

Edward de Jong  
7749 Sterling Dr.  
Oakland CA 94605

June 29, 2024

Dear Lake County Tax Collector's Office and to whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Ms. Ni receiving back her \$5000 deposit for the June 2024 Lake County Tax Default Auction conducted by Bid4Assets.com for the parcel #052-092-020-000 at 9802 Venturi Dr., Cobb, CA 95426.

I witnessed the auction and was the database technician who prepared the subset of the database on which Ms. Ni. used to bid, following the instructions given by a tech support staff member from Bid4Assets. As she was only interested in properties that had a house, we were told to exclude raw land by skipping properties with no improvements.

I believe the auction listing was misleading; Google search showed an existing house, and the improvement value was consistent with some kind of house, but perhaps had serious roof damage. Several bidders were induced to bid to a fairly high amount, for raw land that had a house in the past.

When we contacted the Lake County Tax office, we communicated with Mr. Greg Peter, and he confirmed that Lake County knew this house had burned down in 2015. He also said that the \$6,000 improvement was only for Septic Tank.

If the property description had added but a few words like "house burned down 2015" none of the bidders would have likely bid on the property for anywhere close to the final price, as there were many raw land parcels that received no or minimum bids.

Given that the County knew about the fire from years past, not including such an overwhelmingly important detail in the "notes" section was unfair to the bidders, and all of the bidders on this parcel were tricked by this omission into bidding far beyond what raw land is currently selling for.

I can be a witness in person as needed

Regards

*Edward de Jong*

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CC: Bid4Assets