CONSTRUCTION, LIEN AGENTS, & LiensNC: Protecting All Parties & Avoiding Litigation

Chicago Title

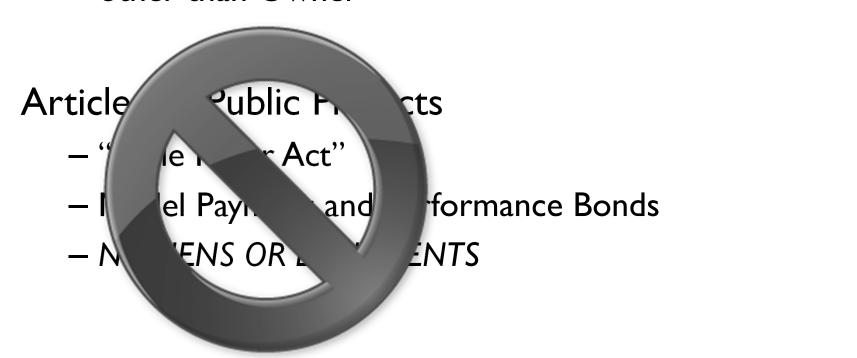
Thanks to: Kim Tanner, @ LiensNC

LIEN LAW BASICS

N.C.G.S. Chapter 44A

Article 2 – Liens & Lien Agents

- Part One—Liens by Persons who Deal with Owner
- Part Two—Liens by Persons who Deal with Someone other than Owner



"Hidden Lien"

- "Claim" relates back to first furnishing
- "Claim of lien" does not have to be filed until
 120 days after last furnishing



"Hidden Lien"

- "Claim of Lien on Funds" by subcontractor:
 - Served on owner
 - Not filed in Clerk's office
 - Can be enforced by Claim of Lien against Property if owner makes future payment without addressing the sub's interest
 - Can relate back to first furnishing of Contractor
 - Does not have to be filed until 120 days after last furnishing
 - Cannot be waived by Contractor!!



"Property" or "Land"

The real estate that is improved, including lands, leaseholds, tenements and hereditaments, and improvements placed thereon.

ADVISE YOUR DEVELOPER CLIENTS:

LIMIT CONTRACTS & APPOINTMENTS TO THE SPECIFIC PROJECT –

- PHASE OR SECTION
- LOT
- CLUB HOUSE
- GOLF COURSE
- BUILDING NUMBER

Mechanics' Lien Agent Law Effective April 1, 2013

Projects:

- First contracted after April 1, 2013
- Cost \$30,000 and over
- Residential or commercial property
- NOT renovation to property used by Owner as a residence (no matter price)
- Whether or not a building permit is needed
- NOT "public" projects (not lienable, bonded under Article 3)

STEP 1:

Owner (or their Rep)

MUST Appoint Lien Agent

AND Post at Job Site

STEP 2:

Contractor or Subcontractor *MAY* File Notice To Lien Agent

- Preserves their ability to enforce lien rights (if any) against Property vis-à-vis purchasers and lenders
 - → Does not affect their contract rights (if any) with higher tier contractors, subs or owner

Critical Dates

- "First Contracting"
 - Lien Agent must be appointed in LiensNC
- "First Furnishing"
 - Contractor (date of relation back)
 - Subcontractor (Potential Lien Claimant)
 - Relation back
 - 15 additional days to file Notice in LiensNC
- Last Furnishing
 - 120 days claim; 180 days civil action

NCLTA FORMS – FOR EVERY OCCASION

NCLTA Lien Forms

Non MLA Forms

- Form I Lien Waiver no new construction
- Form 2 Construction recently completed
- Form 3 Construction in Process or Immediately Contemplated

MLA forms

- Form 5 Owner Affidavit
- Form 6 -- MLA appointed and Construction Recently Completed (WAIVER)
- Form 7 MLA appointed and Construction in Process or Immediately Contemplated (SUBORDINATION)

NCLTA Forms – Contractors

NON- MLA Transactions

- Traditionally underwritten
- Contractors will continue to sign NCLTA Forms 2 or
 3

MLA Transactions

- Contractor must waive or subordinate
- New Forms:
 - NCLTA Form 6 Single Page
 Waiver of Claim of Lien
 - NCLTA Form 7 Single Page Subordination

Commitment Requirement: Definitions

"Non-MLA Projects": Improvements are (I) first contracted before April I, 2013, (2) for a value less than \$30,000 OR (3) solely for improvements to owner's existing residence. All other projects (other than public projects) are MLA projects.

"Owner" is holder of any interest in the Land, including leasehold owner or contract purchaser.

Commitment Requirement: Definitions

"Potential Lien Claimant" (or "PLC - MLA")

- person (or entity) entitled to file a claim of lien on real property
- for providing labor, services, (including design professionals such as surveyors, architects, engineers and landscape engineers), materials or rental equipment provided
- for improvements to the Land
- AND who either:
 - has filed a Notice to Lien Agent*, OR

*See LiensNC search

- was identified in the original Appointment*, OR
- is a Design Professional* OR
- is a PLC whose first furnishing was within 15 days prior to closing OR
- (for waivers) delivered a claim of lien upon funds on the Owner.

Commitment Requirement: Definitions

- "Contractor" Any person or entity who
- has performed or furnished or has contracted to perform or furnish Labor, Services or Materials pursuant to a
- <u>contract</u>, either express or implied, <u>with the Owner of real</u>
 property for the making of an Improvement thereon

OR

who has delivered a <u>claim of lien upon funds</u> to the Owner.

Owner!

Commitment Requirement: No Recent or Contemplated Construction

NCLTA FORM I (Owner Affidavit) from every seller (on sale) or borrower (on refinance)

Have <u>not</u> contracted for recent or contemplated improvements on the Land or for a construction loan

BE AWARE!!! If BUYER has contracted for or is contemplating improvements, BUYER must comply with "CONSTRUCTION CONTEMPLATED OR IN PROCESS" requirements, appointment, posting.

NCLTA Lien Forms: NO New / Recent Construction

Form 1 – Owner Affidavit and Indemnity Agreement

OWNER AFFIDAVIT AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT (NO RECENT IMPROVEMENTS AND NO EXECUTORY CONTRACTS FOR IMPROVEMENTS)

PARTIES: All parties identified in this section must execute this Agreement

(NOTE: A separate Agreement is required for each successive owner in the 120-Day Lien Period.)

