

Interpreting & Understanding Deeds

Presented by:

Kristin Montgomery, CPE Chief Assessor/Director of Assessment – Luzerne County kristin.Montgomery@luzernecounty.org

Rita Yannayon, CPE - Tyler Technologies rita.yannayon@tylertech.com

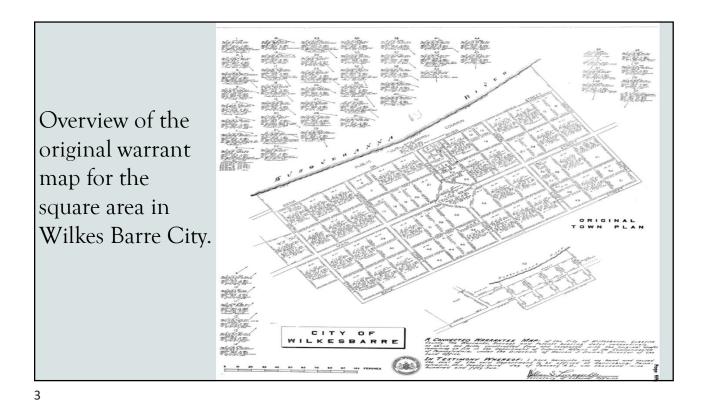
Darrell Arbore, Esq. - Westmoreland County Tax Assessment Office Solicitor

1

WARRANTS

Warrant- certificate authorizing a survey of a tract of land; initiates title of a property and provides the basis for legal settlement but does not convey all rights to the property.

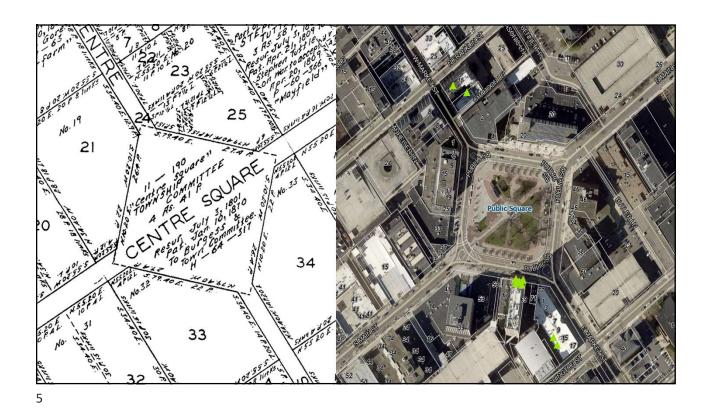
*pa.gov



Original Warrant Map

Zoomed - square area in
Wilkes Barre City.

л



PATENTS

Patent - final, official deed from the Penns or the Commonwealth, which conveys clear title and all rights to the private owner.

*pa-gov

DEEDS

<u>Deed:</u> A signed and usually sealed instrument containing some legal transfer, bargain, or contract.

*Merriam-Webster

7

In plain language.... What is a deed?

A document that transfers ownership of real property from a grantor (seller) to a grantee (buyer). E.W. Bilbow Abstract Company 480 Pierce Street, Suite 319 Kingston, PA 18704

DATE # 10 - 1 - 10 SENTIFICATION NUMBER

MUNICIPALITY QUESTION TOUR

PIN MAY G 8 S 1 BLOCK 4 107 29

TRANSFER DIVISION BATE # 10 - 1 - 1 0 B R

THIS DEED

BETWEEN ROBIN ROGERS, Executrix of the Estate of Cleo Ines Eneboe, Deceased, late of the Township of Jackson, Luzeme County, Pennsylvania;

GRANTOR,

AND

PATRICIA RUDDY, of the Borough of Hunlock Creek, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania,

GRANTEE

WHEREAS, Clifford O. Eneboe and Cleo I. Eneboe, his wife, became seized of all that certain piece or parcel of land situate in Township of Jackson, County of Luzerne and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by deed of Robert Chisholm Miline and Margaret Helen Miline, his wife, dated January 21, 1966 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds in and for Luzerne County, Pennsylvania in Deed Book 1584 at page 475, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, Clifford O. Eneboe died December 31, 1987 and title to the within described premises vested as entireties property in Cleo I. Eneboe, also known as Cleo Ines Eneboe, his wife, and

REC Book 3010 Page 174658

DEEDS

Types of Deeds:

Warranty

Special Warranty

General Warranty

Quitclaim

Corrective

Taken

Sheriff

Tax Sale

Taken (Cont.)

