

Presented by | Phil Nolan, Risk Manager, LPLC

### Quote

The Torrens system was designed to remedy defects in the general law system of conveyancing.

- P. Moerlin Fox

#### The

#### TRANSFER OF LAND ACT

1954

with Annotations

By

#### P. MOERLIN FOX, LL.B.

Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria.

Independent Lecturer in Conveyancing at
The University of Melbourne.

Author of "Students' Conveyancing Precedents" and the Second Edition of "Elements of Drafting."

#### Australia:

THE LAW BOOK CO. OF AUSTRALASIA PTY LTD.

1957



### Introduction

Have you checked the certificate of title?

#### Zoom poll

When supervising a conveyancing clerk do you check the details in the certificate(s) of title?

- (a) Yes always.
- (b) Yes sometimes.
- (c) Yes if the clerk raises an issue.
- (d) No.





# Five key points

- 1. Check the title for crucial information.
- 2. Cross check the title against other information.
- 3. Include a register search statement in the section 32 statement.
- 4. Not sure about a title issue? Ask for help.
- 5. Use a checklist to help you be aware of title issues.





# Agenda

1. Claims

3. Compare the title

5. Other issues

2. Crucial title information

4. Section 32 statement

6. Spot the title issue



# Claims

- Oversight
- Lack of understanding





☐ Check name of registered proprietor.

#### If a company:

- Obtain company search.
- ☐ Check company is registered.



#### If a trust:

- ☐ Check trust deed.
- ☐ Check trustee is the registered proprietor.



☐ Check for 'estate fee simple'.

REGISTERED PROPRIETOR

Estate Fee Simple Joint Proprietors

□ Check for interest title.





- ☐ Check mortgage details:
- Number of mortgages
- Name(s) of mortgagee(s)

Tips – acting for vendor:

- Section 27 statement information
- Discharge authority





☐ Check any registered easements, covenants or similar restrictions.

#### Zoom poll

Is a lease a similar restriction?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No
- (c) Don't know





☐ Check the diagram location.

#### Zoom Q&A

#### Background

Note the refence in section 32I(a) of the SLA to provide the document or 'part of' the document referred to as the diagram location.

#### Question

For the sale of an apartment in a 20-storey building, for 'part of' the document referred to as the diagram location what do you need to attach to the section 32 statement?





☐ Check whether title is eCT or paper.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICES

NIL

eCT Control 16320Q WESTPAC BANKING CORPORATION Effective from 23/10/2016



# Compare the title details to assessments / certificates / searches

☐ Check council rates details match title details

#### LAND INFORMATION CERTIFICATE

This certificate provides information regarding valuation, rates, charges and other moneys owing under the Local Government Act 1989, the Local Government Act 1958 or under a Local Law of the Council and is for the financial year ending on the 30th June 2019.

This certificate is not required to include information regarding planning, building, health, land fill, land slip, flooding information or service easements. Information regarding these matters may be available from Council or the relevant authority. A fee may be charged for such information.

Title: LOT: 1 PS: 415480U

Capital Improved Value: \$1,560,000.00

Site Value: \$1,110,000.00

Net Annual Value: \$78,000.00

Operative Valuation Date for Rating: 01/07/2018

Level of Value Date: 01/01/2018



# Compare the title details to assessments / certificates / searches

☐ Check the land tax assessment / certificate

#### **Land Tax Clearance Certificate**

Land Tax Act 2005



Land Id	Lot	Plan	Volume	Folio
22744486	1	415480	10377	720



# Include a register search statement in the section 32 statement

#### Legislation - S.32I SLA

#### Zoom poll

When will a register search statement be out of date for the purposes of complying with section 32I of the SLA?

- (a) Never.
- (b) 3 months after it is issued.
- (c) 6 months after it is issued.
- (d) Any time after it is issued.





