Construction Liens and Disbursing in Wisconsin

Presented by

Jim Marlin

Underwriting Attorney – Wisconsin Operations Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund, Inc.

ATG LEGAL EDUCATION

Overview

- Title insurance companies and title agencies enter into construction escrows when money is being lent to build a home or other structure.
 - Due to the possibility that this process will result in a construction lien being filed, the lender is unwilling to trust the borrower with the mortgage funds prior to or during construction.

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Overview

- Title insurance companies and title agencies enter into construction escrows when money is being lent to build a home or other structure.
 - Instead, the lender insists that their funds be disbursed by the escrow department of a title insurance company or agent.

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 This construction disbursement 	
(escrow) process allows the lender to deposit the funds with the escrowee in	
installments for disbursement to the contractors.	
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Overview	
 In return, the escrowee insures that the lender will be protected from 	
construction liens.	
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The escrowee, the owner, and the lender	
set forth the specific terms of this arrangement in the Construction Loan	
Escrow Disbursement Agreement.	

The escrow agent does not insure that the building will be completed, that it will conform to the plans and specifications, or that sufficient funds will be available to complete the work.

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Overview

- In Wisconsin, the ability to insure lenders against the construction lien risk is enhanced by the provisions of Wisconsin Statutes Section 706.11.
 - This statute provides that most institutional lenders ("priority lenders") do not run the risk of having construction liens prime their loan unless the actual construction lien is filed prior to the recording of their mortgage.

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Overview

- Construction liens are created pursuant to the provisions of Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 779.
 - This statute section creates lien rights for persons who improve real estate but do not receive payment.
 - This places such persons into a special legislative class in that not everyone who provides a product or service is entitled to obtain a lien on real estate unless and until a judgment is entered in their favor.

- Construction liens are created pursuant to the provisions of Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 779.
 - This statute section creates lien rights for persons who improve real estate but do not receive payment.
 - If the lien is perfected (by following a strict statutory procedure) the lien is an encumbrance sharing the same status as, for example, a mortgage.

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Overview

The theory behind Chapter 779 is that the legislature believes that people who improve real estate deserve special treatment because they do not have the option of taking back or "repossessing" their work (like a creditor can for an unpaid auto loan).

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Overview

 Counterbalanced with this idea is the common sense and fairness principle that an owner of real estate should not be required to pay for the same work twice.

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■ In the mid 1980s, the Wisconsin Land Title Association, together with several other trade groups, was instrumental in amending 706.11 so as to blend it with 779 and balance these two concerns into the present state of the law.	
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Overview	
 While the legislature feels that persons who improve real estate provide valuable services and should be given special treatment, it is also felt that 	

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 Most lenders enjoy statutory priority over unfiled construction liens under Wisconsin Statutes Section 706.11.

lenders deserve consideration.

 Lenders, it is felt, must be able to lend money for the purchase and or improvement of real estate with some assurance and certainty that the priority of their mortgage will be preserved.

- Chapter 779 is a complicated and highly technical set of procedures and notice time frames.
 - If the statutory requirements are not met, the lien claimant loses the protections the chapter intends to afford.
 - There is no remedy in equity, for example, if a notice requirement or time deadline is missed.

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- Chapter 779 is a complicated and highly technical set of procedures and notice time frames.
 - Title insurers are frequently asked to disregard or "delete" filed construction liens when evidence is presented that a notice requirement was missed.
 - That fact, even if true, does not prevent the lien from being filed and a title insurer who agrees to delete the lien on that basis has now volunteered to pay for the litigation to defend against the lien.

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- For the owners and non-priority lenders, a construction lien is effective as of the date work commenced as opposed to when the lien is actually filed.
- Construction liens are inchoate or "hidden" lien rights.

- The lien claimant does not have to file the lien until six months after the last day on the job.
 - The lien then has priority from the "visible commencement of the improvement."

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Overview

- The lien claimant does not have to file the lien until six months after the last day on the job.
 - While the lien can be filed up to six months after the last day of work, the lien has an effective date of the date work commenced.
 - The lien claimant has two years after the filing of the construction lien to commence an action to enforce it.

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- There are several other notice requirements.
 - For example, the lien claimant must give notice that he intends to file a lien 30 days before he actually files the lien.

- There are several other notice requirements.
 - Any failure to comply with a notice requirement means that the lien will ultimately be held to be unenforceable.
 - That determination, however, is for a court rather than a title insurer to make.

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- Simply put, a construction lien has a retroactive effective date.
 - The construction lien exposure for owners and non-priority lenders is very great.
 - The risk for priority lenders is very manageable.

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Wisconsin Construction Lien Law Summary

The law grants a lien right to a party that performs work or supplies materials for the improvement of real estate.

Wisconsin Construction Lien Law Summary

- The construction lien attaches to all interests in the land belonging to its owners and extends to all contiguous land of the owner.
 - If the improvement is located entirely on one or more platted lots belonging to the owner, the lien only affects the lots on which the improvement is located. [Sec. 779.01(3)].

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Requirements for a Valid, Enforceable Lien

- A prime contractor, who is not the owner, must give to the owner, in the written contract with the owner, a written statement notifying the owner that persons or companies furnishing labor, supplies, or material may have lien rights if they are not paid.
 - If there is no written contract, the prime contractor must nevertheless give the owner this notice in writing within 10 days after work on the site begins.

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Requirements for a Valid, Enforceable Lien

- A prime contractor, who is not the owner, must give to the owner, in the written contract with the owner, a written statement notifying the owner that persons or companies furnishing labor, supplies, or material may have lien rights if they are not paid.
 - Every other person (other than the prime contractor)
 who furnishes labor or materials for the job must notify
 the owner in writing within 60 days after furnishing their
 first labor or material that said person has performed
 work on the job.
 - This notice does not apply to the direct employees of the contractor or subcontractors.