PROPERTY:

(Insert street address or brief description and/or attach a description as Exhibit A. Include here any real estate that is a portion of a larger, previously unsegregated that when that area is reasonably necessary for the convenient use and occupation of Improvements on the larger tract.)

DEFINITIONS: The following capitalized terms as used in this Agreement shall have the following meanings:

- Improvement: All or any part of any building, structure, erection, alteration, demolition, excavation, cleaning, grading, filling, or landscaping, including trees and shrubbery, driveways, and private roadways on the Property as defined below.
- <u>Lakor</u>, Services or <u>Materials</u>: ALL labor, services, materials for which a lien can be claimed under NCGS Chapter 44A, Article 2, including but not limited to professional design services (including architectural, engineering, landscaping and surveying) and/or rental equipment.
- <u>Contractor</u>: Any person or entity who has performed or furnished or has contracted to perform or furnish Labor, Services or Materials pursuant to a contract, either express or implied, with the Owner of real property for the making of an Improvement thereon. (Note that services by architects, engineers, landscapers, surveyors, furnishers of rental equipment and contracts for construction on Property of Improvements are often provided before there is visible evidence of construction.)
- 120-Day Lien Period: The 120 days immediately preceding the date of recondation of the latter of the deed to purchaser or deed of trust to lender in the Office
 of the Register of Deeds of the county in which the Property is located.
- Owner, Any person or entity, as defined in NCGS Chapter 44A, Article 2, who has or has had any interest in the Property within the 120-Day Lien Period. For
 the purposes of this Agreement, the term Owner includes: (i) a seller of the Property or a borrower under a loan agreement secured by the Property, (ii) a
 person with rights to purchase the Property under a contract and for whom an improvement is made and who ordered the improvement to be made; and
 (iii) the Owner's successors in interest and agents of the Owner acting within their authority.
- . Company: The title insurance company providing the title policy for the transaction contemplated by the parties herein.
- Property: The real estate described above or on Exhibit A and any leaseholds, tenements, hereditaments, and improvements placed thereon.
- All defined terms shall include the singular or plural as required by context.

AGREEMENT: For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and as an inducement to the purchase of the Property by a purchaser undo the making of a loan by a lender secured by a deed of bust encumbering the Property and the issuance of a title insurance policy or policies by Company insuring title to the Property without exception to lens for Labor, Services or Materials, Owner first being aduly swom, deposes, says and agrees:

- 1. Certifications: Owner certifies that at no time during the 120-Day Lien Period have any Labor, Services or Materials been furnished in connection with a combact express or implied, for Improvements to the Property (including architectural, engineering, landscaping or surveying services or materials or rental equipment for which a lien can be claimed under NOSS Chapter 44Al nor have eny Labor, Services or Materials been furnished on the they prior to the 120-Day Lien Period that will or may be completed after the date of this affidavit Or only minor repairs and/or alterations have been made and Owner certifies such repairs and/or alterations have been completed and off those providing Labor, Services or Materials for the repairs have been paid in full. The Owner further certifies that no Mechanics Lien Agent has been appointed.
- 2. Reliance and Indemnification: This Agreement may be relied upon by the purchaser in the purchase of the Property, a lender to make a loan secured by a deed of trust encumbering the Property and by Company in issuance of a title insurance policy or policies insuring title to the Property without exception to mothers certified in this Agreement. The provisions of this Agreement shall survive the disbursement of funds and closing of this bansaction and shall be binding upon Owner and anyone during by, through or under Owner.

Owner agrees to indernity and hold purchaser, lender, and Company harmless of and from any and all loss, osst, damage and expense of every kind, and attorney's fees, costs and expenses, which the purchaser, lender or Company shall or may inour or become liable for, directly or indirectly, as a result of reliance on the certifications of Owner made herein or in enforcement of the Company's rights hereunder.

3. NCLTA Copyright and Entire Agreement: This Agreement and any attachments hereto represent the entire agreement between the Owner and the Company, and no prior or contemporaneous agreement or understanding inconsistent herewith (whether onli or written) pertaining to such motters is effective.
THIS IS A COPYRIGHT FORM and any variances in the form provisions hereof must be specifically stated in the blank below and agreed to in writing by the Company.

No modification of this Agreement, and no waiver of any of its terms or conditions, shall be effective unless made in writing and approved by the Company

PROVIDING A FALSE AFFIDAVIT IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE			
EXECUTION BY OWNER			
SEAL By:	State of County of Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me this day by [insert name(s) of principal(s)]. Date: Notary Public Notary	(After Charles and End	

⊗ North Carolina Land Title Association, March 2013

Form No. 1: OWNER AFFIDAVIT AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT (NO RECENT IMPROVEMENTS)

Commitment Requirement Recently Completed Improvements

Non-MLA project: NCLTA FORM 2 (Owner/Contractor Affidavit, Lien Waiver, and Indemnity) from every Owner & PLC

MLA project: Receipt of proof satisfactory to the Company that prior to closing or prior to first contracting for construction (whichever occurs first)

- A Lien Agent was designated on the LiensNC.com website &
- The Appointment of Lien Agent was posted at the Land

NCLTA FORM 5 (Owner Affidavit) from every Owner; AND NCLTA FORM 6 (MLA Lien Waiver) from every PLC-MLA

NCLTA Lien Forms: Recently Completed Construction

Non MLA: Form 2

OWNER/CONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT, WAIVER OF LIENS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT (NO MECHANICS LIEN AGENT APPOINTED - CONSTRUCTION RECENTLY COMPLETED)

PARTIES: All parties identified in this section must execute this Agreement, including any Contractors required to sign Additional Signature Pages which must be attached hereto and are hereby incorporated herein and made a part hereof by reference, as applicable (herein the "Agreement").

(NOTE: A separate Agreement is required for each successive owner in the 120-Day Lien Period and the Contractors who have contracted or dealt with that Owner AN OWNER CANNOT BE A CONTRACTOR as defined herein.)

(NOTE: All Contractors dealing with an Owner must be named and execute this Agreement. A CONTRACTOR CANNOT BE THE OWNER)

☐ Attached: ADDITIONAL SIGNATURE PAGE(S) for all Contractors providing or who have provided Labor, Services or Materials within the 120-Day Lien Period.

DEFINITIONS: The following capitalized terms as used in this Agreement shall have the following meanings:

• Improvement: All or any part of any building, structure, erection, alteration, demolition, excavation, cleaning, grading, filling, or landscaping, including trees and

- shrubbery, driveways, and private roadways on the Property as defined below.
- smoother, driverage, and prince loadways on the Property as defined below.