Judicial Sale

Repository

Adverse Possession

Given

Gift of Love & Affection

Decree of Distribution

9

Types of Deeds Warranty Deeds

Special Warranty

While a general warranty deed promises that the property has no outstanding mortgages, debts, liens, or encumbrances on the property now and from all previous owners of the property, a special warranty deed only promises this to be true during the period the grantor owned the property. Most lenders will require a warranty deed before granting any financing for the property. *

^{*}What Are The 3 Types of Deeds in Pennsylvania? (bingamanhess.com)

Types of Deeds Warranty Deeds

General Warranty

A general warranty deed provides the highest level of protection to the grantee. It ensures that the grantor holds a clear title to the property, has no outstanding mortgages, debts, liens, or encumbrances on the property now and from all previous owners of the property, and that there will be no future claim on the title of the property.

*What Are The 3 Types of Deeds in Pennsylvania? (bingamanhess.com)

11

Types of Deeds Quitclaim

A Quitclaim deed provides the lowest level of protection to the grantee. It only transfers an ownership interest from the grantor to the grantee. It does not guarantee that the property is without outstanding mortgages, debts, liens, or encumbrances. This type of deed is most often used in nonsale transactions, such as transfers between spouses or to children.

^{*}What Are The 3 Types of Deeds in Pennsylvania? (bingamanhess.com)

Types of Deeds Corrective Deeds

A deed made without consideration for the sole purpose of correcting an error in the description of the parties or of the premises conveyed is not taxable.

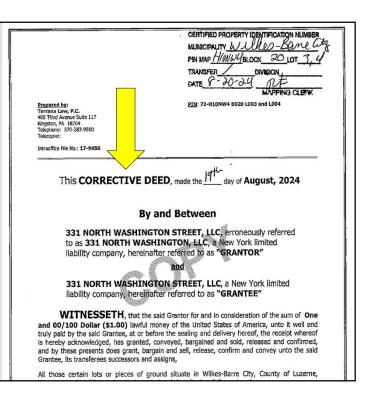
61 Pa. Code § 91.151. Correctional deed. (pacodeandbulletin.gov)

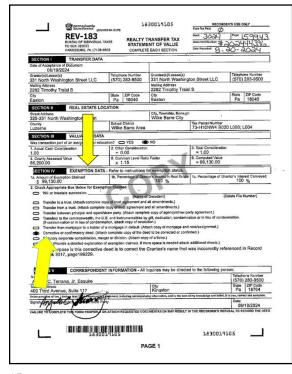
13

Corrective Deeds

If there is an error made, a corrective deed will be recorded. Sometimes you're lucky enough to have it written at the top like this deed!

You may also find that a deed was of a corrective nature in other areas.





Other places to spot if a deed is a corrective deed...

You will notice under Section IV of the affidavit of value that this conveyance is exempt for the reason filled in to the left.

Sometimes one of the last clauses in the deed will also state this.

Here you can see the corrective or confirmatory deed is the chosen reason.

15

Types of Deeds Taken

Sheriff's Deed

A document giving ownership rights in property to a buyer at a sheriff's sale (a sale held by a sheriff to pay a court judgment against the owner of the property). A deed given at a sheriff's sale in foreclosure of a mortgage.

Sheriff's Deed | Encyclopedia.com

SHERIFF'S DEED

2 -T WRIGHT TOWNSHIP Know all Men by these Presents

This deed made this 18th day of July 2024, I, Brian M. Szumski, Sheriff of Luzerne County, ommonwealth of Pennsylvania (CYNTHIA RACKLEY, Defendant(s)), for and in consideratic m of ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED THEEE AND 86, 1703 [\$1,703.86] dollars, to me paid do hereby grant and convey to

Sheriff's Deeds are typically not lien searched or title searched.

They remain extremely vague as this is a "buyer beware" sale.

