

To: All Massachusetts Policy Issuing Agents From: WFG Underwriting Department

Date: March 27, 2020 Bulletin No.: MA 2020-02

Subject: COVID-19 Massachusetts Informational Update – Land Court and Nantucket Registry

In an effort to keep all of our agents informed, here are some updates specific to Massachusetts:

Land Court Remote Approvals:

The Land Court, while closed to the public at this time, has established a remote procedure to address emergency business. Previously, attorneys had been directed to mail original documents to the Court for processing. However, because Land Court Examiners are now working remotely with little or no access to the mail received by the Court, Chief Title Examiner Christina Geaney has asked that original documents not be mailed to the Court for approval until further notice. Instead, a temporary approval process has been established. Please see the Interim Procedure for Remote Approvals attached here.

Nantucket Registry of Deeds:

The Nantucket Registry of Deeds is accepting documents for recording. They will accept documents for recording by mail (USPS ONLY – no FedEx or UPS because they may not be able to be delivered) and for recorded land non-transfer documents (i.e., no deeds) by e-recording. They are not accepting deeds via e-recording because deeds need to go through the Land Bank first.

Land Bank is accepting documents for transfers by mail (USPS, FedEx and UPS) and drop off.

Neither office is open to the public and there is no in-person exchange of documents. Land Bank clerks will still deliver deeds to the Registry for recording. However, both offices are keeping limited hours so agents should expect delays in recording.

For more information, please see <u>COVID-19 Notice Nantucket Registry of Deeds</u> and <u>COVID 19 NLB Notice 3-24-20</u>, both attached here.

If you have any questions about this bulletin or if you need any additional information or assistance, please contact: Lisa Vesperman Still, Esq., MA State Counsel and New England Underwriter (781) 660-3078 | lstill@wfgnationaltitle.com

Information Bulletins are designed to provide our agents with information we think will help in managing their business or just being better title professionals, but which does not rise to the level of being an underwriting mandate and are not within the scope of the agency agreement.