

# PLYMOUTH COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS

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## MEMORANDUM

To: All Registry Users  
From: John R. Buckley, Jr., Register  
Michael P. Holden, Asst. Register  
Re: Multiple Documents/Multifunctional Documents  
Date: July 14, 2008

On December 22, 2005, a Memorandum issued outlining new indexing standards adopted by the Massachusetts Registers and Assistant Registers Association requiring additional recording fees for multiple documents and multifunctional documents. Shortly thereafter, Plymouth County suspended the additional charges pending further clarification.

On July 13, 2008, Governor Patrick signed the FY '09 budget which included outside sections amending Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 262, § 38 and Chapter 44B, § 8 to require additional recording fees for multiple documents/multifunctional documents. The amendments provide that when a document includes multiple references to a document or instrument intending or attempting to assign, discharge, release, partially release, subordinate or notice any other document or instrument, each reference shall be separately indexed and separately assessed an additional recording fee.

Outside Section 116 provided that these amendments take effect retroactively, as of March 5, 2003. While the Registry will not be making any effort to apply the amendments retroactively, we are required to apply them prospectively without delay.

Please feel free to contact Assistant Register Michael P. Holden at (508) 830-9292 with any questions.