> This is a typical Sheriff's deed in Luzerne County

the same having been sold by me to the grantee on the 14th day of June 2024, after advertise under a Writ of Execution issued on the 11th day of December 2023, out of the Court of Con Pleas of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania as Zase Number: 8946/2022, at the suit of

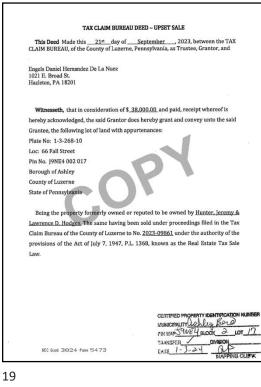
17

Types of Deeds Taken

Tax Sale (aka Upset Sale)

At an upset tax sale, a tax-delinquent home is sold subject to existing liens such as mortgages, judgments, and other liens. (72 P.S. § 5860,609).

More simply explained a tax sale is a "buyer beware" situation. Upset sales do not erase any loans/liens against the property.



Sample of an Upset (or Tax) Sale Deed

Like a Sheriff's deed, these deeds are not guaranteed.

The tax claim bureau does a search for owners to serve, but they do not do a lien search.

It is the buyer's responsibility to do the research.

Types of Deeds Taken

Judicial Sale

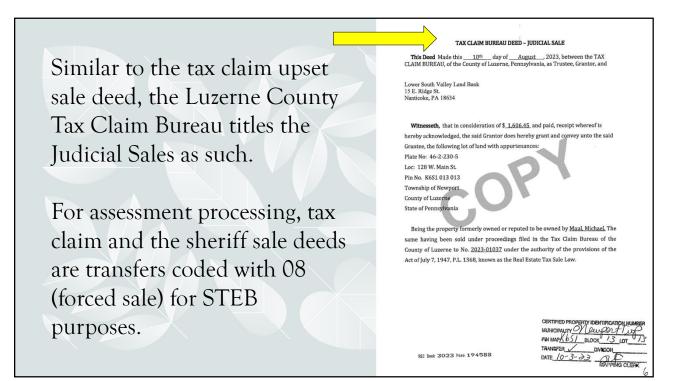
The Judicial Sale is a sale permitted under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Real Estate Tax Sale Act, 72 P.S. §5860.101, et seq., which provides for an auction of real property due to delinquent property taxes that were not sold at an earlier Upset Tax Sale.

Judicial Sale (Cont.)

Article VI Sale of Property

b. Judicial Sale - Section 612(a)...freed and cleared of all tax and municipal claims, mortgages, liens, charges and estates, except separately taxed ground rents, to the highest bidder, and that the purchaser at such sale shall take and thereafter have an absolute title to the property sold free and clear of all tax and municipal claims, mortgages, liens, charges and estates of whatsoever kind, except ground rents, separately taxed.

21



Types of Deeds Taken

Repository

Once a property goes through all of the sales processes and still is not sold, it now belongs to the county... I refer to is as a quasi ownership. It's not deeded to the county; they own it by default.

That file of properties is known as the repository of properties, for which the county obviously does not pay taxes, so it's in their best interest to find a buyer.

23

Most counties set a minimum sale price for properties purchased from their repository.

Once in repository, when sold, the property's market value changes to the value of the sale price.

TAX CLAIM BUREAU DEED - REPOSITORY SALE

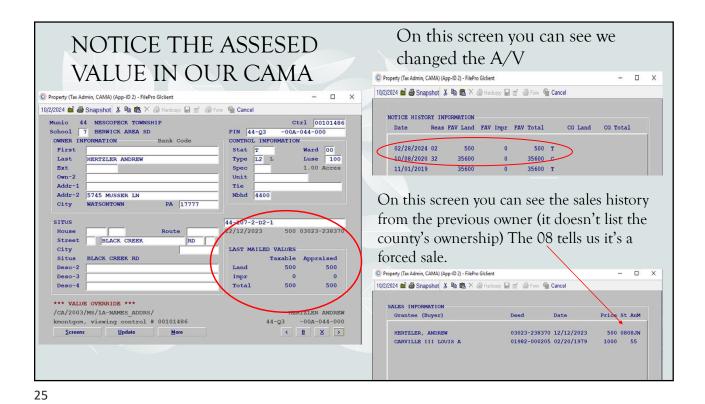
This Deed Made this AHM day of OLD M. 2023, between the TAX CLAIM BUREAU, of the County of Luzerne, Pennsylvania, as Trustee, Grantor, and