 Labor Service of Matterians: All Load revision, and the situ on a lie can the colimed under NCOS Chapter 44A, Article 2, including but not limited to protessional design services (locularing architectura, espisienters), anoscoping and surveying andor rental equipment.

 Contractor: Any property of the property of the minds of an scottaded to perform of training Load, Services or Matterials pursuant to a contract, either express or implied, with the Contractor of the property of the minds of an improvement thereon. (CAUTION & PAN CONTRACT ON A CONTRACT DO NOT RELY ON CONSTRUCTION LICENSING DEFINITIONS.)
- OD MOY RELY ON CONSTRUCTION LICENSING DETINITIONS.

 15 ISCEDIAL Lamb Pace The 120 days immediately spreading the east of recordation of the latter of the deed to purchaser or Deed of Trust to Lender, as referenced between, in the Office of the Regulate of Deeds of the south in self-office in the Property is located.

 Object. Any prior on eithy, as defend in NOSC Schaper Ad, Ander 2, such bass or host tood any interest in the Property within the 120-Day Lien Period. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term Custer includes, it just belief or the Property or a borrown cruder in along agreement secured by the Property, (if is preson with rights to purposes or the Property rules a country and of the Vision in Improvement in board and or ordered the Improvement to be made, and (if) the Covers's succession in Interest and agreen of the Covers adding which their authority.

 Company. The Mile instruction company proving the tile policy for the transaction contemplated by the padies herein.
- Lender INSERT NAME(5): , and its their successor and/or assigns.

 Mechanics Lien Agent: A title insurance company or title insurance agency designated by an Owner pursuant to N.C.G.S. 44A-11.1.
- Debt of Tag. The wal exists exculp instrument(s) is executed by Center and to excurred the impacts, in the currently contemporated transaction and any content contemporate or fairness extension, revenues, modifications, stemplents or retrinstruments breach.

 Repositor: The real exists described above or on Embits and any inscensions, stemplents or retrinstruments because.

 Repositor: The real exists described above or on Embits and any inscensions, stemplents, hereofatinents, and improvements placed thereon.

 A defined terms real include the insignator of putural sequences by context.

AGREEMENT: For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and as an inducement to the purchase of the Property by a purchaser and/or the making of a loan by Lender secured by the Deed of Trust encumbering the Property and the issuance of a title insurance policy or policies by Company insuring title to the Property without exception to liens for Labor, Services or Materials; Owner and Contractor(s), first being duly swom, depose, say and agree,

1. Owners C critifications: Owner carefilms for I) Owner has not appointed a Mechanics Lien Agent for any project(s) on the Property, (ii) Every Contractor with whom Owner has deal or contracted for improvements with the 150-byt Lien Period is identified and a signatory needs, including every Contractor that may be providing purun his or arrantly excreptionally provided by the period is identified and a signatory needs, including every Contractor that may be providing purun his or arrantly excreption of the property (iii) Cover has not received any holds or Collain of Lien upon Funds from any other period or entitle, (iv) Cover has not received any holds or Collain of Lien upon Funds from any other period or entitle, (iv) Cover has not received any holds or Collain of Lien upon Funds from any other period or entitle, (iv) Cover has not received any holds or Collain of Lien upon Funds from any other period or entitle, (iv) Cover has not received any holds or collain of Lien upon Funds from any other period or entitle period and the property including which novel defend and any other period and the property collains period or this period and the property collains period or this period and the period and the property collains period or this period and the period and the property collains and the property collains and the property collains and the property collains. security interests for any materials, appliances, fixtures or furnishings placed upon or installed on the Property. Any such matter in (i) through (v) shall be deemed not to exist if either the claimant has completed all improvements of that claimant and been paid in full (and satisfactory evidence of such payment is provided herewith) or the claimant has waived or released the claimant's claim, provided that the waiver or release is in writing and such writing is acceptable to and is furnished to the Company

2. Contractor's Certifications - Waiver of Liens by Contractor:

Each Constitution of the first install, and Constitution is any of the Agreement in the connect legal capacity and has the authority to high this Agreement, (i) here are no constituting about any expended intensit their confidence of indicated part and any extension that the constitution of a submitted part and any extension of indicated part and expended on the constitution of a submitted part and expended only leader of Claim or Lian on Funds or Claim or Lian on Read Property from any other person or entity; and (iii) Constitution has not received any leader of Claim or Lian on Funds or Claim or Lian on Read Property from any other person or entity; and (iii) Constitution has not decided and in Abunding been appointed by the Constitution has not also included or an Abunding been appointed by the Constitution has not also included and an Abunding been appointed by the Constitution has not also included and an Abunding been appointed by the Constitution has not also included an Abunding been appointed by the Constitution has not also included an Abunding been appointed by the Constitution has not also included an Abunding been appointed by the Constitution has not also included and abunding an abunding of the Constitution has not also included an abunding and abunding and abunding and abunding and abunding an abunding abunding an abunding an abunding abunding an abunding abunding an abunding an abunding an abunding an abunding an abunding abunding abunding abunding an abunding abun

In addition, each Contractor certifies that, to the best of such Contractor's knowledge and belief, (i) all parties known by such Contractor to have dealt or contracted with

North Ceroline Land Title Association, Merch 2013
 Form No. 2: OWNER/CONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT, WAIVER OF LIENS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT (NO MLA - CONSTRUCTION RECENTLY COMPLETED)

MLA: Forms 5 (Owner) AND Form 6 (each "Potential Lien Claimant")