Requirements for a Valid, Enforceable Lien

- A prime contractor, who is not the owner, must give to the owner, in the written contract with the owner, a written statement notifying the owner that persons or companies furnishing labor, supplies, or material may have lien rights if they are not paid.
 - These notices are also not required when the improvement being built consists of more than four family living units or, in any case, if the improvement is partly or wholly nonresidential [779.02(1)(c)].
 - In other words, on residential deals, the owner must be told who is doing the work on his site by those who are expecting to get paid.

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Requirements for a Valid, Enforceable Lien

- No construction lien claim may be filed unless, at least 30 days before the filing of the lien, the claimant serves on the owner a written Notice of Intent to file the lien.
 - The Notice must contain the nature of the work performed or material furnished, the land to which the lien will attach, and the amount claimed is owed.
 - In other words, the lien claimant must give the owner one last chance to pay the bill before he files the lien.

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Requirements for a Valid, Enforceable Lien

- The construction lien must be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of the county in which the land affected lies within six months from the date the claimant furnished the last labor or materials. [Sec 779.06(1)]
 - The effective date of the lien relates back to the date visible commencement of work started by any person or company.

Requirements for a Valid, Enforceable Lien

The lien expires (is no longer enforceable and can be ignored) if an action is not brought to foreclose the lien within two years of the date of the filing of the lien unless the time period has been suspended (statute of limitations tolled) by the pendency of an action to foreclose another lien. [Sec 779.06(1)]

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Requirements for a Valid, Enforceable Lien

- The filed lien must contain:
 - a statement of the contract or the demand upon which the claim is founded;
 - the name of the person against whom the claim is made;
 - the name of the claimant;
 - the last date of the performance of labor or furnishing of materials;
 - the legal description of the property; and
 - all other material facts and must be signed by the claimant or his attorney.

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Requirements for a Valid, Enforceable Lien

Copies of the required Notices (60-day, 30-day) must be attached to the lien. [Sec. 779.06(3)]

Requirements for a Valid, Enforceable Lien

- Construction liens are foreclosed in generally the same manner as mortgages under Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 846.
 - After a judgment of foreclosure of a construction lien, however, there is no period of redemption.
 - After notice to all proper parties, an immediate sale is directed.

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Requirements for a Valid, Enforceable Lien

- Sec 779.08 provides a method of clearing the lien from the real estate by depositing an undertaking in 125% of the amount of the lien with the clerk of court in the office where the lien is filed.
 - Upon receipt of the cash or government bond in that amount, the clerk satisfies the lien of record.

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Statutory Priority

 Most institutional lenders are protected from the hidden danger of a lien filed today for work performed months ago.

Statutory Priority

 In order to determine whether or not a particular lender enjoys statutory priority, reference to Wisconsin Statutes Section 706.11 is suggested.

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Statutory Priority

- However, the following classes of lenders are exempt for the "secret lien" of unfiled construction liens over recorded mortgages. If their mortgage is recorded before the lien is filed, their mortgage has priority over the lien.
 - NOTE: Statutory priority lenders must still state on the first page of the mortgage [707.11(1m)(3)] that the instrument is a "construction mortgage."

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Statutory Priority

- However, the following classes of lenders are exempt for the "secret lien" of unfiled construction liens over recorded mortgages:
 - Any mortgage executed to a federal savings and loan association or state or federal savings bank.
 - Any mortgage executed to the Department of Veteran Affairs under 45.352, 1971 Stats.

Statutory Priority

- However, the following classes of lenders are exempt for the "secret lien" of unfiled construction liens over recorded mortgages:
 - Any mortgage assigned to or executed to any of the following:
 - The United States, this state, or a county, city, village, or town in this state, or an agency, department, or other formally constituted subunit of any of the foregoing.

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Statutory Priority

- However, the following classes of lenders are exempt for the "secret lien" of unfiled construction liens over recorded mortgages:
 - Any mortgage assigned to or executed to any of the following:
 - The Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority created under Chapter 231, the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority created under Chapter 234, or any other authority created by state law.

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Statutory Priority

- However, the following classes of lenders are exempt for the "secret lien" of unfiled construction liens over recorded mortgages:
 - Any mortgage executed to a state or national bank or to a state or federally chartered credit union.
 - Any mortgage executed under s. 66.1103 to a trustee, as defined in s. 66.1103 (2)(n).

Statutory Priority

- However, the following classes of lenders are exempt for the "secret lien" of unfiled construction liens over recorded mortgages:
 - Any mortgage executed to a mortgage banker, as defined in s. 224.71(3).
 - Any mortgage executed to an insurer licensed to do business in this state.
 - Any mortgage executed to a licensee under 138.09.

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Statutory Priority

• If you are in doubt as to whether or not the lender enjoys statutory priority, or as to whether the mortgage otherwise complies with 706.11 so as to enjoy this status, please call the ATG Wisconsin office for assistance.

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New Wisconsin Forms

- There are four new construction escrow forms for use in Wisconsin:
 - Construction Loan Escrow Disbursement Agreement – Wisconsin (ATG Form 4024-WI);
 - Disbursement Endorsement Wisconsin (ATG Form 2129-06-WI);
 - Owner's Payment Authorization Wisconsin (ATG Form 4114-WI); and
 - Final Waiver of Lien and Contractor's Affidavit (ATG Form 3005).

New Wisconsin Forms

 We recommend that the use of these and all other ATG Forms be encouraged whenever as possible, but we are aware that our customers may insist that we use their form(s) instead.

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New Wisconsin Forms

- If you are being requested to use another form(s), please forward that form to the ATG Wisconsin office and we will review the form to determine whether it is acceptable.
- If the form is acceptable "in substance," we will try to approve it or make suggested amendments or additions.