# Session break: 3 steps to recharge

# 1. Get your circulation going

- Stand up and stretch your arms way up high
- Try some jumping jacks
- Bend down and try to touch your toes

#### 2. Reduce eye strain

- Look away from your computer and gaze at an object in the distance 20 secon
- Adjust your computer display settings – like brightness or contrast

# 3. Remember to stay hydrated

- Drink a big glass of water
- Have a refill ready for the next part of the session!













#### Warnings on titles

Some titles contain a warning including:

- Folio is subject to the qualification(s)
- Warning as to Dimensions
- Warning as to Subsisting Interests

Some warning arise where general law land has been converted to Torrens title.





#### Paper titles

#### Zoom poll

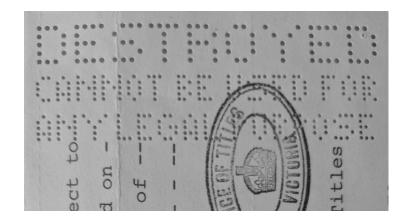
At what point in a conveyancing matter do you request that the vendor client provide you with any paper title(s)?

- (a) In the first letter to the client.
- (b) More than one month prior to settlement.
- (c)14 days prior to settlement.
- (d) The day before settlement.





- Destroy / make invalid a paper title
- Issue search



This paper duplicate Certificate of Title has been superseded by a computer folio.

This historical document has been returned to you to keep for family or personal reasons.

It cannot be used for any legal purpose.

JOHN HARTIGAN REGISTRAR OF TITLES



- Handing over titles
  - Checked identity.
  - Obtained authority.
  - Delivered by courier.
  - Kept records.



#### Zoom poll

Can you insist on a VOI of your former clients before handing over titles to another law firm?

- (a) Yes.
- (b) No.
- (c) Don't know.



Missed encumbrances

COVENANT D070143 07/05/1968

CHARGE D085867 23/05/1968

AGREEMENT Section 173 Planning and Environment Act 1987 AF771740P 10/04/2008



Separate interest titles

What to look for in the register search statement:

```
Estate Fee Simple
As to 1 of a total of 4 equal undivided shares
```

Additional information: (not part of the Register Search Statement)

OTHER TITLES WITH INTERESTS AFFECTING THIS LAND



Separate interest titles

#### Zoom poll

Can you do a transaction on an ELNO, such as PEXA for one of a number of interest titles?

- (a) Yes.
- (b) No.
- (c) Don't know.





Selling subject to a restriction

Strata titles

'.....Units may be defined as being restricted or accessory (car parks) units. Restricted units cannot be transferred unless transferred with an accessory unit.....'.





Selling subject to a restriction

Planning permit



Areas set aside for car parking in the building shall be restricted to the parking of vehicles used by owners, occupiers, guests and persons engaged in the management and operation of the permitted use.



Selling subject to a restriction

AGREEMENT Section 173 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987 T344798S 06/10/1994

Part 2 - Owner's Obligations

2.1 Restricted development and use

Despite anything in the Keilor Planning Scheme, the Owner must not develop or use the Land or allow the Land to be developed or used except for giving effect to the Permit and in accordance with that Permit and the endorsed plans to that Permit (or to any varied form of the Permit or its endorsed plans which the Council may agree to).



Caveats

#### Claims

- Did not check title just prior to settlement
- Mortgagee sale and caveat does not lapse

Water rights

Victorian Water Register



 GST withholding and meaning of crown allotments

One of many tax traps

Other traps include:

- Double duty where nomination occurs after land development
- Failure to advise a foreign purchaser of additional duty





• Are your suspicions aroused?

LIV ethics ruling - Powers of Attorney Guidelines - 18 July 2013





#### Background

You are notified by Australia Post that they could not verify the identity of your vendor client. The vendor client then contacts you and tells you they are coming to your office to collect the title they handed to you last week.

#### Zoom poll

What would you do in this situation?

- (a) Refuse to hand back the title.
- (b) Hand back the title.
- (c) Contact LIV ethics.
- (d) Notify LUV.
- (e) Notify the Police.