(MLA - CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED, CON	TEMPLATED OR UNDER WAY)	
OWNER:	v Lien Period)	
LAND:	,	
(Insert street address or brief description and/or attach a description as Exhibi	řA.)	
MLA Entry Number:		
DEFINITIONS: The following capitalized terms as used in this Agreement shall have the		
 Improvement: All or any part of any building, structure, erection, atteration, demol shrubbery, driveways, and private roadways on the Land as defined below. 		
 Labor, Services or Materials: ALL labor, services, materials for which a lien can 		
professional design services (including architectural, engineering, landscaping an	WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIENS	
Owner: Any person or entity, as defined in NCGS Chapter 44A, Article 2, who	(MLA APPOINTED)	
Land and who has or has had any interest in the Land within the 120-Day Lien		
seller of the Land or a borrower under a loan agreement secured by the Land; (ii) Improvement is made and who ordered the Improvement to be made; and (iii) the		
authority.	POTENTIAL LIEN CLAIMANT,	
. Company: The title insurance company providing the title policy for the transaction	PROPERTY (Required):	
Lender - INSERT NAME(S):		
 <u>Deed of Trust</u>: The real estate security instrument(s) to be executed by Owner a currently contemplated or future extensions, renewals, modifications, amendment 	(Insert street address or brief description and/or attach a description as Exhibit A.)	
 Land: The real estate described above or on Exhibit A and any leaseholds, tene 		
estate that is a portion of a larger, previously unsegregated tract when that	DEFINITIONS : The following capitalized terms as used in this Waiver and Release of Liens ("Waiver") shall have the following meanings:	
Improvements on the larger tract.	 <u>Company</u>: any title insurance company issuing a title policy or policies insuring title to the Property in reliance on this Waiver. <u>Lender</u>: a lender making a loan secured by a deed of trust encumbering the Property. 	
 MLA: Mechanic's Lien Agent: A title insurance company or agency designated by Potential Lien Claimant: any person or entity who has performed or furnished or 	Letter: a retriet making a roun about to the second of the second make thousands are Property.	
a contract, either express or implied, for the making of an Improvement on the Lar	Certifications and Waiver:	
of NCG5 Chapter 44A.	For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and other benefits accruing, Potential Lien Ctalmant certi (i) he/she/it has signed this Waiver in the correct legal capacity and has the authority to sign this Waiver; (ii) such Potential Lien Ctalmant has not received an	
 Design Professional: Any architect, engineer, land surveyor or landscape architect 	(i) hershellt has signed this Waiver in the correct legal capacity and has the authority to sign this Waiver; (ii) such Potential Lien Claimant has not received an of Claim of Lien upon Funds or Claim of Lien on Real Property from any other person or entity.	
 <u>Custom Contractor</u>: A contractor duly licensed as a general contractor pursuant to owner who is not an affiliate, relative, or insider of the contractor to build a single. 	Potential Lien Claimant waives and releases any lien, claim of lien or other interest whatsoever which such Potential Lien Claimant or anyone claiming by	
owner who is not an amiliate, relative, or insider or the contractor to build a single residence.	under such Potential Lien Claimant might have in the Property. Potential Lien Claimant waives and releases any night or protection Potential Lien Claimant under such Potential Lien Claimant might have in the Property. Potential Lien Claimant waives and releases any night or protection Potential Lien Claimant	
All defined terms shall include the singular or plural as required by context.	arising out of any Notice to Lien Agent that Potential Lien Claimant has filed relating to the Property in accordance with the provisions of NCGS 44A-1	
	performed prior to and after execution of this Waiver.	
AGREEMENT: For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of will Land by a purchaser and/or the making of a loan by Lender secured by the Deed of	2. Reliance:	
policies by Company insuring priority of title to the Land over claims of lien for Labor. Set	This Agreement may be relied upon by the purchaser in the purchase of the Property, Lender to make a loan secured by the Deed of Trust encumbering and by Company in issuance of a title insurance policy or policies insuring title to the Property without exception to matters certified in this Agreement. To	
	of this Agreement shall survive the disbursement of funds and closing of this transaction and shall be binding upon Potential Lien Claimant (and anyone	
 Owner's Certifications: A. Owner certifies that an MLA has been designated for this Land and Owner had 	through or under them).	
imited to:	3. NCLTA Copyright:	
i. Provision of contact information for MLA to Potential Lien Claimant(s)	THIS IS A COPYRIGHT FORM and any variances in the form provisions hereof must be specifically stated in the blank below and agreed to in writin	
11.2,	Company.	
 Appointment of MLA has been conspicuously and continuously posted of iii. Identification to the MLA of any Custom Contractor in contract with C 	No modification of this Waiver, and no waiver of any of its terms or conditions, shall be effective unless made in writing and approved by the Company.	
residence in accordance with NCGS 44A - 11.2,		
 Identification to the MLA of all Design Professionals and any party with 	POTENTIAL LIEN CLAIMANT:	
that have been engaged in connection with the Improvements to the Lar Except as evidenced by the NCLTA Form 6 or Form 7 submitted herewith, (i) then		
Land; (i) Owner has not received any Notice of Claim of Lien upon Funds from a	(SEAL)	
claim outstanding which would entitle the holder thereof to claim a lien on or intere		
any materials, appliances, fixtures or furnishings placed upon or installed on the L	By:	
Owner whose first furnishing of Labor, Services or Materials is or may be within to deed to purchaser or Deed of Trust to Lender, as referenced herein, in the Office	Printed or Typed Name/Title:	
Day Period) except the following:	n.	
	Printed or Typed Name/Title:	
	DATE:	
[Note: NCLTA Form 6 or 7 is also required from any Potential Lien Claimant a		
® North Carolina Land Title Association, February 2014		
Form No. 5: MLA APPOINTED - OWNER AFFIDAVITAND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT		
	8 North Caroline Land Title Association, February 2014	
	IN NORTH CAROLINE LISTED THE ASSOCIATION, TERRORITY ZUTA Form No. 6. MLA APPOINTED - POTENTIAL LISTED CLAIMANT - LIEN WAIVER/RELEASE	

Commitment Requirement Construction Contemplated or In Process

Non-MLA project: NCLTA FORM 3 (Owner/Contractor Affidavit, Indemnity and Lien Subordination) (for lender coverage only) from every Owner and every Potential Lien Claimant

MLA project: Receipt of proof satisfactory to the Company that prior to closing or prior to first contracting for construction (whichever occurs first)

- A Lien Agent was designated on the LiensNC.com website, &
- The Appointment of Lien Agent was posted at the Land;

NCLTA FORM 5 (Owner Affidavit) from every Owner; AND NCLTA FORM 6 (MLA Lien Waiver) or NCLTA FORM 7 (MLA Subordination of Liens) from every PLC

NCLTA Lien Forms:

Construction Contemplated or In Process

Non MLA: Form 3

OWNER/CONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT, INDEMNITY AND LIEN SUBORDINATION AGREEMENT (NO MECHANICS LIEN AGENT APPOINTED - CONSTRUCTION IN PROCESS OR IMMEDIATELY CONTEMPLATED)

PARTIES: All parties identified in this section must execute this Agreement, including any Contractors required to sign Additional Signature Pages which must be attached hereto and are hereby incorporated herein and made a part hereof by reference, as applicable (herein the 'Agreement').