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Required Documents and Procedures

- Construction Loan Escrow
 Disbursement Agreement Wisconsin (ATG Form 4024-WI)
 - This is the cornerstone of the process and the roadmap of the procedures to be followed.
 - Disbursing of funds cannot be done without a signed Disbursement Agreement.

- Construction Loan Escrow Disbursement Agreement - Wisconsin (ATG Form 4024-WI)
 - The agreement sets forth all the rights, duties, and responsibilities of the parties. These terms and conditions are set forth in numbered paragraphs in the attached form, so they will not be repeated at length in this memo.

Required Documents and Procedures

- Construction Loan Escrow **Disbursement Agreement – Wisconsin** (ATG Form 4024-WI)
 - However, at a minimum, a disbursement agreement must cover the following subjects:
 - A description of the extent of lien coverage;
 - Inspections;
 - Statement of liability limitations (e.g., escrowee does not guarantee completion or quality of work);
 - Escrow disbursement fees and expenses.

Construction Loan Escrow Disbursement Agreement -Wisconsin

ATG Form 4024-WI (page 1 of 5)

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Required Documents and Procedures

- General Contractor's Sworn Statement (ATG Form 3018-B or 3018-C)
 - In order to disburse funds, it will be necessary to have an organized list of work to be performed and the names of the contractors and subcontractors who will be performing that work and/or supplying materials and expecting payment. This is also a list of persons who will need to supply lien waivers.

- General Contractor's Sworn Statement (ATG Form 3018-B or 3018-C)
 - ATG Forms 3018-B and 3018-C can be used for this purpose but other forms will be considered so long as they provide the following:
 - A sworn statement from the general contractor that it is a true and correct list of all those subcontractors and suppliers who will be involved in the project (and from whom lien waivers will be required);

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Required Documents and Procedures

- General Contractor's Sworn Statement (ATG Form 3018-B or 3018-C)
 - ATG Forms 3018-B and 3018-C can be used for this purpose but other forms will be considered so long as they provide the following:
 - Appropriate spaces for the escrowee to post disbursements to the various contractors in order to keep track of funds disbursed.

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General Contractor's Sworn Statement ATG Form 3018-B (page 1 of 4)



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General Contractor's
Sworn Statement
(No Pre-Itemization)
ATG Form 3018-C
(page 4 of 4)

			SWORN ST			
Name, Address, and Telephone Number	Type of Labor and Materials to be Furnished	Amount of Contract (neloding extrac and erolin)	Amount Previously Faid to Date	Amount of Current Request	Accumulative Retainage to Date	Balance Due
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	General Contracting					
	Overhead and Profit					
TOTAL LABOR AND MATERIALS TO COMPLETE						
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Plus: extras to contract.	s		Less total	retainage	8	
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Total: Adjusted Total Contract	5		Total: Bak	ance Due	5	
to Folke street						EUSER HUSSON
BARS COTTS						Page 4

Draw Request

- The Draw Request is the document that the contractor provides to request payment for work performed. It must be sworn to as correct and must, of course, list all the subcontractors and suppliers who are to be paid and in what amounts.

Targ legal education

Required Documents and Procedures

Owner's Payment Authorization (ATG Form 4114-WI)

 This is the document that the owner signs approving the draw request. The amount of the payment authorization must, of course, match the amount of the Draw Request.

- Owner's Payment Authorization (ATG Form 4114-WI)
 - Do not disburse unless and until any differences are reconciled.
 - When there is disagreement on this subject (or on any other subject) it is always prudent to call the lender to advise them of the problem. It is the lender's funds we are holding and it is always a good idea to keep them in the loop and to have them intervene if necessary.

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Owner's Payment Authorization ATG Form 4114-WI



🕏 ATG LEGAL EDUCATION

Required Documents and Procedures

- Lien Waivers
 - These are the documents by which contractors and subcontractors agree to waive the rights they have (under Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 779) to file construction liens against the real estate we are insuring.
 - Waivers must be collected from all parties disclosed on the Draw Request.
 - They must be originals (i.e., not faxed) and must contain the project owner's name, address of the project, the type of work performed or material supplied.

- Lien Waivers
 - During the course of the project, the waivers can state "partial to date" (ATG Form 3019) or can contain the amount of the current draw.
 - Before the final draw can be made, the waivers must be final and complete.
 - Waivers can be collected on a "one draw delay" (i.e., funds for the second draw disbursed upon receipt of lien waivers for the first) basis only after approval by the ATG Wisconsin office.

ATG LEGAL EDUCATION

Waiver of Lien to Date and Contractor's Affidavit

ATG Form 3019

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Required Documents and Procedures

- Final Waiver of Lien and Contractor's Affidavit (ATG Form 3005)
 - This document is a sworn statement that discloses the date that the project was completed and a statement that there are no lienable claims remaining.

Final Waiver of Lien to Date and Contractor's Affidavit

ATG Form 3005

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Required Documents and Procedures

- Requirement and Exception to be Added to Commitment
 - When we will be doing the Construction Escrow disbursing and insuring the Construction Mortgage, we should also include:
 - Pending Disbursement Exception
 - Indicates that the amount of policy increases as disbursements are made.
 - Construction Mortgage Requirement
 - Indicates the mortgage must recite that it is a Construction Mortgage on the first page.

