

RECORDING REQUIREMENTS
Act 103 of 1937

AN ACT to prescribe certain conditions relative to the execution of instruments entitled to be recorded in the office of the register of deeds.

History: 1937, Act 103, Eff. Oct. 29, 1937.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

565.201 Requirements for recording with register of deeds.

Sec. 1. (1) An instrument executed after October 29, 1937 by which the title to or any interest in real estate is conveyed, assigned, encumbered, or otherwise disposed of shall not be received for record by the register of deeds of any county of this state unless that instrument complies with each of the following requirements:

(a) The name of each person purporting to execute the instrument is legibly printed, typewritten, or stamped beneath the original signature or mark of the person.

(b) A discrepancy does not exist between the name of each person as printed, typewritten, or stamped beneath their signature and the name as recited in the acknowledgment or jurat on the instrument.

(c) The name of any notary public whose signature appears upon the instrument is legibly printed, typewritten, or stamped upon the instrument immediately beneath the signature of that notary public.

(d) The address of each of the grantees in each deed of conveyance or assignment of real estate, including the street number address if located within territory where street number addresses are in common use, or, if not, the post office address, is legibly printed, typewritten, or stamped on the instrument.

(e) If the instrument is executed before April 1, 1997, each sheet of the instrument is all of the following:

(i) Typewritten or printed in type not smaller than 8-point size.

(ii) Not more than 8-1/2 by 14 inches.

(iii) Legible.

(iv) On paper of not less than 13 (17x22—500) pound weight.

(f) If the instrument is executed after April 1, 1997, each sheet of the instrument complies with all of the following requirements:

(i) Has a margin of unprinted space that is at least 2-1/2 inches at the top of the first page and at least 1/2 inch on all remaining sides of each page.

(ii) Subject to subsection (3), displays on the first line of print on the first page of the instrument a single statement identifying the recordable event that the instrument evidences.

(iii) Is electronically, mechanically, or hand printed in 10-point type or the equivalent of 10-point type.

(iv) Is legibly printed in black ink on white paper that is not less than 20-pound weight.

(v) Is not less than 8-1/2 inches wide and 11 inches long or more than 8-1/2 inches wide and 14 inches long.

(vi) Contains no attachment that is less than 8-1/2 inches wide and 11 inches long or more than 8-1/2 inches wide and 14 inches long.

(g) Unless state or federal law, rule, regulation, or court order or rule requires that all or more than 4 sequential digits of the social security number appear in the instrument, beginning on 1 of the following dates the first 5 digits of any social security number appearing in or on the instrument are obscured or removed:

(i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii), the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subdivision.

(ii) For an instrument presented to the register of deeds by the department of treasury, April 1, 2008.

(2) Subsection (1)(e) and (f) does not apply to instruments executed outside this state or to the filing or recording of a plat or other instrument, the size of which is regulated by law.

(3) A register of deeds shall not record an instrument executed after April 1, 1997 if the instrument purports to evidence more than 1 recordable event.

(4) Any instrument received and recorded by a register of deeds shall be conclusively presumed to comply with this act. The requirements contained in this act are cumulative to the requirements imposed by any other act relating to the recording of instruments.

(5) An instrument that complies with the provisions of this act and any other act relating to the recording of instruments shall not be rejected for recording because of the content of the instrument.

History: 1937, Act 103, Eff. Oct. 29, 1937;—Am. 1941, Act 179, Eff. Jan. 10, 1942;—Am. 1945, Act 213, Eff. Sept. 6, 1945;—CL 1948, 565.201;—Am. 1963, Act 150, Eff. Sept. 6, 1963;—Am. 1964, Act 196, Eff. Jan. 1, 1965;—Am. 1996, Act 459, Eff. Apr. 1, 1997;—Am. 2002, Act 19, Imd. Eff. Mar. 4, 2002;—Am. 2007, Act 56, Imd. Eff. Sept. 12, 2007.

565.201a Recording requirements; scrivener's name and address on recorded instruments.

Sec. 1a. Each instrument described in section 1 executed after January 1, 1964 shall contain the name of the person who drafted the instrument and the business address of such person.

History: Add. 1963, Act 150, Eff. Sept. 6, 1963.

565.202 Affidavit; contents.

Sec. 2. The register of deeds shall, however, receive any such instrument for record, although the same does not comply with the requirements of this act: Provided, There is recorded therewith an affidavit of some person having personal knowledge of the facts, which affidavit shall be either printed or typewritten, shall comply with the requirements of this act, and shall state therein:

(a) The correct name of any person, the name of whom was not printed, typewritten or stamped upon such instrument as required by this act;

(b) In case such instrument does not comply with the requirements of paragraph (b) of section 1, the correct name of such person and shall state that each of the names used in such instrument refer to such person.

History: 1937, Act 103, Eff. Oct. 29, 1937;—CL 1948, 565.202.

565.203 Inapplicability of act.

Sec. 3. The provisions of this act shall not apply to the following instruments: any decree, order, judgment or writ of any court, will, death certificate, or any instrument executed or acknowledged outside of the state of Michigan. The provisions of paragraphs (a), (c) and (d) of section 1 shall not apply to any instrument upon which the signature itself is printed, typewritten or stamped.

History: 1937, Act 103, Eff. Oct. 29, 1937;—CL 1948, 565.203.

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