

CHAPTER 582

MORTGAGES; FORECLOSURE, GENERAL PROVISIONS

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582.031 LIMITED RIGHT OF ENTRY; DUTY TO ENTER AND PROTECT PREMISES.

Subdivision 1. **Right of entry.** (a) If premises described in a mortgage or sheriff's certificate are vacant or unoccupied, the holder of the mortgage or sheriff's certificate or the holder's agents and contractors may enter upon the premises to protect the premises from waste and trespass, until the holder of the mortgage or sheriff's certificate receives notice that the premises are occupied. The holder of the mortgage or sheriff's certificate does not become a mortgagee in possession by taking actions authorized or required under this section. An affidavit of the sheriff, the building or housing regulatory authority of a municipality in which the property is located, the holder of the mortgage or sheriff's certificate, or a person acting on behalf of the holder, describing the premises and stating that the same are vacant or unoccupied, is prima facie evidence of the facts stated in the affidavit and is entitled to be recorded in the office of the county recorder or the registrar of titles in the county where the premises are located, if it contains a legal description of the premises.

(b) If the holder of a sheriff's certificate knows that there is prima facie evidence of abandonment of the property, as described in section 582.032, subdivision 7, clauses (1) to (6), the holder or the holder's agents:

(1) shall enter the premises and make reasonable periodic inspections, install or change the locks on all doors, install locks on all windows that do not have locks, and ensure that any existing window locks are functioning properly; and

(2) may, to protect the premises from waste, trespass, or falling below minimum community standards for public safety and sanitation, enter the premises and board windows, doors, and other openings; install and operate an alarm system; and otherwise prevent or minimize damage to the premises from the elements, vandalism, trespass, or other illegal activity.

(c) Upon an installation or change of locks as required by this section, the holder of a sheriff's certificate must deliver a key to the premises to the mortgagor or any person lawfully claiming through the mortgagor, upon request.

Subd. 2. **Authorized actions.** The holder of the mortgage or sheriff's certificate may take the following actions to protect the premises from waste, trespass, or from falling below minimum community standards for public safety and sanitation: make reasonable periodic inspections; install or change locks on doors and windows; board windows, doors, and other openings; install and operate an alarm system; and otherwise prevent or minimize damage to the premises from the elements, vandalism, trespass, or other illegal activities. If the holder of the mortgage or sheriff's certificate installs or changes locks under this section, a key to the premises must be promptly delivered to the mortgagor or any person lawfully claiming through the mortgagor, upon request.

Subd. 3. **Costs.** All costs incurred by the holder of the mortgage or sheriff's certificate to protect the premises from waste or trespass or from falling below minimum community standards for public safety and sanitation may be added to the principal balance of the mortgage or the costs allowable upon redemption. The costs may bear interest to the extent

provided in the mortgage and may be added to the redemption price if the costs are incurred after a foreclosure sale. If the costs are incurred after a foreclosure sale, the holder of any sheriff's certificate of sale or certificate of redemption must comply with the provisions of section 582.03. The provisions of this section are in addition to, and do not limit or replace, any other rights or remedies available to holders of mortgages and sheriff's certificates, at law or under the applicable mortgage agreements.

History: 2009 c 123 s 9

582.032 FIVE-WEEK REDEMPTION PERIOD; CERTAIN ABANDONED PROPERTIES.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.2008]

Subd. 2. Before foreclosure sale. Notwithstanding section 580.23 or 581.10, if at any time before the foreclosure sale but not more than 30 days before the first publication of the notice of sale, a court order is entered reducing the mortgagor's redemption period to five weeks under subdivision 7, after the mortgaged premises have been sold as provided in chapter 580 or 581, the mortgagor, and the mortgagor's personal representatives or assigns, within five weeks after the sale under chapter 580, or within five weeks after the date of the order confirming the sale under chapter 581, may redeem the mortgaged premises as provided in section 580.23, subdivision 1, or 581.10, as applicable.

[For text of subd 3, see M.S.2008]

Subd. 4. Summons and complaint. In a foreclosure by advertisement, the party foreclosing a mortgage or holding the sheriff's certificate of sale or the political subdivision in which the mortgaged premises are located may initiate a proceeding in district court to reduce the mortgagor's redemption period under this section. The proceeding must be initiated by the filing of a complaint, naming the mortgagor, or the mortgagor's personal representatives or assigns of record, as defendant, in district court for the county in which the mortgaged premises are located. If the proceeding is initiated by a political subdivision, the party foreclosing the mortgage or holding the sheriff's certificate of sale must also be named as a defendant, and the summons and complaint shall be delivered by certified mail to the foreclosing attorney. If the proceeding is commenced after the foreclosure sale, the holders of junior liens and interests entitled to notice under subdivision 3 must also be named as defendants. The complaint must identify the mortgaged premises by legal description and must identify the mortgage by the names of the mortgagor and mortgagee, and any assignee of the mortgagee; the date of its making; and pertinent recording information. The complaint must allege that the mortgaged premises are:

- (1) ten acres or less in size;
- (2) improved with a residential dwelling consisting of less than five units, which is not a model home or a dwelling under construction;
- (3) not property used in agricultural production; and
- (4) abandoned.

The complaint must request an order reducing the mortgagor's redemption period to five weeks. When the complaint has been filed, the court shall issue a summons commanding the person or persons named in the complaint to appear before the court on a day and at a place stated in the summons. The appearance date shall be not less than 15 nor more than 25 days from the date of the issuing of the summons. A copy of the filed complaint must be attached to the summons.