### Note sure about a title issue?

#### Ask for help!



E: advice.enquiry@victorian.lrs.com.au

T: (03) 9102 0401





### Checklist



#### Checklist – titles

Below is a list of matters that you need to consider for every title.

Checked name of registered proprietor.

If a company:

- Obtained company search.
- Checked company is registered.

If a trust:

- Checked trust deed.
- Checked trustee is the registered proprietor.
- Checked for 'estate in fee simple'.





Order number: 7981587 Your Reference: 110786 07/12/11 11:28

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REGISTER SEARCH STATEMENT (Title Search) Transfer of Land Act 1958

VOLUME 03780 FOLIO 881

Security no : 124040177318F Produced 07/12/2011 11:28 am

LAND DESCRIPTION

Lots 1 and 2 on Title Plan 423618H (formerly known as part of Crown Allotment C Portion 11 Section 14, part of Crown Allotment C Portion 12 Section 14 Parish of Cut-paw-paw).

PARENT TITLE Volume 03728 Folio 498
Created by instrument 742746 04/04/1914

REGISTERED PROPRIETOR
Estate Fee Simple
Sole Proprietor

AF524160Q 11/12/2007

ENCUMBRANCES, CAVEATS AND NOTICES

MORTGAGE AF524161N 11/12/2007

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND BANKING GROUP LTD

MORTGAGE AH836765V 11/03/2011 AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND BANKING GROUP LTD

Any encumbrances created by Section 98 Transfer of Land Act 1958 or Section 24 Subdivision Act 1988 and any other encumbrances shown or entered on the plan set out under DIAGRAM LOCATION below.

DIAGRAM LOCATION

SEE TP423618H FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND BOUNDARIES

ACTIVITY IN THE LAST 125 DAYS

NIL

DOCUMENT END





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#### REGISTER SEARCH STATEMENT Land Titles Office, Victoria

Page 1

Security no : 124000825998E

Volume 10618 Folio 568

Produced 14/03/2002 08:57 am

LAND DESCRIPTION

Lot 13 on Plan of Subdivision 431951P.

PARENT TITLE Volume 10558 Folio 096

Created by instrument PS431951P 08/12/2001

REGISTERED PROPRIETOR Estate Fee Simple

Sole Proprietor

PS431951P 08/12/2001

ENCUMBRANCES, CAVEATS AND NOTICES
MORTGAGE W877289F 29/06/2000
WESTPAC BANKING CORPORATION

Any encumbrances created by Section 98 Transfer of Land Act 1958 or Section

24 Subdivision Act 1988 and any other encumbrances shown or entered on the plan set out under DIAGRAM LOCATION below.

AGREEMENT Section 173 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987 X587941U 10/07/2001

DIAGRAM LOCATION

SEE PS431951P FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND BOUNDARIES

PLAN OF SUBDIVISION

DEALING ACTIVITY IN THE LAST 105 DAYS

DEALING PS431951P STATUS

SIMIL

Registered

08/12/2001

DATE

STATEMENT END



#### Register Search Statement - Volume 11202 Folio 433

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REGISTER SEARCH STATEMENT (Title Search) Transfer of Land Act 1958 

VOLUME 11202 FOLIO 433

Security no : 124082571564D Produced 14/04/2020 02:01 PM

LAND DESCRIPTION -------------

Lot 1433 on Plan of Subdivision 623208B. PARENT TITLES : Volume 11188 Folio 618 Volume 11198 Folio 586 Created by instrument PS623208B 17/05/2010

REGISTERED PROPRIETOR -----------------Estate Fee Simple Sole Proprietor

AH584371U 28/10/2010

ENCUMERANCES, CAVEATS AND NOTICES ----------MORTGAGE AR414568Q 03/09/2018 AFSH NOMINEES PTY LTD

COVENANT PS623208B 17/05/2010

Any encumbrances created by Section 98 Transfer of Land Act 1958 or Section 24 Subdivision Act 1988 and any other encumbrances shown or entered on the plan set out under DIAGRAM LOCATION below.