(NOTE: A separate Agreement is required for each successive owner in the 120-Day Lien Period and the Contractors who have contracted or dealt with that Owner AN OWNER CANNOT BE A CONTRACTOR as defined herein.)

(NOTE: All Contractors dealing with an Owner must be named and execute this Agreement. A CONTRACTOR CANNOT BE THE OWNER)

Attached: ADDITIONAL SIGNATURE PAGE(8) for all Contractors providing or who have provided Labor, Services or Materials within the 120-Day Lien Period.

PROPERTY:

(Insert street address or brief description and/or attach a description as Exhibit A. Include here any real estate that is a portion of a larger, previously unsegregated tract when that area is reasonably necessary for the convenient use and occupation of improvements on the larger tract i

<u>DEFINITIONS</u>: The following capitalized terms as used in this Agreement shall have the following meanings:

• <u>Improvement</u>: All or any part of any building, structure, erection, alteration, demolition, excovation, cleaning, grading, filling, or landscaping, including bees and

- shrukberry, driveways, and private roadways on the Property as defined below.

 Labor. Services or Materials: ALL labor, services, materials for which a lien can be claimed under NCGS Chapter 44A, Article 2, including but not limited to
- professional design services (including architectural, engineering, landscaping and surveying) and/or rental equipment.
- Contractor: Any person or entity who has performed or furnished or has contracted to perform or furnish Lakor, Services or Materials pursuant to a contract, either express or implied, with the Owner of real property for the making of an Improvement thereon. (Note that services by architects, engineers, landscapers, surveyors. furnishers of rental equipment and contracts for construction on Property of Improvements are often provided before there is visible evidence of construction. CAUTION F AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROPERTY ALSO ACTS AS A CONTRACTOR, OR F A CONTRACTOR SIZE SAS ASAGEN OF A KNOWN REPORT OF A KNOWN REP UNDERWRITING COUNSEL WITH THE TITLE INSURER PRIOR TO CLOSING. DO NOT RELY ON CONSTRUCTION LICENSING DEFINITIONS.)

 • 120- Day Lien Period. The 120 days immediately preceding the date of recordation of the Deed of Trust in the Office of the Register of Deeds of the county in which
- Owner: Any person or entity, as defined in NCGS Chapter 44A, Article 2, who has or has had any interest in the Property within the 120-Day Lien Period. For the purposes of this Agreement, the term Owner includes: (i) a seller of the Property or a borrower under a loan agreement secured by the Property; (ii) a person with rights to purchase the Property under a contract anid for whom an Improvement is made and who ordered the Improvement to be made; and (ii) the Owner's successors in interest and agents of the Owner acting within their authority.
- . Company: The title insurance company providing the title policy for the transaction contemplated by the parties herein.
- and its/their successor and/or assigns
- Mechanics Lien Agent: A title insurance company or title insurance agency designated by an Owner pursuant to N.C.g.s. 444-11.1.
 Deed of Trust. The real estate security instrument(s) to be executed by Owner and to encumber the Property in the currenty contemplated transaction and any
- ourrently contemplated or future extensions, renewals, modifications, amendments or reinstattements thereof.

 Property: The real estate described above or on Exhibit A and any leaseholds, tenements, hereditaments, and improvements placed thereon
- All defined terms shall include the singular or plural as required by context.

AGREEMENT: Construction of an Improvement to the Property is contemplated or is in process. Owner has obtained or will obtain a loan (including any bansaction within the definition of Deed of Trust as defined above) made by Lender and secured by the Deed of Trust encumbering the Property which Deed of Trust is or will be recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of the county in which the Property is located.

For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and as an inducement to the making of a loan by Lender secured by the Deed of Trust encumbering the Property and the issuance of a title insurance policy or policies by Company insuring the priority of the lien of the Deed of Trust as an encumbrance on the Property without exception to liens for Labor, Services or Materials; Owner and Contractor(s), first being duly swom, depose, say and agree

MLA: Forms 5 (Owner) AND Form 7 (each "Potential Lien Claimants")

OWNER: (NOTE: A separate Agreement is required for each success	sive owner in the 120-Day Lien Period)
LAND:	
(Insert street address or brief description and/or attach)	a description as Exhibit A.)
(mend street address or brief description andor attach. **ILA Entry Number: **Improvement: All or any part of any building, structure structure, growings, any private part of any building, structure structure, growings, any private part of any building, structure structure, growings, any private part of any building, structure structure, growings, and private part of any building, structure and part of any building, structure and part of any building, structure, and a large structure, and a large structure and any structure, and any structure any structure and any structure, and any structure and any structur	SUBORDINATION OF LIENS (MLA APPOINTED) [Lender's Coverage Only] POTENTIAL LIEN CLAMANT,
	6 Noth Carolina Land Tife Association February 2014

Commitment Requirement

Construction Contemplated or In Process



NOTE: If *buyer* has contracted for or is contemplating improvements, see "NO RECENT IMPROVEMENTS" above regarding seller lien affidavits as well.

Commitment Requirement

Construction Contemplated or In Process



• **NOTE:** In all cases in which an <u>MLA was</u> required but not (timely) appointed, prior approval and terms of coverage (if any) by Company underwriting counsel is required.

Mechanics' Liens

If No Lien Agent

- Construction Loan
 - Form 3 -
 - Owner
 - ALL contractors
- Completed Construction
 - Form 2 -
 - Owner
 - ALL contractors

If Lien Agent Appointed

- Form 5 Owner
- Construction Loan
 - Form 7 (or 6)
 - Notice filers
 - First furnishers in last 15 days
- Completed Construction
 - Form 6
 - Notice filers
 - First furnishers in last 15 days

LiensNC: One Stop The ONLY NC Lien Agent Registry

Registered Address for all Authorized Lien Agents & LiensNC Customer Support



WEBSITE:

www.liensnc.com

PHYSICAL/MAILING ADDRESS: 19 W Hargett Street, STE 507, Raleigh NC 27601

PHONE:

888-690-7384

EMAIL:

support@liensnc.com

FAX:

913-489-5231

OFFICE HOURS:

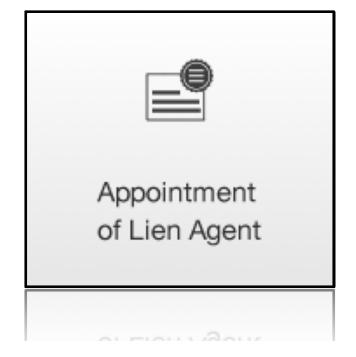
8:00 am - 4:00 pm M-F (Closed from 12:00-1:00 pm for lunch)



STEP 1: Appoint Lien Agent

Lien Agent must be a title insurance underwriter or agent registered with NC Dept. of Insurance

ALL registered lien agents operate exclusively through LiensNC.com!