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Required Documents and Procedures

- Requirement and Exception to be Added to Commitment
 - Pending Disbursement Exception (Schedule B-II)
 - Pending disbursement of the full proceeds of the loan secured by the insured mortgage, this policy insures only to the extent of the amount actually disbursed but increases as each disbursement is made up to the face amount of the policy. At the time of each disbursement of the proceeds of the loan the title must be updated to such time for possible construction liens, and any other title defects between the date hereof and the date of each disbursement.
 - This language is also available in REsource

- Requirement and Exception to be Added to Commitment
 - Construction Mortgage Requirement (Schedule B-I)
 - NOTE: If the terms of the loan permit the borrower to use any of the loan funds for construction, the mortgage must recite on its first page that it is a construction mortgage pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 707.11 (1m).
 - This language is also available in REsource.

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ATTORNEYS' TITLE GUARANTY FUND. INC.

CONSTRUCTION LOAN ESCROW DISBURSEMENT AGREEMENT - WISCONSIN

Co	emmitment/Policy No.:
1.	This agreement sets forth the instructions from Lender and Owner to Escrowee for the disbursement of construction loan and owner equity funds for the construction of improvements on the property described in the above-referenced title insurance commitment or policy (the "Project"). The Lender will, from time to time, deposit a total of \$
2.	Escrowee is authorized and directed to disburse the funds deposited hereunder in the following manner:
	a. pay costs of construction of an improvement (the "Improvement") to be erected on the Premises;
	b. obtain releases and satisfaction of liens and other encumbrances, if any, pursuant to statements of amounts due, which must be approved by Owner and Lender; and
	c. pay such other amounts as are approved by Owner and Lender.
3.	Draws. There will be disbursements (the "Draw") during the Construction, which are to be made in accordance with the terms, conditions, and provisions of this Agreement. If not previously invoiced, each Draw shall include a fee of \$, payable to Escrowee. All disbursements for the Construction will be made directly to the General Contractor and/or subcontractors, as designated by General Contractor. Additional Draws are \$ per disbursement.
	First Draw. Prior to the first Draw of the funds, Escrowee shall be furnished with the following required documents:
	a. A General Contractor's Sworn Statement (ATG Form 3018-B), setting forth in detail the name, addresses, and telephone numbers of all contractors with whom it has contracted, type of labor and materials to be furnished, amounts of the contracts (including extras and credits), amounts previously paid to date, amounts of current request, accumulative retainages to date,

b. If applicable, Owner shall furnish Lender and Escrowee an Owner's Sworn Statement (ATG Form 3018-A), disclosing the various contracts entered into by Owner relating to the Construction. Owner will also provide names of the contractors, their addresses, kind of services, work, or material to be furnished, and the amounts to be paid pursuant to this Agreement.

and balances due:

- c. Owner shall furnish, or cause to be furnished, to Escrowee W-9 forms from all persons or entities to be paid by Escrowee under this Agreement (including General Contractor, subcontractors, and suppliers). All W-9s must be submitted prior to disbursement of funds.
- 4. Owner and Lender understand and agree that the parties listed on Draw Requests, Owner's Sworn Statement, or General Contractor's Sworn Statement may not include all parties supplying labor, services, and/or materials to the Project. Escrowee is not responsible to review any lien waiver from any party not listed on a Draw Request, Owner's Sworn Statement, or General Contractor's Sworn Statement. Furthermore, notwithstanding the foregoing, Escrowee is only required to collect such lien waivers as needed to provide the title insurance coverage to the Lender specified by this Agreement. Owner and Lender acknowledge that any party supplying labor, services, and/or materials to the Project who is not paid in full may have lien rights against the Property.
- 5. **Survey**. In order to obtain insurance with respect to survey matters, Owner or Lender shall furnish to Escrowee a current ALTA survey. It is understood that the initial survey will depict the foundation of the proposed Improvements and that an "as-built" survey will be furnished once the Improvements have been completed. Upon examination and review of the initial "foundation" survey and subsequent updates, insurance with respect to survey matters will be provided at the discretion of Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund, Inc. (ATG®).
- 6. Where, after the first disbursement, a further title search reveals a subsequently arising exception over which ATG is unwilling to insure, Escrowee will notify Lender and may discontinue disbursement until the exception has been disposed of to the satisfaction of Lender and ATG. A construction lien claim over which ATG is required to insure hereunder does not warrant a discontinuance of disbursements.
- 7. **Method of Disbursement**. All disbursements for construction purposes will be made by Escrowee directly to contractors, subcontractors, and materialmen listed and for the amounts shown on the Owner's Sworn Statement and/or the General Contractor's Sworn Statement, unless General Contractor submits a Letter of Direction Authorization to Pay, executed by the subcontractor or materialman certifying payment in full as to the disbursement in question. In the event that General Contractor

