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A newsletter for the Legal, Banking and Title
Communities –

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STATE FURLOUGHS:

Many of you are no doubt aware that the great state of Pennsylvania is once again being a great pain because of their even greater inability to pass a budget this, and it seems every year. The latest word we have is that the furlough of 25,000 state employees will only affect the issuance of lien certificate from the Department of Revenue. The Corporation Bureau, we were told this morning, will be largely unaffected.

What this means to you: Starting Monday LIEN CERTIFICATE processing and issuance will stop completely if the budget is not approved this weekend. This may mean that you will have to postpone any closings that require the seller or buyer to provide a Corporate Tax Lien Certificate.

As far as GOOD STANDINGS, CERTIFIED COPIES and all BUSINESS & UCC FILINGS, these services **should be unaffected** as there will be only minimal furlough disruption at the Corporation Bureau.

In what seems mostly like a futile attempt to get “the decision makers” to see the light, I have been on the phone all day so far trying to get the two Revenue employees reclassified as “essential personnel” and hence avoid this problem. The Secretary of Revenue was sympathetic but his “hands were tied” so it seems that it will take direct action by the Governor to change the status quo. If you know the Governor, and many of you in Philly seem to, it can’t hurt for you to bend his ear to tell him that processing lien certificates should be considered an essential service. A lot of loan commitments may expire if you can’t hold closing in a certain amount of time and if you can’t get the lien certificate you more than likely can’t hold the closing.

The phone number to the **Governor’s Office** is: **717-787-2500** which is a general number. If you know Gov. Rendell personally or know someone who does it might be best to get word to him through back channels. Also, please call your state Senator. To find out who your senator is go to HYPERLINK "<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/index.cfm>" <http://www.legis.state.pa.us/index.cfm> and look in the top right corner.

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

Like the crippled atomic plant at Middletown, the financial stability of Pennsylvania remains far from resolution. Going into the 1980's, it may even be insoluble.”
Pennsylvania Politics Today and Yesterday – The Tolerable Accommodation by Paul B. Beers (The Pennsylvania State University Press – 1980) p. 456.

THOUGHTS OF THE DAY re: QUOTE OF THE DAY:

As she sat by the front window of her home gazing out at the hustle and bustle on the main street in Carlisle, PA, a very elderly woman once said to me, “nothing ever changes.” Perhaps she was correct. Every year it seems to be the same story with the budget. This year, for the first time in my memory, it looks like this budget impasse will affect some essential services that we at Esquire Assist provide.

Those of you who order lien certificates already know how hard it is to obtain them. Add a work stoppage and the backup will only get much worse. We are getting this info to you as soon as we could so you can anticipate problems and make the appropriate plans.

Perhaps we should return to the Quaker decision making model. The Quakers, I have read but unfortunately can not find the quote at this minute (it is I believe from a book on Utopian Communities), believed that no one person has all the truth, but that we each have some part of it within us. Decision making was then a communal responsibility where one member could block a policy if that member thought it would have a detrimental effect on the body as a whole. Hmmm... on second thought it sounds like that's what we have already.

Thank you....

ON A LIGHTER NOTE:

We now have two web sites under development. If you find yourself with any time and would like to look at both and tell us which you prefer, your input would be greatly appreciated.

The first contender is: HYPERLINK "<http://www.esquireassist.com>"

The contender in the other corner is:

Anthony DiSanto, President