Andrew Hertzler 5745 Musser Ln.
Watsontown, PA 17777

Witnesseth, that in consideration of \$.500.00 and paid, receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, the said Grantor does hereby grant and convey unto the said Grantee, the following lot of land with appurtenances:
Plate No: 44-107-2-D2
Loc: Black Creek Rd.
Pin No. Q3 00A 044
Township of Nescopeck
County of Luzerne
State of Pennsylvania

Being the property formerly owned or reputed to be owned by Carville, Louis A.
III, The same having been sold under proceedings filed in the Tax Claim Bureau of the County of Luzerne to Nos. 2022-11147 under the authority of the provisions of the Act of July 7, 1947, P.L. 1368, known as the Real Estate Tax Sale Law.

LEBRIES PROPERTY MISCOPILL Y-UP
PIN MAP Q3 SUCK A 101 UN
BAIL 11/26/3 TOWNSHIP TOWNSH



From RETSL (Real Estate Tax Sale Law)

(627 amended June 18, 1998, P.L.501, No.69)

Section 628. Assessment Restrictions on Property Sold From Repository.~ Notwithstanding any other provisions of the various assessment laws of this Commonwealth, the price for which property is sold under this subarticle of the act only, shall be deemed to be the fair market value of the property for tax assessment purposes. The assessment and the consideration upon which it was made shall not be changed unless any of the following occurs:

- (1) It is changed as part of a general county reassessment.
- (2) It is sold as an individual parcel or as part of a combined parcel.
- (3) It is improved as provided for in the several assessment laws of this Commonwealth.

(628 added July 3, 1986, P.L.351, No.81)

Types of Deeds Taken

Adverse Possession & Condemnation

There are reasons where someone or a government can obtain property through adverse possession or condemnation. There are many legal caveats to these but for assessment processing purposes, it's a transfer of property.

27

Types of Deeds

Given

Gift of love & affection

Decree of Distribution (for estates)

Once the decree of distribution is complete, appeals to the estate (such as a late lien filer) are improbable.

PROCESSING "TYPICAL" DEEDS IN THE ASSESSMENT OFFICE

29

What to look for when reviewing a deed....

Sale Price – Most important for sales validation.

Typically found on page one, this one is on the 2nd page.

WHEREAS, Cleo Ines Eneboe died testate October 1, 2009, a resident of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the Last Will and Testament of Cleo I. Eneboe was duly admitted probate before the Register of Wills of Luzerne County, by proceedings filed to N 4009-1722; and

WHEREAS, Letters Testamentary were granted to Robin Rogers, the Granton herein; and

WHEREAS, the Executor desires by this deed to sell and convey the within escribed premises to the Grantee herein.

NOW THEREFORE in consideration of the sum of One Hundred Fifty-nine Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$159,000.00), in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, the said Grantor does hereby grant and convey to the said Grantee, her heirs and assiens.

ALL that certain piece or parcel of land situate in Township of Jackson, County of Luzerne and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows, to wit:

being a corner common to Lots Nos, 36 and 37;

THENCE along the rear line common to Lots Nos. 31 and 36 South 56 degree

THENCE along the line dividing Lots Nos. 36 and 37 North 34 degrees 30 minutes West two hundred (200) feet to the place of BEGINNING.

BEING Lot No. 36 on plot of Harold T. Bertram, by J.T. Jeter, dated May 12, 1956, revised October 1, 1957, as shown on map attached to deed of Harold T. Bertram, et ux to Leo Rutkoski, Ir., dated July 10, 1961 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds in and for Luzerne County, Pennsylvania in Deed Book 1479 at page 810, et see.

ALSO the right to use Highland Drive and East Ridge Street as shown on said

Important is confirming the mailing address for the tax bill!

All deeds SHOULD have a certification of the grantee's precise residence, aka their mailing address, typically found on the signature page.

On this, the <u>30</u> day of <u>Septem ber</u>, 2010, before me a Not iblic, personally appeared ROBIN ROGERS, Executor of the Estate of CLEC NEBOE, also known as CLEO INES ENEBOE, Deceased, known to me tisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrumed acknowledged that she executed the same for the purposes therein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal.