OWNER: Definition

A person who...

- Has an interest in the real property improved
- For whom an improvement is made, and
- Ordered the improvement to be made

Includes successors in interest of the owner and agents of the owner acting within their authority

G.S. 44A-7(6)

Includes "contract purchaser" who is planning construction – purchase/construction loan

Dalton Moran Shook vs. Pitt Dev. Co. (1992)

OWNER: Responsibilities

- Appoint lien agent
- Provide copy to inspections/permitting office (if applicable)
- Post at job site
- -Provide info to contractors & subs

Design Professionals -

Classic "First Furnishers" Starting the Project

- Architects, engineers, surveyors
 - Owner must provide name and contact info of MLA to design professional within 15 days of appointment of lien agent
 - May designate lien agent in contract with design professional



STEP 2: Send Notice To Lien Agent

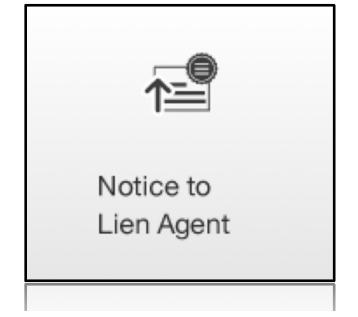
Preserving Priority of PLC's Lien Rights

Must be filed with MLA before the later of:

- Deed or deed of trust recording (or)
- Within 15 days of first furnishing labor or materials at the site

OR...

By filing traditional Claim of Lien on Real Property prior to deed or deed of trust recording



Contractor: Definition

A person who...

- Contracts with an owner to improve real property

§44A-7(3)

Has nothing to do with whether they are a "general contractor" or licensed under Ch.

87!!



Preparing for Closing

Preparing for Closing

- Check public record
- Review Offer to Purchase and Contract
- Check LiensNC.com website
- Enter "Closing Notice" on the Appointment for this property to receive:
 - Related Filings Report
 - Notice of any future filings
- Consider I5-day window
 - Landscaping, cleaning, commissioning, seal coating, line painting, other painting
 - "Finish" contractors

Analyze LiensNC Related Filings Report: Priority & Rights under existing Ch. 44A

- ➤ Determine which of the PLCs on the LiensNC Related Filings Report have either direct or subrogation lien rights
- ➤ SALE: Obtain waivers/releases from all PLCs with either direct or subrogation lien rights
- FINANCING: Obtain waivers/subordinations from all PLCs with direct or subrogation lien rights
- Discuss with the title insurer insuring the property any situations where waivers/releases from Potential Lien Claimants will not/cannot be obtained





Peeling back the onion: Developer infrastructure

In a new or ongoing development, it will be necessary to also research any filings against the developer since:

- they may relate back to the beginning of the project
- "last furnishing" may still not have happened if ongoing paving, water, sewer, amenities
- Potential claim may far exceed value of the individual lot
- Builders buying lots may not be able to sell, even if they pay their debts, because of Developer liabilities !!!

REMINDER TO DEVELOPERS & COUNSEL

ADVISE YOUR DEVELOPER CLIENTS:

LIMIT CONTRACTS & APPOINTMENTS TO THE SPECIFIC PROJECT –

- PHASE OR SECTION
- LOT
- CLUB HOUSE
- GOLF COURSE
- BUILDING NUMBER

Addressing the 15-day "last provider"... The risk decision

- The "I5-day" provision:
 - PLC's whose first furnishing just prior to closing
 - Still a "hidden lien" but much more limited
 - Typically, -- appliances, landscaping, driveway, fencing, upgrades / change orders, cleanup
- Questions to ask Owner, BFP, Lender?
 - Who was there?
- Underwriting decisions

Offer to Purchase and Contract Form 2T, rev 7/2013

- (d) **Affidavit and Indemnification Agreement**: Seller shall furnish at Settlement an affidavit(s) and indemnification agreement(s) in form satisfactory to Buyer and Buyer's title insurer, if any, executed by Seller and any person or entity who has performed or furnished labor, services, materials or rental equipment to the Property within 120 days prior to the date of Settlement and who may be entitled to claim a lien against the Property as described in N.C.G.S. §44A-8 verifying that each such person or entity has been paid in full and agreeing to indemnify Buyer, Buyer's lender(s) and Buyer's title insurer against all loss from any cause or claim arising therefrom.
- (e) **Designation of Lien Agent, Payment and Satisfaction of Liens**: If required by N.C.G.S. §44A-11.1, Seller shall have designated a Lien Agent, and Seller shall deliver to Buyer as soon as reasonably possible a copy of the appointment of Lien Agent. All deeds of trust, deferred ad valorem taxes, liens and other charges against the Property, not assumed by Buyer, must be paid and satisfied by Seller prior to or at Settlement such that cancellation may be promptly obtained following Closing. Seller shall remain obligated to obtain any such cancellations following Closing.

LiensNC SEARCH & REPORT



STEP 3: Search

- Search Period
- Smart Searching Tips (Advanced and Entry #)
- The Search Process
- Example Searches

Find an Appointment ADVANCED SEARCH

Search Period

FROM: "FIRST CONTRACTING"

- Before the survey
- Before the plat (for developer)
- Before the architectural drawings (for new condo)
- Before the purchase (for acquisition/construction loan)

THROUGH: "LAST 15 DAYS PRIOR TO CLOSING" (so search to date of closing & Form 5, 6 & 7 include latest providers)

 PLC's can file 15 days after first furnishing, -- which may be post-closing if first furnishing is just before closing

Remember: Work often "starts" before they own the property. See Pitt Dev. V. Dalton Moran Shook

Search Tips

- No wild card
- Start simple and literal
- DO USE
 - Distinctive words (Owner, street name)
 - Connectors (ALL CAPS) → AND, OR, NOT
 - Quotation marks " around multiple words that have to appear together precisely

DO <u>NOT</u> USE

- Common words (North or Smith)
- Abbreviated words or initials
 - Avoid: "St" or "Rd" or "Dr")
 - Avoid: "D.R." or "DR" or "D R"
- Plurals: Builder vs. Builders
- Punctuation and spaces (they are ignored in search query)



LIENSNC – Pointers on Searching

http://www.liensnc.com/Search Tips.html

In October of 2013, the <u>LiensNC</u> website was enhanced to improve many of the features. Below are some key pointers to help you locate what you need when searching. Review the Search Tips section of the website for additional information.

