## California Consumer REPORT

**DECEMBER 2015 ISSUE** 

CALIFORNIA TITLE COMPANY HAS A VESTED INTEREST IN THE CONSUMERS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.



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IT HAS ARRIVED!

MOBILE APP for

# ANDROID

Now you can take full advantage of your powerful smartphone with our native Android app that brings the tools you love from California Title Company to your pocket.

## Enjoy access to:

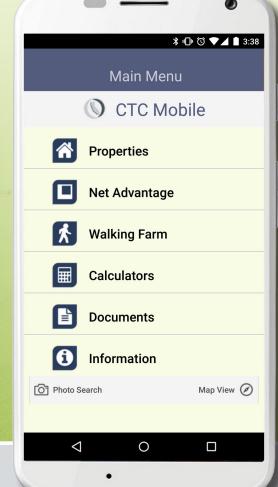
- Property Profiles
- Walking Farm
- Sales Comps
- Interactive Maps
- Helpful Documents
- Closing Cost and Fee Calculators
- Much Morel

Powerful information at your fingertips.

Automatically synchronized with our desktop website.



Head over to the Google Play store and search for CTC Mobile. Try CTC Mobile on Android for free today.



## TITLE INSURANCE PROVIDES NEEDED PROTECTION WHEN REFINANCING MORTGAGES

Title insurance is essential to protect homeowners and lenders against any problems affecting the title to a home. Whether a consumer is purchasing a new or existing home, or refinancing, title insurance provides an underwriting service to mortgage lenders to ensure the borrower has clear ownership rights to the property, free and clear of any other claims to ownership.

When you refinance you are obtaining a new loan, even if you stay with your original lender. Lenders will usually require a new title search and loan policy to protect their investment in the property. Homeowners don't need to purchase a new owner's policy. The one they bought at closing is good for as long as they and their heirs have an interest in the property.

Even if you recently purchased or refinanced your home, there are some problems that could arise with the title. For instance, a homeowner may have incurred a mechanics lien from a contractor who claims he/she has not been paid. Or, a homeowner might have a judgment placed on their house due to unpaid taxes, homeowner dues, or child support for instance. The lender needs reassurance that the title to the property they are financing is clear. Here are some other examples of items that can arise and why title insurance is important when refinancing a home:

· Liens against the property that serve as security for the pay-

ment of an obligation (e.g., mortgage liens, judgment liens for unpaid court judgments, tax liens, state and local liens for failure to pay real estate taxes or assessments, mechanic's liens to secure payment for improvements, liens for recovery of child support payments or, as in New York City, for unpaid parking tickets);

- Easements that have been created by contract or arisen through use or adverse prescription (e.g., rights of way for utilities, rights acquired by neighbors because of a fence encroachment);
- Building or use restrictions contained in a recorded plats, agreements or deeds; and
- Rights or claims arising out of bankruptcy.

These rights may affect the use of the property or otherwise encumber the "ownership" rights of a property's owner. They can be placed on a property at any time, including during the time between when an original purchase mortgage is placed on the property and that mortgage is refinanced.

Depending on where you live, a discounted rate may be available. Check with your title company. You may need to provide a copy of the previous title policy.

\* This article is from www.homeclosing101.org

## CONVENIENT CALCULATING

No need to get frustrated about finding rates and dates associated with the new TRID changes. Our convenient tools available on our website and mobile app, gives you the freedom and info you need at the office or on the go.

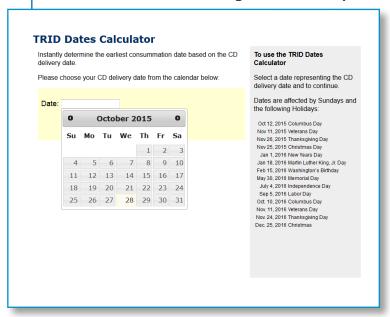
### RATE CALCULATOR

Online you can find the calculator right on the CFPB Info link from our home page.

