

1 ☐ **Government Officials Security Considerations for the Sovereign Citizen Movement**

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3 ☐ **Thanks to the Greensboro, NC Police Department's Criminal Intelligence Squad for its research, resources and training**

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**Numerous court systems throughout the state for anecdotes and best practices
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation**

Acknowledgements

4 ☐ **Sovereign Ideology**

- Anarchist ideology similarities and differences
- Adherents differentiate between a "state citizen" and a "14th Amendment United States federal citizen", and claim that the state republics existed before the 14th Amendment
- Believe that as a citizen of a state republic, they were fraudulently incorporated into U.S. federal citizenship with passage of the 14th Amendment
- Do not recognize law enforcement authority
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5 ☐ **Sovereign Ideology**

- At their most harmless, sovereigns are cranks who talk gibberish to LE, judges and clerks and then become law abiding citizens when they face real legal consequences
- At a different level, they may burden the court system with the filing of nonsensical documents
- At their worst, they may use deadly force to defend their strange beliefs
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6 ☐ **Sovereign Citizen Buzzwords/Phrases**

- 1 ☐ • "Indigenous"
- "El-Bey"
- "Sovereign"
- "De Facto Government"
- "Where is your oath of office?"
- "What is the amount of your bond"
- 2 ☐ • "Domicile"
- "Travelling in a commercial capacity"
- "Who is the victim?"
- "Non-resident alien"

- "Aboriginal"
- "Conveyance"
- "Sui juris"

7 ☐ **Sovereign Citizen Buzzwords/Phrases**

- 1 ☐ • "Strawman"
 - "Special Trust Deposit"
 - References to the UCC
 - © after name
 - Use of "near" or brackets with zip code
- 2 ☐ • "Common Law"
 - "Redemption"
 - "Charge Back Notice"
 - "Accepted for Value"
 - References to government as a corporation

8 ☐ **Other Signs:**

- Thumbprints
- Signature in other colors to distinguish from government printing
- Diagonal writing
- "Over-Notarization"

9 ☐ **"Legal" Strategies of Sovereigns**

Misuse of the Legal System

- Ironically, despite their view of the illegitimacy of government, sovereign citizens are prolific at filing papers in those same government offices
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10 ☐ **"Legal" Strategies of Sovereigns**

- 1 ☐ Filings
 - Want relief from criminal charges, or to demand money, or to harass or intimidate
 - Clerks and Registers of Deeds most common victims
 - Paper Terrorism
 - "Smoke and Nought"
 - Commonly attempt to file on legal-size paper
 - Theory of "Redemption"
- 2 ☐ Examples:
 - Notice of copyright of name "common law copyright notice"
 - "Registered Warrant Claim for Trust"
 - Responsive filings to traffic citations or other charges
 - Ask for court to authenticate its authority, oath or bond
 - Affidavits of "Specific Negative Averment, opportunity to cure, and counterclaim"
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11 ☐ **"Legal" Strategies of Sovereigns** **Filings (continued)**

- 1 ☐ • "Negative Averment" appears on many documents in belief that it puts burden on the official to

respond

- "Notice of International Commercial Claim Within the Admiralty ab initio Administrative Remedy"
- Notices of default and commercial liens and demand for payment
- "Express Specific Reservation of Rights"
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2 • "Certification of Non-Response"

- Invoices for outrageous sums of money in the millions or billions of dollars
- "Non-negotiable Declaration in the Form for Trust Affidavit in Commerce"
- "Notice of Default for Notice and Demand for Full Disclosure"
- "Affidavit of Citizenship and Domicile"
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12 ☐ **"Legal" Strategies of Sovereigns
Filings (continued)**

1 • "Legal Notice: Right to Travel"

- "Notice of Dishonor"
- "Notice of Silver Surety Bond"
- "Asseveration"
- "Non-Statutory Abatement: Notice of Default, Default Judgment, and Praeipere"
- Recording of notices of discharge
- Filing of maritime liens
- Notary and Apostille authentication
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2 • Most significantly, Sovereigns attempt to file false liens against public officials who cross them

- The Tennessee General Assembly has addressed it
- NC and TX made it a felony and established a procedure for Registers of Deeds to reject such a filing
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13 ☐ **Filing Liens without Legal Basis**

- Sovereigns will send return receipt letter that lien exists
- When disregarded, lien filed
- File liens for bond amounts or ridiculous amounts
- File documents without any bearing on real property or a judgment
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14 ☐ **T.C.A. §39-17-117(d)**

P.C. 1015 Eff.: 7-1-12

Filing Liens without Legal Basis

- Makes it an offense to knowingly prepare, sign, or file a lien without having reasonable basis to place such lien on real or personal property

- Class A misdemeanor
- Enhanced to a Class E Felony as of July 1, 2013

15 ☐ **T.C.A. §66-3-104(b)**

Transfer or Recording Deed without Legal Interest

- Makes it an offense to transfer or apply for recordation of land by deed knowing the transferor or grantor has no legal or equitable interest in land
- Class A misdemeanor

16 ☐ **T.C.A. §39-16-510**

Retaliation Against Court Official

- A person commits the offense of retaliation for past action who harms or threatens to harm a public official...by any unlawful act in retaliation for anything the [official] did in an official capacity

17 ☐ **U.S. v. Stouder, 2005 WL2715666**

Filing of Common Law Liens or UCC Statements

- It is well-established that courts have statutory authority to void common law liens imposed by persons on the property of government officials doing their duty
- The court saw no distinction for filed UCC financing statements for harassment purposes
- No legal or factual basis for filing—merely harassment or hindrance

18 ☐ **Guidance from other States**

- Common Law Liens” may not be filed against property in ND, SD, WI, KS and TX
- Texas AG Opined court and county clerks shall not file “common law court” judgments per Constitution
- Tennessee?

19 ☐

**Court and Administrative Proceedings
and
Office Visits**

Sovereign Strategies

- Courtroom Playbook
- Three-Ring Circus
- Religious card played hoping to cause pause

20 ☐ **Effective Counter Strategies**

Government Official-Professional

- Control interaction
- Discuss strategies and your preferences with security officers
- Dismiss baseless procedures without delay
- Keep everything moving forward—do not accept on face value or reschedule

21 ☐ **Effective Counter Strategies**

Government Official-Professional

- Expect law enforcement to have dealt with them firmly if they are doing their job
- Share documents and individual information with LE—TBI or DHS

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22 ☐ **Effective Counter Strategies**

Government Official-Personal

- If you deal with them, periodically check your credit
- Realize hierarchy will be frivolously sued and liens filed so notify and communicate
- Title search periodically
- Bring false liens or lawsuits to the attention of the AG or county attorney
- Check your public records documents TCA §10-7-504

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23 ☐ **First Amendment Auditors**

- A citizen or journalist who tests or exercises their First Amendment rights by filming in public spaces
- Stated goal is to ensure governmental accountability
- Some claim to be activists
- Some monetize their efforts

24 ☐ **First Amendment Auditors**

- YouTube Videos
- Other social media
- Litigation
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25 ☐ **Questions?**

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