Subd. 5. Order to show cause. In a foreclosure by action, the plaintiff or the holder of the sheriff's certificate may make a motion to reduce the mortgagor's redemption period under this section. The political subdivision in which the mortgaged premises are located may intervene in the action and make a motion to reduce the redemption period. The

motion must conform generally to the pleading requirements provided in subdivision 4. For purposes of the motion, the court has continuing jurisdiction over the parties and the mortgaged premises through the expiration of the redemption period. When the motion has been filed, the court shall issue an order to show cause commanding the parties it considers appropriate to appear before the court on a day and at a place stated in the order. The appearance date may not be less than 15 nor more than 25 days after the date of the order to show cause. A copy of the motion must be attached to the order to show cause.

[For text of subd 6, see M.S.2008]

Subd. 7. Hearing; evidence; order. At the hearing on the summons and complaint or order to show cause, the court shall enter an order reducing the mortgagor's redemption period as provided in subdivision 2 or 3, as applicable, if evidence is presented supporting the allegations in the complaint or motion and no appearance is made to oppose the relief sought. An affidavit by the sheriff or a deputy sheriff of the county in which the mortgaged premises are located, or of a building inspector, zoning administrator, housing official, or other municipal or county official having jurisdiction over the mortgaged premises, stating that the mortgaged premises are not actually occupied and further setting forth any of the following supporting facts, is prima facie evidence of abandonment:

- (1) windows or entrances to the premises are boarded up or closed off, or multiple window panes are broken and unrepaired;
- (2) doors to the premises are smashed through, broken off, unhinged, or continuously unlocked;
- (3) gas, electric, or water service to the premises has been terminated;
- (4) rubbish, trash, or debris has accumulated on the mortgaged premises;
- (5) the police or sheriff's office has received at least two reports of trespassers on the premises, or of vandalism or other illegal acts being committed on the premises; or
- (6) the premises are deteriorating and are either below or are in imminent danger of falling below minimum community standards for public safety and sanitation.

An affidavit of the party foreclosing the mortgage or holding the sheriff's certificate, or one of their agents or contractors, stating any of the above supporting facts, and that the affiant has changed locks on the mortgaged premises under section 582.031 and that for a period of ten days no party having a legal possessory right has requested entrance to the premises, is also prima facie evidence of abandonment. Either affidavit described above, or an affidavit from any other person having knowledge, may state facts supporting any other allegations in the complaint or motion and is prima facie evidence of the same. Written statements of the mortgagor, the mortgagor's personal representatives or assigns, including documents of conveyance, which indicate a clear intent to abandon the premises, are conclusive evidence of abandonment. In the absence of affidavits or written statements, or if rebuttal evidence is offered by the defendant or a party lawfully claiming through the defendant, the court may consider any competent evidence, including oral testimony, concerning any allegation in the complaint or motion. A defendant's failure to appear at the hearing after service of process in compliance with subdivision 6 is conclusive evidence of abandonment by the defendant, subject to vacation under Rule 60.02 of the Minnesota Rules of Civil Procedure. An order entered under this section must contain a legal description of the mortgaged premises.

[For text of subd 8, see M.S.2008]

History: 2009 c 123 s 10-13

582.039 MEDIATION NOTICE FOR AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.2008]

Subd. 2. **Contents.** A mediation notice must contain the following notice with the blanks properly filled in.

"TO:(Name of Record Owner)....

YOU HAVE DEFAULTED ON THE MORTGAGE OF THE AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS(Size and Reasonable Location, Not Legal Description). THE AMOUNT OF THE OUTSTANDING DEBT ON THIS PROPERTY IS(Amount of Debt)....

AS HOLDER OF THE MORTGAGE,(Name of Holder of Mortgage).... INTENDS TO FORECLOSE ON THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED ABOVE.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE THE MORTGAGE DEBT REVIEWED FOR MEDIATION. IF YOU REQUEST MEDIATION, A DEBT THAT IS IN DEFAULT WILL BE MEDIATED ONLY ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT REQUEST MEDIATION, THIS DEBT WILL NOT BE SUBJECT TO FUTURE MEDIATION IF THE SECURED PARTY ENFORCES THE DEBT.

IF YOU PARTICIPATE IN MEDIATION, THE DIRECTOR OF THE AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE WILL PROVIDE AN ORIENTATION MEETING AND A FINANCIAL ANALYST TO HELP YOU PREPARE FINANCIAL INFORMATION. IF YOU DECIDE TO PARTICIPATE IN MEDIATION, IT WILL BE TO YOUR ADVANTAGE TO ASSEMBLE YOUR FARM FINANCE AND OPERATION RECORDS AND TO CONTACT A COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. MEDIATION WILL ATTEMPT TO ARRIVE AT AN AGREEMENT FOR HANDLING FUTURE FINANCIAL RELATIONS.

TO HAVE THE MORTGAGE DEBT REVIEWED FOR MEDIATION YOU MUST FILE A MEDIATION REQUEST WITH THE DIRECTOR WITHIN 14 DAYS AFTER YOU RECEIVE THIS NOTICE. THE MEDIATION REQUEST FORM IS AVAILABLE AT ANY COUNTY RECORDER'S OR COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE.

FROM:(Name and Address of Holder of Mortgage)...."

History: 2009 c 94 art 1 s 96

NOTE: This section expires June 30, 2013. Section 583.215, as added by Laws 2005, chapter 107, article 2, section 55, as amended by Laws 2009, chapter 94, article 1, section 97.