Inwealth of Pennsylvania NOTARIAL SEAL M. BILBOW, NOTARY PUBLIC YOUGH, LUZERNE COUNTY, PA ion Expires Jenuary 31, 20-1

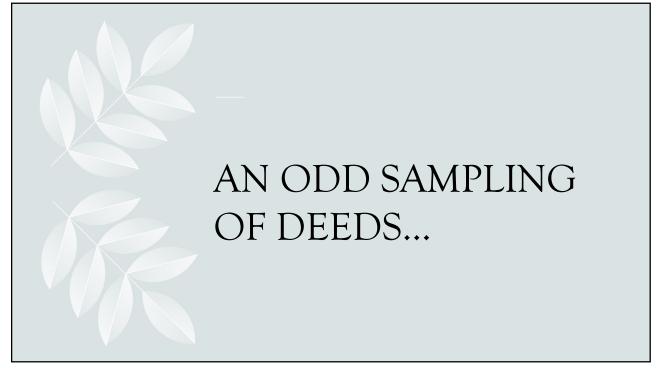


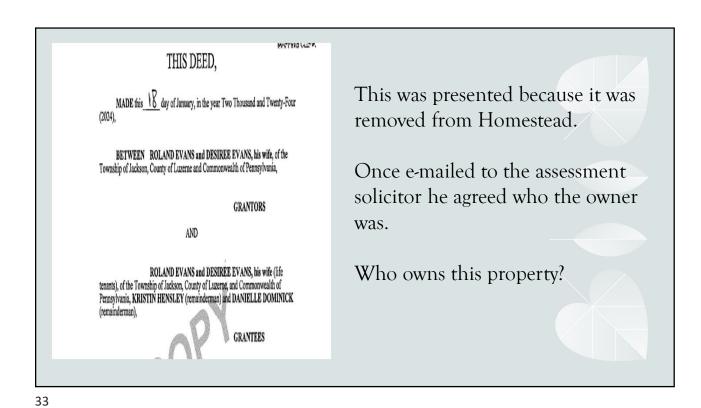
I hereby certify that the precise residence of the Grantee is: 30 EAST RIDGE ST Shave & Town, PA 18708



REC Book 3010 Page 174661

31





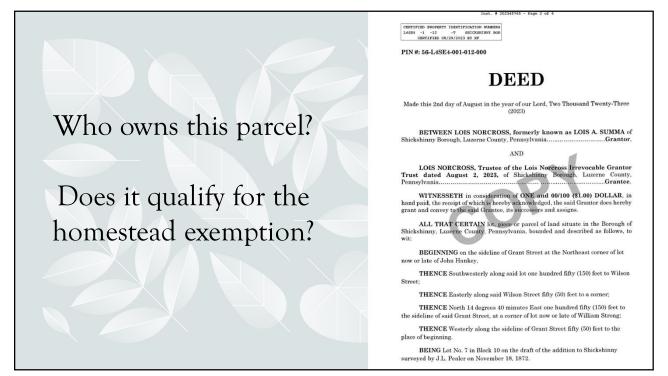
"The difference between Revocable and Irrevocable is life & death."

~ Alfred K. Hettinger, Esq.

CERTIFIED PROPERTY (BESTATION HUMBER MUNICIPALITY BUTLE TUP PHI MAP PRS BLOCK Who owns TRAMSFER V DEED DATE 12/5/23 this property? THIS INDENTURE, made as of this 29th day of November, 2023, Between Does it Ralph R. Erickson, Jr., and Teresa Ann Erickson, having an address at 29 Reserve qualify for the Drive, Drums, PA 18222, as the grantor hereunder (hereinafter referred to as the "Grantor"), homestead And exemption? Kathryn Noelle Foose, having an address at 54 Walden Drive, Mountain Top, PA 18707, as Trustee under the Declaration of Trust of even date herewith, known as the Erickson Family Irrevocable Living Trust, made by Ralph R. Erickson, Jr. and said

Trustee, as the grantee hereunder (hereinafter referred to as the "Grantee").