ATG FORM 4024-WI FOR USE IN: WI © ATG (7/12) Page 1 of 6

- and any subcontractor jointly authorize, in writing, Escrowee to pay any funds due one to the other, Escrowee may, but is not obligated to, comply with such authorization.
- 8. With respect to the condition of title, the liability of Escrowee in making any disbursements in reliance upon the title evidence referred to above shall not extend to the determination of whether or not it is acceptable to Lender, the furnishing of funds for disbursement by the Lender being considered the acceptance of title as so reported.
- 9. If at any time during the course of construction, the total of the unpaid disclosed cost of construction of the Improvement, as indicated by the sum of the column totals on the Owner's Sworn Statement and the General Contractor's Sworn Statement, exceeds the amount of the undisbursed mortgage proceeds, as calculated by subtracting the total amount of liability of ATG shown on the Construction Loan Disbursement Endorsements from the face amount of the mortgage, Escrowee need not make further disbursements under the terms of this escrow until Owner has deposited in this escrow the sum necessary to make the available funds equal to the unpaid disclosed cost of construction, or unless specifically directed to do so by Lender. Also, if Escrowee discovers a misstatement in a Sworn Statement furnished by General Contractor or Owner, it shall:
 - a. stop disbursements until the misstatement has been corrected; and
 - b. inform Lender prior to making a further disbursement even though the same has been corrected.
- 10. **Disbursements**. Prior to each disbursement of Loan Funds hereunder, Owner, Lender, and General Contractor will furnish Escrowee:
 - a. An updated General Contractor's Sworn Statement and a General Contractor's Draw Request.
 - b. If applicable, an updated Owner's Sworn Statement and an Owner's Draw Request. The Owner's Draw Request and General Contractor's Draw Request are collectively defined as "Draw Request."
 - c. A report of the Inspector or a certification by the architect certifying that work has been completed and materials are in place as indicated by the request for payment of the General Contractor.
 - d. Written approval by Owner of the payment by Escrowee for the current Draw ("Owner's Payment Authorization") (ATG Form 4114) (if Owner is an entity, written approval by its authorized agent (Escrowee may rely upon the signature on the approval as having been made by an authorized agent)). In the event that there is more than one Owner, the written approval by one Owner shall bind all Owners.
 - e. An approval by the Lender of the current Draw, which approval shall be deemed to have been given by the delivery to Escrowee of funds in the amount of the Draw, and for payment of any unpaid title premiums or Escrow Fee.
 - f. Sufficient funds to cover unpaid title and escrow charges.
 - g. Waivers of construction lien rights, in a form acceptable to Escrowee, which waivers are executed by all parties listed on the Draw Request for the current Draws, which waivers are partial as to all parties not yet paid in full, and in full as to all parties to be paid in full with the current Draw.
- 11. **Endorsement to Policy**. As Escrowee makes a partial disbursement of mortgage proceeds hereunder, it will furnish Lender an ATG Disbursement Endorsement (ALTA 33-06) to the ALTA Loan Policy, in the form attached as Exhibit A, covering such requested disbursement.
- 12. **Project Cost Increases**. If the Escrowee determines, or the Lender notifies Escrowee, that the undisbursed portion of the loan will not be sufficient to complete and pay for the construction of the Project, Owner shall deliver to Escrowee the sum necessary. If a Draw Request has been presented to Escrowee but not disbursed when the Escrowee is notified of the shortage of funds, Escrowee shall delay disbursement until the funds are received from the Owner.
- 13. **No Interest on Escrowed Funds**. All parties acknowledge that no interest will be paid on any Loan Funds while held by Escrowee pursuant to this Agreement and that, in addition to the fees payable to Escrowee for its services, Escrowee may receive ancillary benefits from the use of the Loan Funds while held in escrow.
- 14. **Final Draw**. Prior to the final Draw of the funds, Escrowee shall be furnished with a Final Waiver of Lien and Contractor's Affidavit (ATG Form 3005) from the General Contractor.
- 15. **Billing**. Bill all title, recording, escrow charges, and transfer taxes to Owner and collect the same from the funds deposited by Lender pursuant to this Agreement. All such title, recording, escrow charges, and transfer taxes are to be considered as a cost of construction of the Improvement for purposes of paragraph 9 of this Agreement.
- 16. **No Owner Lien Coverage Granted**. The only responsibility of Escrowee to Owner created by this Agreement is the faithful performance of the obligations created by this Agreement. Owner acknowledges that this Agreement is not a promise by Escrowee to provide Owner with any protection against construction lien claims, either under this Agreement or in a title insurance policy.

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- 17. **Escrow Termination; Resignation of Escrowee**. This escrow shall terminate, and Escrowee shall have no further liability hereunder, in any of the following events:
 - a. if ATG does not issue the title insurance policy to Lender; or
 - b. If a subsequent title search reveals a matter for which Lender requires an assurance that ATG is unwilling to provide.

Escrowee shall also have the right to resign as escrowee upon written notice to Owner and Lender. If the escrow terminates or if Escrowee resigns, Escrowee may return all deposits to the depositor.

- 18. **Liability of Escrowee and ATG**. The functions and duties assumed by Escrowee include only those described in this Agreement and the liability of ATG is limited to the terms, conditions, and exceptions contained in the ALTA Loan Policy. Escrowee is not obligated to act except in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Escrowee does not insure:
 - a. that the Improvement will be completed;
 - b. that the Improvement, when completed, will be in accordance with plans and specifications;
 - c. that sufficient funds will be available for completion; or
 - d. the accuracy of the certificates of the Inspector other than the procurement of the certificate as one the of the conditions precedent to each disbursement. ATG and Escrowee assume no liability to Owner relating to protection against construction lien claims.
- 19. **Hold Harmless**. The parties acknowledge that Escrowee is acting at the request of and for the accommodation of the parties, and hereby release and hold Escrowee harmless from liability for any acts performed in good faith, in relation to the funds, and the disbursement thereof. The parties agree that any action in relation to an alleged breach of this Agreement by Escrowee shall be commenced within two years of the date of the breach, without regard to the date the breach is discovered. Any action not brought against Escrowee within that two-year time period shall be barred, without regard to any other limitations period set forth by law or statute, and Lender and Owner hereby waive any statute of limitations to the contrary.
- 20. **No Third Party Beneficiaries**. This Agreement is not intended by any of the undersigned to give any benefits, rights, privileges, actions, or remedies to any person, partnership, firm, or entity, other than the Escrowee, Lender, and Owner, as a third party beneficiary or otherwise under any theory of law.
- 21. **General Conditions**. At any time prior to its commencement of disbursement of funds hereunder, Escrowee reserves the right to decline commencement of disbursement of funds if ATG declines to insure any risk offered for insurance hereunder, whereupon Escrowee shall return to Lender any documents in its possession relating to such loan and the funds received by it. Commencement of disbursement of funds makes this Agreement effective as to all funds received and disbursed for the construction of the Improvement.
 - a. Compensation of Escrowee. Escrowee shall be compensated for its services rendered under this Agreement at the time of, and from the funds deposited for, each disbursement. In addition, Escrowee shall be paid for investment or reinvestment of funds (if directed jointly by Owner and Lender) and for any other special services that may be rendered by it, in accordance with invoices rendered by Escrowee from time to time. All fees and title charges due Escrowee and title charges, search fees, recording fees, transfer taxes, and the like due to ATG, and any other costs and/or fees advanced by Escrowee on behalf of any party to this Agreement shall be paid to Escrowee prior to or contemporaneously with issuance of each Construction Loan Disbursement Endorsement to the ALTA Loan Policy.
 - b. **Binding Effect**. This Agreement may be executed in multiple original counterparts, duly executed by Beneficiary, Trustee, Lender, and Contractor, provided, however, this Agreement shall not become binding upon Escrowee until it has received manually executed original copies of the same from each of the foregoing named parties and Escrowee has accepted the same and delivered copies of said executed Agreement to each of said parties.
 - c. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Wisconsin. If there be more than one person designated herein, the verbs and pronouns associated therewith, although expressed in the singular, shall be read and construed as plural. Whenever the masculine gender is used herein it shall also be read and construed as the feminine, and vice-versa, as the case may be.
 - d. It is mutually agreed and understood by and between the parties hereto that the agreements herein contained shall extend to and be obligatory and binding upon the heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns of the respective parties hereto.
 - e. In the event that any provision of this Agreement, or part thereof, shall be held to be void or unenforceable by a final, non-appealable order entered by a court of competent jurisdiction, such determination shall not affect or impair the enforceability of the remaining portions of this Agreement.
 - f. Each party hereto represents and warrants to the other parties hereto that it has full power and authority to execute this Agreement and to perform or cause to be performed the obligations on its part to be performed.

