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Scam Warnings for Missouri Businesses

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) - Missouri's secretary of state is warning business owners about a deceptive mailer that indicates they have a potential compliance violation.

Secretary of State Jason Kander says the postcards look like an official government document but are not affiliated with any state or federal agency, including the Corporations Division in Kander's office.

Dozens of Missouri businesses have reported receiving the postcards, which direct the recipient to call a toll-free number to avoid fees and penalties.

Kander says businesses that call the number may be instructed to pay a fee for a "certificate of existence" or something similar that is not required for businesses registered with his office.

He says any official correspondence from the secretary of state's office will contain the state seal and official contact information.

Associate Press