# TITLE INSURANCE BASICS

**Understanding Title Insurance Coverage** 

Presented in conjunction with:









## What is Title Insurance?

- An indemnity contract between the title insurer and the insured
- Provides insurance as of the effective date forward for risks which existed PRIOR to said effective date

 Coverage for a number of risks which the best title searcher on their best day would never be able to find on the public record

# Title insurance is <u>NOT</u> a guaranty of payment for the face amount of the policy

## **Claims Statistics**

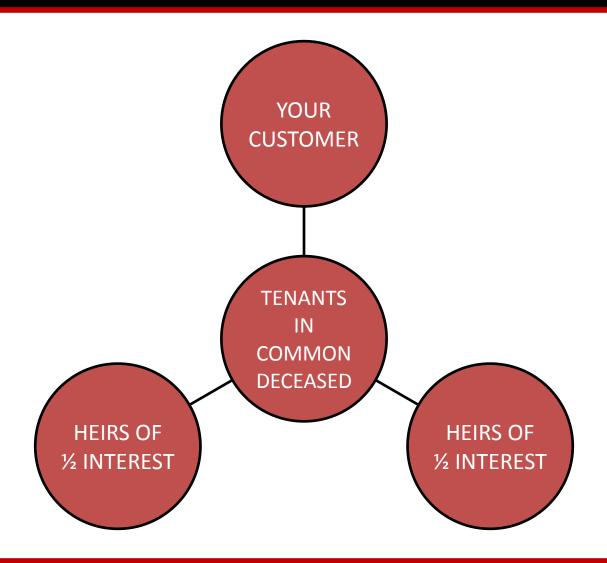
 Closing and post closing errors: 417 claims, paid out \$1,299,000 in 2013

 Search errors: 130 claims, paid out over \$1,000,000 in 2013

# How did you miss that lien??

- Title abstracts (searches) are done by <u>name</u>
- The first step is to search the 'person' you believe to own the property this is considered the <u>first link</u>
- The deed to the property in question is located, then that deed is traced back for a minimum of 40 years, each person in the chain is a link
- Some chains of title could have up to 20 links which would all have to be searched.

# Sample Chain of Title



# Examples of Claims Filed by Lenders

- Previous unreleased liens, possibly indexed incorrectly or not released at closing
- Judgments determined not to attach at purchase will continue to show with each title search

- Marketability of title
- Fraud/forgery

### Scams

Transferring property by Power of Attorney

Forged Documents of transfer

Middle man transactions



# **Insured Closing Protection Letters**



## The Title Commitment

- Purpose:
  - Serves as an agreement to obtain insurance
- Who should review?
  - I guess if you are the insured you might want to read
- I thought the settlement agent was responsible for clear title?
  - Who is the settlement agent representing, and does the settlement agent know what the bank's loan policy states as to title exceptions?

## Title Commitment Review

#### **SCHEDULE A**

(ownership and property description)

#### **SCHEDULE B-I**

(requirements to be met to obtain coverage)

#### **SCHEDULE B-II**

(exceptions to coverage)

# Reviewing the information

#### **Investors Title Insurance Company**

P.O. Drawer 2687, Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27515-2687 919.968.2200 | invtitle.com

Commitment No.: 209910065NR

SCHEDULE A (Continued)

30 % W 22 poles to a stake in road; N 70 % W 6 % poles to a stake in the road; N 44-3/4 W 25-3/4 poles to a beech (gone); N 36 E 94 poles to the beginning, containing 21 acres and 10-2/5 poles, more or less.

SECOND TRACT: Beginning at a stake in the road, thence S 9-3/4 E 20 poles to a stake in road; S 1 E 14 poles to a stake in road; S 11 E 12 poles to a stake in road; S 11 E 28 poles to a stake in road; S 22 W 21-3/4 poles to stake in road; S 4 ½ W 14 poles to stake in road; S 34-3/4 E 18 poles to stake in road; S 42 E 18 poles to stake in road; S 42 E 23-3/5 poles to stone; S 84 ½ E 8-4/5 poles to stone; N 37-3/4 E 97-3/4 poles to stone; N 9 W 8-3/5 poles to comer; N 33-3/4 W 50 poles to C.O.; N 23 ½ W 45 poles to W.O.; S 52 W 63-3/5 poles to the stake in the road, the beginning, containing 61 acres and 76 ½ poles, more or less.

PARCEL FOUR

Beginning as a stone, thence S 54 W 22.4 poles to a stone; S 38 W 38 poles to a hickory; S 73 W 52 ½ poles to a stone, S 10 ½ E 11-3/4 poles to a pine stump; N 69 ½ W 86 poles to a sassafras; N 50 ½ W 13 poles to a C.O.; N 60 ½ W 15 poles to a stone pile; S 86 ½ W 14 poles to a rock; N 7 E 51 poles to a stone by the run; N 86 ½ E 10 ½ poles to a beech stump; N 3 ½ W 2.8 poles to ber post; S 84-3/4 E 16 poles to stone; N 78 E 16 poles to hickory pointers; S 89 E 20 poles to a stone; N 62 E 12.4 poles to stone; S 76 E 33.4 poles to mulberny; N 61 ½ E 13.2 poles to poplar; N 58-3/4 E 14 poles to W. Walnut; S 82-3/4 E 7.6 poles to stake in road; S 4 ½ W 14 poles to stake in road; S 34-3/4 E 18 poles to stake in road; S 42 E 23.6 poles to stone; S 77 ½ W 7 poles to stone, the place of beginning and containing seventy-four (74) acres, more or less, but being a sale in gross and not by the acre.

Issued through the Office of: West Virginia Bankers Title, LLC PO Box 151 Kingmont, WW 26578 Tel. (877) 439-4910 Fax 877-451-8826 Email wbbt@titlesinsured.com

Jane Smith

Authorized Countersignature

This page is only a part of a 2016 ALTA® Commitment for Title Insurance issued by Investors Title Insurance Company. This Commitment is not valid without the Notice; the Commitment to Issue Policy, the Commitment Conditions; Schedule B, Pati —Exceptions; and a courter-signature by the Company or its issuing agent that may be in electronic form.

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Form No. 201-16-A

ALTA Commitment Form - 2016 (Adopted 08-01-16) (Technical Corrections 04-02-2018) Schedule A

## ALTA Endorsements (American Land Title Association)

Endorsements are offered to provide additional coverages

#### **GENERAL**

- 4=condo
- 5=planned unit development
- 6=variable rate
- 6.2=variable rate-neg am
- 7=manufactured housing
- 8.1=environmental coverage
- 9=restrictions
- Revolving credit line

#### **COMMERCIAL SPECIFIC**

- 3=zoning unimproved
- 3.1=zoning improved
- 8.1=non-residential environmental
- 14=future advance
- 17=access
- 22=location

## How to Contact Us

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