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- g. In the computation of a period of time, if any, expressed in this Agreement, the day of the act or event from which said period of time runs shall be excluded and the last day of such period shall be included, unless it falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday observed by the office of the Recorder of Deeds of the county in which the Premises is located, in which case the period shall be deemed to run until the end of the next day, which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or such legal holiday.
- h. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement of the parties hereto and supersedes any prior or contemporaneous agreements, representations, or understandings, whether written or oral. This Agreement may be amended only by written instrument executed by each of the parties hereto.
- i. The captions contained in this Agreement are for convenience only and are not part of the terms, provisions, or conditions of this Agreement.

	_	e caused this E	scrow Agreement to be duly executed as of the
day Day	y of, Month	Year	_•
	OWNER		OWNER
	Signature		Signature
	Name (Print)		Name (Print)
	LENDER		ESCROW AGENT
Ву	Name of Lender (Print)		Name of Escrow Agent (Print) By
Бу	Signature		Signature
	Name (Print)		Name (Print), Its Authorize Representative
	Title		_

The undersigned General Contractor acknowledges receipt of a copy of this Agreement and agrees that:

- a. there are no rights or remedies that inure the benefit of the General Contractor under Agreement, whether under a third party beneficiary theory or otherwise; and
- b. The Construction referred to in this Agreement will be constructed an completed in strict accordance with plans and specifications and the building contract, free and clear of any liens or claims of subcontractors, laborers, and/or materialmen.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

By		
-	Signature	
	Name (Print)	
	Title	
Phone:		
Fax:		
E-mail <u>:</u>		
FEIN:		

Notices. It is hereby agreed between the parties to this Agreement that any notices related to this Agreement shall be submitted as follows:

To Owner:	To Escrowee:	
Name:	Name:	
Address:		
City, State, Zip:		
Phone:		
Fax:		
E-mail:		
To Lender: Attn:		
Address:		
City, State, Zip:		
Phone:		
Fax:		
E-mail:		

ATTORNEYS' TITLE GUARANTY FUND, INC.

Po	licy No.:		State Is	ssued:	
DI	SBURSEMENT ENDORS	SEMENT (ALTA 33-06)			
1.	The Date of Coverage is a	mended to			
	a. The current disbursen	nent is: \$			
	b. The aggregate amount as disbursed by the In	t, including the current disl sured is: \$	bursement, recognized by A	ATG	
2.	Schedule A is amended as	follows:			
•		0.11			
3.	Schedule B is amended as Part I	follows:			
	Part II ATG hereby insures the I	nsured against loss or dan	nage by reason of lack of i	priority of the lien of the insured mortga	age or anv
		posed by law for the cost o		al furnished for Improvement on the Lar	
Ex	cept to the extent expressly	stated, it neither modifies a	any of the terms and provis	ons thereof and of any prior endorsement ions of the policy and any prior endorses tincrease the face amount thereof.	
		Date	Member No.	Signature of Member or Authorized Signato	nrv
		Dute		5.5 5. mondor of riumonzou bighato	-)

↑ ATTORNEYS' TITLE GUARANTY FUND, INC.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR'S SWORN STATEMENT

Escrow No.:		_	
STATE OF			
COUNTY OF		SS	
THE UNDERSIGNED, being duly s	sworn, on oath depose		
- C		Title	
ofGeneral	Contractor	, the contractor employed to furnish labor and mate	eriais for the
	escription of Work	work on the building(s) (the Premise	es) located at
		Address of Premises	;
			,
and of which	Owner	is the owner. That the pe	ersons, firms
subcontractors of the undersigned or by the owner and completed according. The undersigned further states that a has been paid for in full; that there a become due to any person for servi- that stated on said Sworn Statement, agreements given or are now outstar	any of the persons, fing to the plans and sp all material (except as are no other contracts ces, equipment, material). There are no chattel adding as to any fixture every exements thereon. All	s disclosed herein) has been or will be furnished from his/her ow or subcontracts for said work outstanding, and that there is nothing trial, labor, or any other work done in connection with said work mortgages, personal property leases, conditional sale contracts, es, equipment, appliances, or material placed upon or installed in waivers are true, correct, and genuine, and are delivered unce	wn stock and ing due or to rk other than or any other to rupon the
Signed this day of	Month	,	
,			
Name: (Individual/Corpor	ration/Partnership)		
Ву:			
Tï	tle		
Subscribed and sworn before me this	Sday of	Month Year	
Notary Publ	ic		