1. SEARCH PERIOD UNDER MECHANICS' LIEN LAW:

FROM: "FIRST CONTRACTING"

Before the survey

Before the plat (for developer)

Before the architectural drawings (for new condo)

Before the purchase (for acquisition/construction loan)

THROUGH: "LAST 15 DAYS PRIOR TO CLOSING" (so search to date of closing & Form 5, 6 & 7 include latest providers)

PLC's can file 15 days after first furnishing - which may be post-closing if first furnishing is just before closing

- 2. WHICH PROJECTS ARE ON LIENSNC? Should be only:
 - "FIRST CONTRACTING" after April 1, 2013
 - Over \$30,000
 - · Not renovation or addition to owner's primary residence
 - Not public project (owned by governmental entity)

3. SEARCH BASICS

- . Use more distinctive words (owner, street name) of search, such as unusual name
- DO NOT USE:
 - words often abbreviated (such as Road vs Rd)
 - plurals "Trusst Builder" is not the same as "Trusst Builders" and the results will be dramatically different because the actual filing is under Trusst Builder Group (not plural)
 - numbers standing alone → not 336 or 252 (which are in phone numbers), instead use: "Lot 336"
- . Quotation marks " " around multiple words that have to appear together precisely
- Connectors in ALL CAPS →
 - AND → if all of the terms must appear in the Appointment, so only the limited list with all of these search terms will appear
 - OR → if either of the terms must appear in the Appointment, so any appointment with either of the terms or both of the terms will appear
 - o NOT → so Appointment would not come up if this term was in it
- Punctuation and capitalization are ignored → "Lot 34" is the same as "LOT 34" is the same as "LOT 34" is the same as "Lot #34"
- 4. Search Results are just Appointments for which the keywords appear in any related filling. Each Appointment has a unique entry number. It's a quick look to run down the "Project Property" column for your potential property or properties, even if it's a couple of pages (50 Appointments per page).

SEARCH KEYWORD: DOUGHTYMEWS

Filing	The keyword(s) was found 5 time(s). Viewing Appointment(s) 1 through 3			3	
	Project Property	Owner	Related Filings?	Action	
Appointment of Lien Agent 10/22/2013 Entry #: 58521	Lot 34 High Grove Subdivision 5120 Doughtymews Lane Fuquay Varina, NC 27526 NC County	Michael Strickland 5005 Shimberg PL, Fuquay Yarina, 27526 Phone: 919-815-2963 mike.strickland@syste mselectronics.com	,	Copy To New Notice to Lien Agent Appointment of Lien Agent Track This Related Fillings Report Closing Notice	
Appointment of Lien Agent 10/08/2013 Entry #: 54022	5101 Doughtymews Lane Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526	Chris Weir Homes, LLC 2400 Lullwater Drive, Raleigh, 27606 Phone: 919-810-9163 chrisw@chrisweirhom es.com	Yes Tr		
Appointment of Lien Agent 05/06/2013 Entry #: 8608	5121 Doughtymews Jane Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526	Janet Bogard 5121 Doughtymews Lane, Fuquay-Varina, 27526 Phone: 919-285-4360	No	3	

- Related Filings Report (far right arrow, in drop-down menu) shows EVERYTHING related to the selected Appointment including all Notices to Lien Agent and all contact information. Options are provided to print, download or email.
- 6. The Attorney may select Closing Notice from the far right drop-down menu which will:
 - a. immediately email the Related Filings Report, and
 - b. forward immediately any future filings on that Appointment.
- 7. SOME KEYWORD EXAMPLES (though may eventually limit by date range as well per 1. above):

Dickerson AND "Briar Chapel"

NVR AND Raleigh

[Prolific developer, but narrowed to one market, and could add – AND KIT – shorter portion of development, Kitts Creek, to narrow further still]

"Clark Home" AND RALEIGH

"Brunswick Forest"

"Trusst Builder" AND "Stone Moss"

[NOTE: Builders not typed to avoid risk that plural is not their actual name.]

SAVVY AND "BRAXTON VILLAGE"

[Prolific developer, but very limited number in this subdivision]

"bells crossing"

[For the subdivision as well as the street address]

2916 AND Main

[For the address, whether North or South Main, and could add - AND SALISBURY - if needed]

Search Process

Results Include:

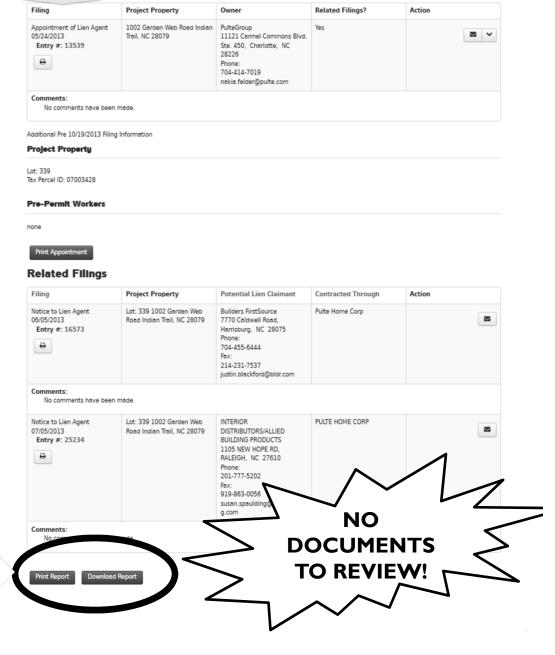
- Appointment filing details
- Notice filing details
- Comments



Related Filings Report

- Look at "Related Filings" Column
- Available to Print and/or Download
- Closing Notice Notification Option

Print or Download



Liens NC

Search -

History

Cart

Account

Log Out

Related Filings Report Cont.

