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Quit Claim Deed Information

by Josh Chetwynd

• Overview

Quit claim deeds are real estate documents that transfer whatever interest one party has in a property to another party without any promises that third parties might have some claim to the property.

What quit claim deeds don't do

The grantee (the person getting the property) must be aware that because the grantor (the person giving the property rights) makes no promises with a quit claim deed, the grantee may be responsible for such matters as another claim of ownership, liens, existing taxes, assessments, covenants, conditions and restrictions, rights of way and recorded easements.

How it differs from a warranty deed

The other basic type of deed is a warranty deed. In this form of deed, the grantor is legally promising (making a covenant of warranty) that the property is free and clear of any other interests.

Divorces

Quit claim deeds are often used as part of divorce settlements. In order to eliminate joint interest in a property, one party provides a quit claim to allow the other party to quickly assume full rights to the property.

Auctions

Another common use is when a property is sold at auction to pay an outstanding tax debt.

• Forms

Quit claim deeds can be conveyed with a basic form. These documents are readily available on the Internet, but be aware that the language required for these boilerplate documents vary from state-to-state.

References & Resources

- Definiton of quit claim deeds
- Site for quit claim deeds

About the Author

Josh Chetwynd has worked as a staff reporter for such publications as USA Today, U.S. News & World Report and The Hollywood Reporter, covering a broad range of subjects. He is a licensed lawyer and has also written two books on international baseball.