ATG FORM 3018-B © ATG (REV. 12/11)

↑ ATTORNEYS' TITLE GUARANTY FUND, INC.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR'S SWORN STATEMENT

Name, Address, and Telephone Number	Type of Labor and Materials to be Furnished	Amount of Contract (including extras and credits)	Amount Previously Paid to Date	Amount of Current Request	Accumulative Retainage to Date	Balance Due
	Permit					
	Excavation					
	Concrete					
	Demolition					
	Masonry					
	Drywall					
	Carpentry					
	Rough Lumber					
	Finish Lumber					
	Insulation					
	Roofing					
	Gutters					
	Plumbing					
	Water and Sewer					
	Structural Steel					
	HVAC					

♠ ATTORNEYS' TITLE GUARANTY FUND, INC.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR'S SWORN STATEMENT

Type of Labor and Materials to be Furnished	Amount of Contract (including extras and credits)	Amount Previously Paid to Date	Amount of Current Request	Accumulative Retainage to Date	Balance Due
Electrical					
Doors and Windows					
Paining					
Cabinets/ Countertops					
Flooring					
Appliances					
Driveway/ Paving					
Central Vacuum					
Garage Doors					
Final Grade					
Landscaping					
Light Fixtures					
Security System					
Sprinkler System					
Stairs					
	to be Furnished Electrical Doors and Windows Paining Cabinets/Countertops Flooring Appliances Driveway/Paving Central Vacuum Garage Doors Final Grade Landscaping Light Fixtures Security System Sprinkler System	to be Furnished (including extras and credits) Electrical Doors and Windows Paining Cabinets/Countertops Flooring Appliances Driveway/Paving Central Vacuum Garage Doors Final Grade Landscaping Light Fixtures Security System Sprinkler System	to be Furnished (including extras and credits) Electrical Doors and Windows Paining Cabinets/ Countertops Flooring Appliances Driveway/ Paving Central Vacuum Garage Doors Final Grade Landscaping Light Fixtures Security System Sprinkler System	to be Furnished (including extras and credits) Electrical Doors and Windows Paining Cabinets/ Countertops Flooring Appliances Driveway/ Paving Central Vacuum Garage Doors Final Grade Landscaping Light Fixtures Security System Sprinkler System	to be Furnished (including extras and credits) Electrical Doors and Windows Paining Cabinets/ Countertops Flooring Appliances Driveway/ Paving Central Vacuum Garage Doors Final Grade Landscaping Light Fixtures Security System Sprinkler System

↑ ATTORNEYS' TITLE GUARANTY FUND, INC.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR'S SWORN STATEMENT

Name, Address, and Telephone Number	Type of Labor and Materials to be Furnished	Amount of Contract (including extras and credits)	Amount Previously Paid to Date	Amount of Current Request	Accumulative Retainage to Date	Balance Due
	General Contracting					
	Overhead and Profit					
TOTAL LABOR AND MATERIALS TO COMPLETE						

RECAPITULATION

Total: Adjusted Total Contrac	t \$	Total: Balance Due	\$
Less: credits to contract	\$	Less: amount of this request	\$
Total: contract plus extras	\$	Less: amount previously paid	\$
Plus: extras to contract	\$	Less: total retainage	\$
Amount of Original Contract	\$	Work Completed to Date	\$

↑ ATTORNEYS' TITLE GUARANTY FUND, INC.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR'S SWORN STATEMENT (No Pre-Itemization)

Escrow No.:				
STATE OF		SS		
COUNTY OF		33		
THE UNDERSIGNED, being duly swor	n, on oath deposes and s	says that he/she is the	ne	Title
of		the contrac	etor employed to fur	rnish labor and materials for the
General Cont	ractor	, the contrac	ctor employed to fur	mish labor and materials for the
Descri	ption of Work		work on the build	ling(s) (the Premises) located a
	Address	s of Premises		
and of which	Owner		is the	owner. That the persons, firm
to said Premises; that as of this date, all subcontractors of the undersigned or any by the owner and completed according to the undersigned further states that all mass been paid for in full; that there are respectively become due to any person for services, that stated on said Sworn Statement. The agreements given or are now outstanding aforementioned Premises or improvem Furthermore, there is no claim, either leg	of the persons, firms, or to the plans and specifical material (except as disclosed to other contracts or sub- equipment, material, latere are no chattel mortgage as to any fixtures, equi- ents thereon. All waive	r corporations name tions. sed herein) has been contracts for said we bor, or any other we ages, personal propipment, appliances, rs are true, correct	en or will be furnish fork outstanding, and york done in connec- erty leases, condition or material placed us, and genuine, and	ned from his/her own stock and that there is nothing due or to the tion with said work other than onal sale contracts, or any othe upon or installed in or upon the
Signed this day of	Month	Year		
Name:				
Name: (Individual/Corporation	Partnership)	_		
Ву:		_		
Title		_		
Subscribed and sworn before me this	day of	Month	Year	
Notary Public		_		

♠ ATTORNEYS' TITLE GUARANTY FUND, INC.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR'S SWORN STATEMENT (No Pre-Itemization)