The keyword(s) was found 6 time(s). Viewing Appointment(s) 1 through 3

Filing Type	Appointment of Lien Agent 05/24/2013 Entry #: 13539
Project Property	1002 Garden Web Road Indian Trail, NC 28079
Claimant / Owner	PulteGroup 11121 Carmel Commons Blvd. Ste. 450, Charlotte, 28226 Phone: 704-414-7019 nakia.felder@pulte.com
Related Filings?	Yes
Action	Copy To New Notice to Lien Agent
Filing Type	Appointment of Lien Agent 04/11/2013 Entry #: 2809 Appointment of Lien Agent Appointment of Lien Agent Track This Related Filings Report Closing Notice to Elen Agent Appointment of Lien Agent Closing Notice to Elen Agent

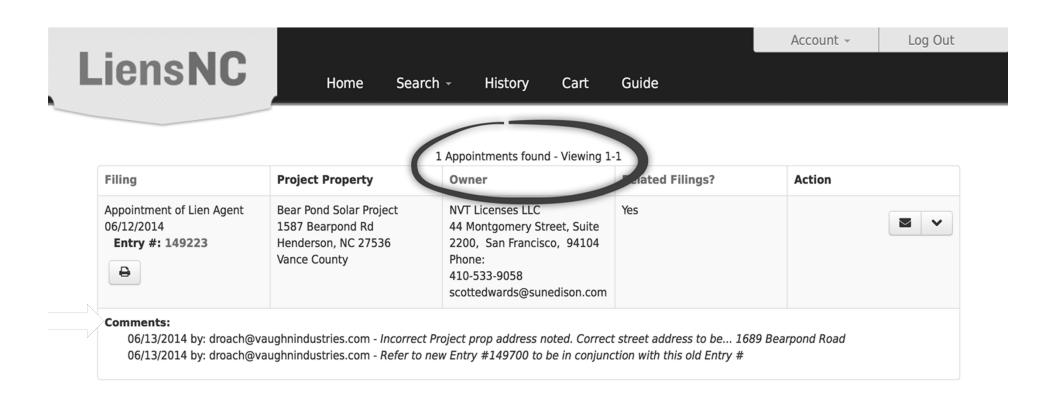
Advanced Search: QUERY 1

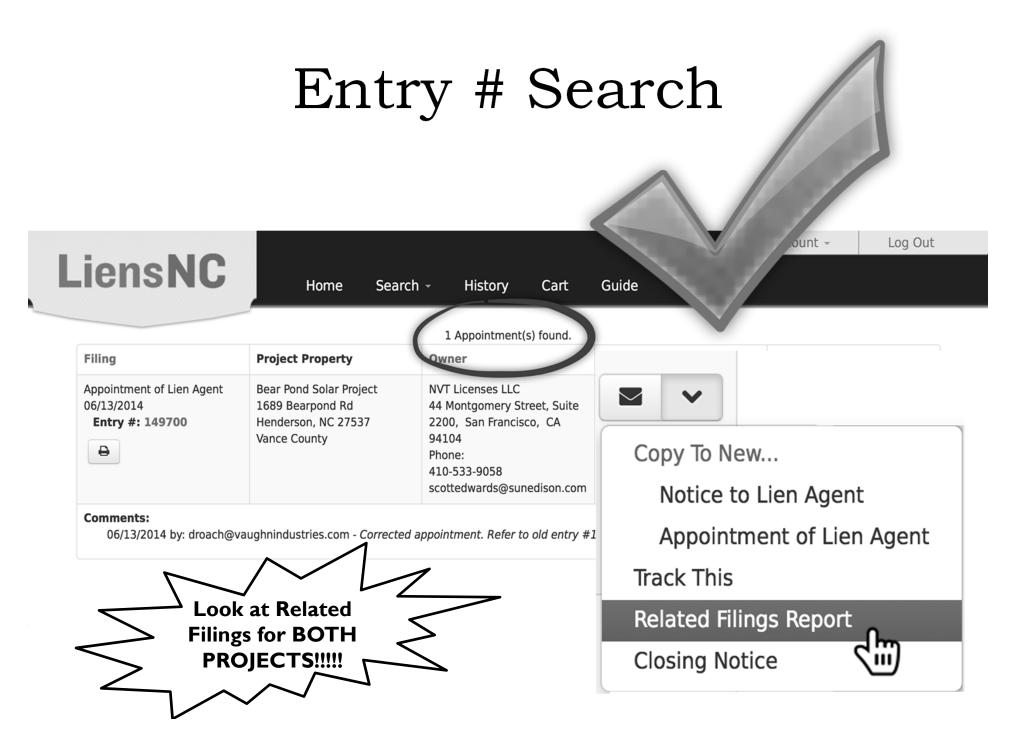


Advanced Search: QUERY 2



Advanced Search: QUERY 3

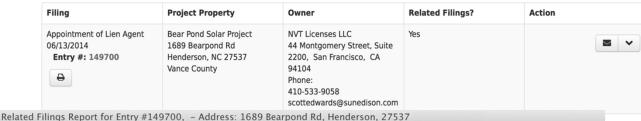


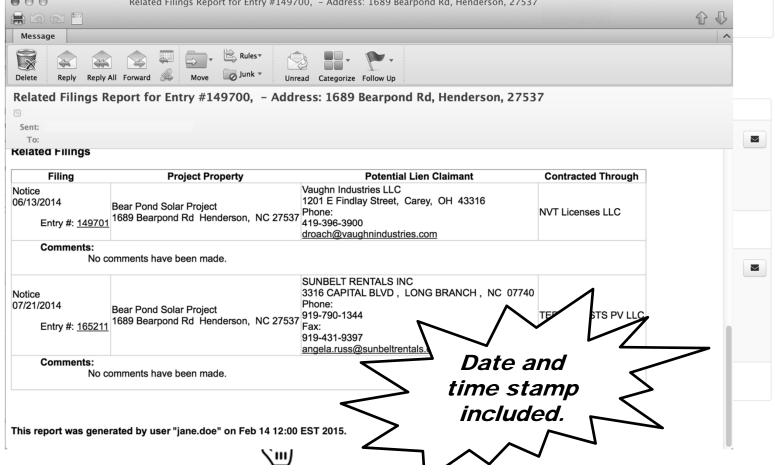


Related Filings Report

Appointment of Lien Agent Related Filings Report

Appointment of Lien Agent





Analyze Results

Owner

Contractor

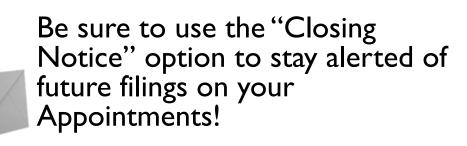
Design Professionals

Potential Lien Claimants

Design Professionals (earlier filings)

Closing Attorney, Settlement Agent, Lender

Lien Agent



We Welcome Your Input! support@liensnc.com

