



PROBATE ADVISORY For Probate, Conservatorship and Guardianship Properties

The sale of the Property described as (address) \_\_\_\_\_, pursuant to the attached Probate Purchase Agreement (C.A.R. form PPA-11), is made under authority of the California Probate Code. The Seller is not the title owner, but instead is a representative of a probate estate, a guardianship or a conservatorship. The sale may require a court order. Many obligations imposed upon sellers, particularly sellers of real property containing one-to-four dwelling units, may not be applicable to the sale of this property. However, even though the seller is exempt from many obligations, the seller must still comply with many others. Further, any real estate licensee representing Buyer or Seller in the transaction may have duties independent of the principals. This Advisory is intended to inform Buyer and Seller of their rights and obligations independent of those established by the attached agreement.

EXEMPTIONS:

- 1. TDS, NHD, Mello-Roos: Seller is exempt from providing Buyer with the Real Estate Transfer Disclosure Statement (TDS), Natural Hazard Disclosure Statement (NHD), and a Mello-Roos district lien disclosure, pursuant to California Civil Code either for "transfers pursuant to court order" or for "transfers by a fiduciary in the course of the administration of a decedent's estate, guardianship, conservatorship, or trust."
2. Earthquake Guides: Seller is exempt from providing either a Homeowner's or Commercial Property Owner's Guide to Earthquake Safety.
3. Smoke Detectors: The sale is exempt from the State requirements that, for single family residences, operable smoke detectors be in place and that a written statement of compliance be provided to Buyer.

REQUIREMENTS:

- 1. Disclosures: Seller is not exempt from common law and statutory duties concerning fraud and deceit, even though the specific TDS form is not required to be completed. Seller remains obligated to disclose known material facts affecting the value and desirability of the property.
2. Hazard Zones: Seller is not exempt from applicable statutory obligations to disclose earthquake fault zones, seismic hazard zones, state fire responsibility areas, very high fire hazard severity zones, special flood hazard areas and flood hazard zones pursuant to the Public Resources Code, Government Code and United States Code, even though, pursuant to the Civil Code, the specific NHD form is not required to be completed.
3. Water Heaters: The sale is not exempt from the State requirement that water heaters be properly anchored, braced or strapped.
4. Lead-based Paint: The Seller is not exempt from the federal obligation to (i) disclose known lead-based paint and lead-based paint hazards, (ii) provide Buyer copies of reports or studies covering lead-based paint and hazards on the property, (iii) provide Buyer with the pamphlet "Protect Your Family From Lead In Your Home," and (iv) give Buyer a 10-day opportunity to inspect for lead-based paint and hazards, if the Property contains residential dwelling units and was constructed prior to 1978.
5. Data Base Disclosure: The sale is not exempt from the requirement that residential sales contracts contain a notice regarding the availability of information about registered sex offenders.

Buyer and Seller acknowledge receipt of copy of this page, which constitutes Page 1 of \_\_\_\_\_ Pages. Buyer's Initials (\_\_\_\_\_) (\_\_\_\_\_) Seller's Initials (\_\_\_\_\_) (\_\_\_\_\_)

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PROBATE ADVISORY (PAK-11 PAGE 1 OF 2)

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Tax Withholding:** The sale is not exempt from the obligation of the buyer to withhold a portion of the purchase price under federal law if the transferor is a "foreign person" or under state law if the transferor had a last known street address outside of California. **Federal:** For federal purposes, a non-resident alien includes a fiduciary. An administrator or executor of an estate is treated as a non-resident even if all beneficiaries are citizens or residents of the United States. **State:** If the decedent was a California resident at the time of death, the estate is treated as a California resident regardless of the residency of the executor or administrator.

**7. Brokers:**

**A. Inspection:** The sale is not exempt from the Broker's obligation to conduct a reasonably competent and diligent visual inspection of the accessible areas of the property and disclose to Buyer material facts revealed by such an inspection in the sale of residential property containing one-to-four dwelling units. Brokers may do so on C.A.R. form AID-11.

**B. Agency:** The sale is not exempt from the obligation to provide agency relationship disclosure and confirmation forms in the sale of residential property containing one-to-four dwelling units.

**OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

**1. Local Law:** Local law may impose obligations on the transfer of real property (such as the installation of low flow toilets or shower heads, or installation of smoke detectors). Local law should be consulted to determine if sales made under the authority of the California Probate Code are exempt from such requirements.

**2. Death:** If the Property is being sold under authority of the Probate Code because of the death of an owner of the Property and if Buyer has concerns about the manner, location or details of the death, then Buyer should direct any specific questions to the executor or administrator of the estate.

**3. Stock Cooperatives:** If the Property is part of a stock cooperative (Co-op), Buyer may be required to seek approval of the Board or Owner's Association of the Co-op prior to transfer of title. If this is not a contingency of the sale, failure of Buyer to gain approval of the Co-op board will not provide grounds for cancellation or rescission of the sale.

**4. Court Confirmation/Independent Authority:**

The representative of a decedent's estate may receive authority to sell the Property under the Independent Administration of Estates Act (IAEA). In order to do so, the representative must first petition the Probate Court. The Petition may be made at the time the representative is approved or any other time. Notice of the Petition is given to heirs, devisees, executors and other interested persons, any of whom may object.

If IAEA authority is granted it may be full or limited. If only limited authority has been granted, the sale must be confirmed by the court. If full authority has been granted, the representative must first give a notice of the proposed sale to the devisees and heirs of the decedent and other interested parties. If no objection is received, the sale may proceed. If any noticed person objects, the sale may require court confirmation. Note: A representative with full authority has the option of proceeding to court for confirmation even if not required to do so under the Probate Code.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Buyer \_\_\_\_\_

Seller \_\_\_\_\_

Buyer \_\_\_\_\_

Seller \_\_\_\_\_

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Page 2 of \_\_\_\_\_ Pages.

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