Storefront, which is available to all independent Stewart issuing agents and can help you increase business and generate sales through customizable marketing materials available on the Storefront. Date: July 21, 2022 at 2:00 PM

For questions about either of these two upcoming webinars, please contact Gloria Prinz, Agency Training Manager, at 403-927-1406 or by email at [gprinz@stewart.com](mailto:gprinz@stewart.com)



### **Home Title Lock – What is it and does it provide value?**

Banker and Tradesman recently published an article on Home Title Lock and the service it provides. The review was not favorable and cited to reporting done by ABC News. The article points out that title insurance remains a better option. To read the full article follow this link:

<https://bankerandtradesman.com/title-theft-company-lies-to-consumers/>



## **2021 Loan Policies & Fannie/Freddie**

Fannie Mae (Fannie) recently announced that it will require the use of the 2021 ALTA Loan Policy form beginning on January 1, 2024. Until that time, Fannie will accept either the current (2006) form or the 2021 form.

Freddie Mac (Freddie) previously announced that it will require the use of the 2021 ALTA Loan Policy form beginning on January 1, 2023. Until that time, both editions of the forms will be accepted.

Given the one year difference between when these two agencies will mandate the use of the new form, it will be important to carefully read the closing instructions provided by the lender.



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