35



Anatomy of a Deed

Heading

Date

Grantor

Grantee

Tenancy by the Entireties

Joint Tenants

Tenancy in Common

Consideration

Granting Clause

37

Anatomy of a Deed

Property Description

Informal Reference

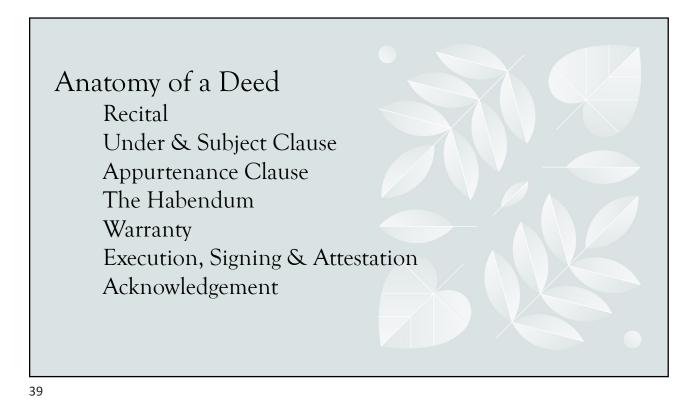
Metes & Bounds

Rectangular Survey System

Recorded Plat

Assessor Parcel Number

References to documents other than maps



Inst. # 202449056 - Page 2 of 4 Anatomy of a Deed CERTIFIED PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS G10NE3 -14 -16 -T PLAINS TOWNSHIP CERTIFIED 09/13/2024 BY RF Prepared By: Mahler Law Firm, LLC Eric N. Mahler, Esquire 1043 Wyoming Ave., 1st Floor Forty Fort, PA 18704 (570) 718-1118 Heading PIN 50-G10NE3-014-016-000 eric.mahler@mahlerlawyers.com THIS DEED Date Joann C. Rush, a Widow, of Virginia Beach, Princess Anne Count Grantor hereinafter referred to as; GRANTOR -AND-Angela M Cruz De Taveras, an unmarried woman and Dariel Tay Cruz an Grantee unmarried man, as tenants in common, of Bronx, Bronx County, New Your, nereinafter referred to as: GRANTEES

Angela M Cruz De Taveras, an unmarried woman and Dariel Taveras Cruz an unmarried man, as tenants in common, of Bronx, Bronx County, New York, hereinafter referred to as;

GRANTEES

Tenancy by the Entireties Joint Tenants Tenancy in Common

You can see this deed is clearly written as tenants in common.

41

Consideration for this property was \$338,000

Witnesseth, that in consideration of Three Hundred Thirty-Eight Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$338,000.00), in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged; the Grantor does hereby grant and convey to the said Grantees, their heirs and assigns the following parcel:

ALL the surface or right of soil of all that certain lot, piece or parcel of land situate in the Township of Plains, County of Luzerne and State of Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows, to wit:

Granting Clause shows this is the surface of this deed.



Anatomy of a Deed Property Description

Informal Reference

Legal Description...in PA, usually metes & bounds as seen here.
Other descriptors might be:

Rectangular Survey System Recorded Plat Subdivision References Other Misc. document references

The Assessor Parcel ID Number (aka PIN)

FRONTING on a street (now known as Cotton Avenue) running in a Northerly direction From Main Street (now known as Miner Street) in the Village of Mill Creek (now known as Hudson), in said Township and BEGINNING at a corner on said street, or avenue, in line of land sold by Robert H. Carter, et ux., to William Ayers;

THENCE in a Westerly direction along said land now or late of William Ayers, ninety-five (95) feet, more or less, to a corner;

THENCE in a Southerly direction, fifty-two (52) feet to a corner in other land formerly of Robert H. Carter;

THENCE in an Easterly direction, parallel with the first mentioned line, ninety-five (95) feet to a point on said street;

THENCE in a Northerly direction, along said street, fifty-two (52) feet to the place of BEGINNING.

BEING the said dimensions, more or less, and containing in all about 4,940 square feet of land, more or less.

SUBJECT to the same exceptions, reservations and conditions as contained in prior deeds in the chain of title.

PIN 50-G10NE3-014-016-000

43

Anatomy of a Deed

Property Description

Recital (aka Being Clause)

BEING the same premises conveyed from Theodore Giovannini, executor of the Estate of Joseph Lewandoski a/k/a Joseph F. Lewandoski to Francis L. Rush and Joann C. Rush by Deed dated February 28, 1996 and recorded February 29, 1996 in Luzerne County Record Book 2555, Page 587. The said Francis L. Rush departed from this life on October 8, 2020 vesting all right, title and interest in the above described property to his wife, Joann C. Rush.