Name, Address, and Telephone Number	Type of Labor and Materials to be Furnished	Amount of Contract (including extras and credits)	Amount Previously Paid to Date	Amount of Current Request	Accumulative Retainage to Date	Balance Due

♠ ATTORNEYS' TITLE GUARANTY FUND, INC.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR'S SWORN STATEMENT (No Pre-Itemization)

Name, Address, and Telephone Number	Type of Labor and Materials to be Furnished	Amount of Contract (including extras and credits)	Amount Previously Paid to Date	Amount of Current Request	Accumulative Retainage to Date	Balance Due

↑ ATTORNEYS' TITLE GUARANTY FUND, INC.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR'S SWORN STATEMENT (No Pre-Itemization)

Name, Address, and Telephone Number	Type of Labor and Materials to be Furnished	Amount of Contract (including extras and credits)	Amount Previously Paid to Date	Amount of Current Request	Accumulative Retainage to Date	Balance Due
	General Contracting					
	Overhead and Profit					
TOTAL LABOR AND MATERIALS TO COMPLETE						

RECAPITULATION

Total: Adjusted Total Contract	\$ Total: Balance Due	\$
Less: credits to contract	\$ Less: amount of this request	\$
Total: contract plus extras	\$ Less: amount previously paid	\$
Plus: extras to contract	\$ Less: total retainage	\$
Amount of Original Contract	\$ Work Completed to Date	\$

ATTORNEYS' TITLE GUARANTY FUND, INC.

N14W23800 Stone Ridge Drive Suite 120 Waukesha, WI 53188-1144 262.347.0102 Fax: 262.347.0110

OWNER'S PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION

To: Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund, Inc.	
ATTN:	_
From:	
Escrow No.:	
Project Name:	_
Address:	
The undersigned hereby authorizes and directs	, as Escrowee, to disburse the sum o actor's Sworn Statement, dated
in accordance with the above captioned escrow project.	actor's Sworn Statement, dated
The undersigned also authorizes and directs	, as Escrowee, to disburse the sum o
\$, as requested on the Owner's Sworn in accordance with the above captioned escrow project.	rn Statement, dated
Signature of Owner	_
Date	=

ATG FORM 4114-WI © ATG (7/12)

♦ ATTORNEYS' TITLE GUARANTY FUND, INC.

WAIVER OF LIEN TO DATE AND CONTRACTOR'S AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF Escrow No.:					
COUNTY OF					
THE UNDERSIGNED, being d		at he/she is			
of	and has	been employed by			
ofto furnishfor which	for the building loca	ted at			
for which		is the owner. That	the total amount	of the contract, in	cluding extras, is
\$, on whitrue, correct, and genuine and dewaivers. That the following are having contracts or sub contract due or become due to each, and plans and specifications:	ch he has received payment of elivered unconditionally and th the names of all parties who (s) for specific portions of said	at there is no claim have furnished mat I work or for material	prior to either legal or equerial or labor, or al entering into c	o this payment. The uitable to defeat the both for said wo onstruction thereo	nat all waivers are ne validity of said rk and all parties of and the amount
Name	What For	Contract Price	Amount Paid	This Payment	Balance Due
That there are no other contrac labor, or other work of any kind THE UNDERSIGNED, for and the receipt whereof is hereby ac statutes of the state in which the	in consideration of \$	connection with said aive and release any mechanic's liens w	d work other than , and other go and all lien or countries ith respect to and	above stated. ood and valuable of the control of t	consideration, the to, lien, under the scribed premises,
and the improvement thereon, a considerations due or to become furnished to this date by the und NOTE: All waivers must be for title of the officer signing wai partner should sign, and design	ne due from the Owner on a ersigned for the above describe r the full amount paid. If wat ver should be set forth. If w	ccount of labor, se ed premises, including iver is for a corpora	rvices, material, ng extras as heret ation, the corpor	fixtures, apparat ofore described. rate name should	us, or machinery be used and the
Signed this day of	,	Subscribed ar	nd sworn to befor		,
Day	Month Year	Day	Va	Month	Year

ATTORNEYS' TITLE GUARANTY FUND, INC.

FINAL WAIVER OF LIEN AND CONTRACTOR'S AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF			Escrow No.:			
COUNTY OF						
THE UNDERSIGNED, being du	ılv sworn, deposes and savs tl	hat he/she is				
of	and ha	is been employed by				
to furnish	for the building loc	ated at				
for which		is the owner. That	the total amount	of the contract, ir	cluding extras. is	
\$, on whi	ch he has received payment o	<u>f</u> \$	prior to	this payment. Th	at all waivers are	
of	g are the names of all partie contract(s) for specific portion each, and that the items me	s who have furnishens of said work or for	d material or later material entering	oor, or both, for s ag into construction	on thereof and the	
Name	What For	Contract Price	Amount Paid	This Payment	Balance Due	
That there are no other contract labor, or other work of any kind THE UNDERSIGNED, for and receipt whereof is hereby acknostatutes of the state in which the described premises, and the imp funds, or other considerations demachinery heretofore furnished including extras, as heretofore defined to the contract of the co	done or to be done upon or in in consideration of \$	ve and release any ag to mechanics' or comaterial, fixtures, ague Owner on account any time hereafter by	, and other gand all lien or cleonstruction liens oparatus, or mach of labor, service y the undersigned	above stated. ood and valuable aim of, or right to with respect to a sinery furnished aimes, material, fixtual for the above de	consideration, the o, lien, under the nd on said above nd on the monies, res, apparatus, or scribed premises,	
NOTE: All waivers must be fo title of the officer signing wair partner should sign, and design	ver should be set forth. If v					
Signed this Subscribed and sworn to before r			e me this			
day of	,		_day of		<u>, </u>	
Day	Month Year	Day		Month	Year	
Sign	ature		Not	tary Public		