AGREEMENT Section 173 Planning and Environment Act 1987 AF163878Y 28/06/2007

AGREEMENT Section 1.73 Planning and Environment Act 1987 AF771740P 10/04/2008

DIAGRAM LOCATION ------------

SEE PS623208B FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND BOUNDARIES

ACTIVITY IN THE LAST 125 DAYS ------

NIL

Additional information: (not part of the Register Search Statement)

Street Address:



#### REGISTER SEARCH STATEMENT (Title Search) Transfer of Land Act 1958 Page 1 of 1

VOLUME 11755 FOLIO 994

Security no : 124056373060N Produced 14/11/2016 02:32 pm

#### LAND DESCRIPTION

Lot 103 on Plan of Subdivision 746493M.
PARENT TITLE Volume 11607 Folio 661
Created by instrument PS746493M 29/04/2016

#### REGISTERED PROPRIETOR

Estate Fee Simple Sole Proprietor

3000 AM214079X 04/04/2016

#### ENCUMBRANCES, CAVEATS AND NOTICES

MORTGAGE AM214080P 04/04/2016 ABC BANK LTD

PRIORITY NOTICE AN021959M 11/11/2016 EXPIRES 11/01/2017 Applicant: GENERATOR INVESTMENTS AUSTRALIA LTD

Address: 2 JONES ROAD LYONVILLE VIC 3356

Transaction Instruments:

DISCHARGE OF MORTGAGE OR ANNUITY WHOLLY OR IN PART SECTION 84(1) TRANSFER OF LAND ACT AM214080P

TRANSFER OF LAND SECTION 45 TRANSFER OF LAND ACT GENERATOR INVESTMENTS AUSTRALIA LTD

MORTGAGE OR ANNUITY SECTION 74 TRANSFER OF LAND ACT EFG BANK LTD

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#### DIAGRAM LOCATION

SEE PS324404T FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND BOUNDARIES

#### ACTIVITY IN THE LAST 125 DAYS

NUMBER AN021959M (E) PRIORITY NOTICE STATUS Registered DATE 11/11/2016

Additional information: (not part of the Register Search Statement)
Street Address:

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Page 1 of 1

VOLUME 08648 FOLIO 655

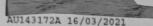
Security no : 124089800038R Produced 10/05/2021 02:46 PM

#### LAND DESCRIPTION

Lot 5 on Plan of Subdivision 061417. PARENT TITLE Volume 08621 Folio 489 Created by instrument C566419 16/08/1966

#### REGISTERED PROPRIETOR

Estate Fee Simple As to 1 of a total of 4 equal undivided shares Joint Proprietors



#### ENCUMBRANCES, CAVEATS AND NOTICES

Any encumbrances created by Section 98 Transfer of Land Act 1958 or Section 24 Subdivision Act 1988 and any other encumbrances shown or entered on the plan or imaged folio set out under DIAGRAM LOCATION below.

#### DIAGRAM LOCATION

SEE LP061417 FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND BOUNDARIES

#### ACTIVITY IN THE LAST 125 DAYS

NUMBER AU055588G AU056309J (E) AU143172A	CONVERT A PCT TO AN ECT NOMINATION TO PAPER INST. TRANSFER	STATUS Completed Completed Registered	DATE 17/02/2021 17/02/2021 17/03/2021
AT872075P	RECTIFY PROPRIETORSHIP	Abandoned	13/01/2021

----END OF REGISTER SEARCH STATEMENT-----

Additional information: (not part of the Register Search Statement)

OTHER TITLES WITH INTERESTS AFFECTING THIS LAND 8621/490, 11069/707, 11069/708

Street Address:



#### ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICES

NIL



# FEEDBACK





Presented by | Phil Nolan, Risk Manager, LPLC