Under & Subject Clause

UNDER AND SUBJECT TO ALL EASEMENTS, CONDITIONS AND OTHER MATTERS OF RECORD, SAVE AND EXCEPT ANY MECHANICS', TAX, MORTGAGE AND/OR JUDGMENT LIENS.

Anatomy of a Deed

Property Description

Appurtenance Clause - A right, benefit, privilege, or improvement that allows for the full use and enjoyment (or burden) of land that belongs to the owner. Common examples of appurtenances are driveways, drainage ditches, fences, and rights of way.

45

Anatomy of a Deed

Property Description

Appurtenance Clause - Sample

TOGETHER WITH all and singular the buildings and improvements, ways, streets, alleys, driveways, passages, waters, water-courses, rights, liberties, privileges, hereditaments and appurtenances, whatsoever unto the hereby granted premises belonging, or in anywise appertaining, and the reversions and remainders, rents, issues and profits thereof; and all the estate, right, title, interest, property, claim and demand whatsoever of them, the said Grantor(s), as well at law as in equity, of, in and to the same.

Anatomy of a Deed

Property Description

The Habendum

A habendum clause is a section of a deed or lease that defines the rights, interests, and other aspects of ownership for one of the parties in a deal. *Westlaw

THIS DOCUMENT DOES NOT SELL, CONVEY, TRANSFER, INCLUDE OR INSURE THE TITLE TO THE COAL AND RIGHT OF SUPPORT UNDERNEATH THE SURFACE LAND DESCRIBED OR REFERRED TO HEREIN, AND THE OWNER OR OWNERS OF SUCH COAL HAVE THE COMPLETE LEGAL RIGHT TO REMOVE ALL OF SUCH COAL AND, IN THAT CONNECTION, DAMAGE MAY RESULT TO THE SURFACE OF THE LAND AND ANY HOUSE, BUILDING OR OTHER STRUCTURE ON OR IN SUCH LAND. THE INCLUSION OF THIS NOTICE DOES NOT ENLARGE, RESTRICT OR MODIFY ANY LEGAL RIGHTS OR ESTATES OTHER WISE CREATED, TRANSFERRED, EXCEPTED OR RESERVED BY THIS INSTRUMENT.

47

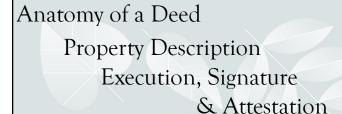
Anatomy of a Deed

Property Description The Warranty

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said lot or piece of ground described above, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, hereditaments and premises hereby granted, or mentioned and intended so to be, with the appurtenances, unto the said Grantee(s), their/his/her/its heirs and assigns, to and for the only proper use and behoof of the said Grantee(s), their/his/her/its heirs and assigns, forever.

AND the said Grantor(s), for themselves/himself/herself/ itself and their/his/her/its heirs, executors and administrators, do, by these presents, covenant, grant and agree, to and with the said Grantee(s), their/his/her/its heirs and assigns, that they, the said Grantor(s), and

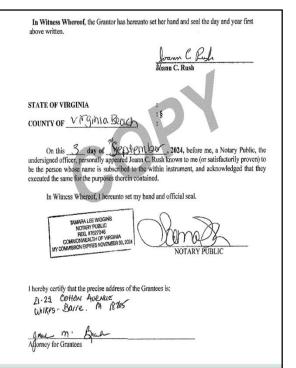
their/his/her/its heirs, all and singular the hereditaments and premises herein described and granted, or mentioned and intended so to be with the appurtenances, unto the said Grantee(s), their/his/her/its heirs and assigns, against them, the said Grantor(s), and their/his/her/its heirs, will warrant and defend against the lawful claims of all persons claiming by, through or under the said Grantor(s) but not otherwise.



Acknowledgement

A Standard Clause intended to demonstrate that the parties understand and agree to the terms and conditions contained in a commercial agreement.

*Westlaw



49

Survival Tip: If you get lost in the woods, just build a shelter. The tax assessor will be there shortly.