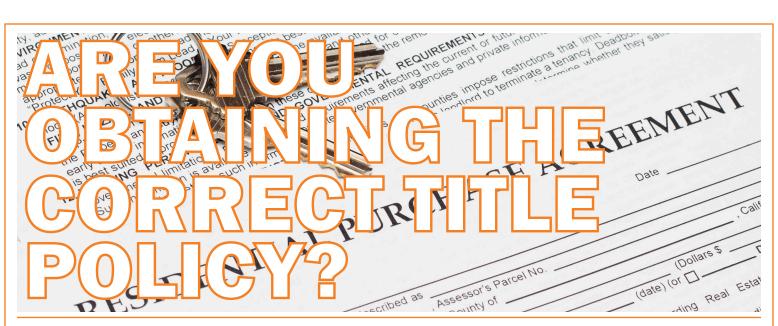
Rate Calculator California Title has multiple underwriters to benefit its customers. Policy amount could change depending on coverage, liability amount or underwriter. Contact your local office for more information.  Use the calculator below to determine an estimate for Title/Escrow rates.
Interactive Rate Calculator
Quote Type:   Purchase  Refinance
Property Zip Code:
Purchase Price:
Concurrent Loan With Sale: (optional)
Continue
Description of Rate Quote Results  Standard Coverage Policy None residential, more than 4 units, vacant land.  ALTA Homeowners Policy Includes enhanced coverages on a 1-4 unit residential property.  Refi Rate Refinance of existing loan insuring new lender.  ALTA Concurrent with Homeowners Insures new lender in purchase transactions.  The California Title rate calculator generates an estimate only, please contact us for more information.

### TRID DATES CALCULATOR

Use the TRID Dates Calculator to find the earliest consummation date based on the closing disclosure delivery date.



Call your California Title Rep if you need further assistance on using either one of these features.



Not understanding the California Residential Purchase Agreement (RPA) can put everyone at risk, including you!

## Here's how you protect your buyers, sellers and yourself:

0

### **Read Your Preliminary Report!**

This tells you what type of policy the title company is offering. Look for the "Homeowner's Policy."

2

Ask your escrow officer to confirm any title discounts offered to the seller.

#### Title discounts in California are unlawful rebates.

If the title company is discounting their title fee for the seller, chances are they are issuing less coverage (Standard Policy). This puts everyone at risk and is not per the RPA (see section 13E). The Homeowner's Policy is typically paid for by the seller, but insures your buyer.



3

Write in California Title Company to be sure!

We've built our success around integrity and honesty.

Call your California Title Rep if you would like help reviewing the Preliminary Title Report. We can make sure you are getting the right coverage.

## REMINDER

CALIFORNIA TITLE COMPANY is proud to announce that in July of 2015 it has completed its <u>SOC 2 Type II</u> <u>Independent Service Auditor's Report (SSAE 16)</u> examination and was certified with "NO EXCEPTIONS" to the ALTA "Best Practices" protocols.

California Title was among the first companies (Q1, 2014) to receive the SSAE 16 reports with NO EXCEPTIONS!!

Another example of how we work hard for real estate professionals and the consumers we serve!

## FEATURED EMPLOYEE

#### Kurt Streeter, Title Assistant

Kurt Streeter is a 28 year veteran in the title industry and 17 of those years have been with California Title Company. Kurt works as one of the title assistants within the Title Department and he is known for taking pride in the relationships he has built with clients, particularly escrow personnel. Through the hustle and bustle of the title department, he has a reputation of following through with clients and 'getting the job done' effectively. Kurt's native roots to San Diego also aids in understanding the San Diego terrain. He resides in Ramona with his wife and two sons. Some of the activities he enjoys include riding his Harley in the back country and playing golf with friends or family. You can always count on Kurt to have an engaging conversation about some local sports as he is a knowledgeable sports enthusiast watching San Diego professional teams with family and friends.

## "ASK CHUCK"



Chuck Bishop. Sr. Title Officer

Q: Your office provided the Title Insurance when we purchased some vacant property recently. Now we are planning to develop the land. The City has asked for proof that we are the owners, and are the parties who can sign their applications. Can your office write a letter to the effect?

A. Sorry, but we are unable to provide such a document. This appears to be a request for a legal opinion which only an Attorney can provide. Our industry provides coverage in the form of guarantees and policies of Title Insurance (such as what we issued on your transaction.) All of these policies and guarantees must be in forms approved by the California Department of Insurance. What you have requested does not appear to be one of these "approved" items. However, please check with the people you are dealing with at the City. We have a number of guarantee forms available, these include Subdivision or Parcel Map Guarantees. In many cases, one of these products will

satisfy the City and help you complete your project.

## ONLINE & MOBILE TOOL

**Online Property Information** Through our Title Advantage system you can pull property information from any state in the U.S. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Net Advantage** A Closing Cost Estimator for real estate transactions that is available in desktop and mobile versions with real-time wireless sync.

**Online Information Library** We have compiled a wealth of information for agents and consumers alike. You'll find title insurance and real estate-related articles as well as local community information, event blogs and maps.

**Real Estate News** Stay up-to-date with the latest market news and trends with real-time real estate news, RSS feeds and California Title's News Blog.

email Property Profile reports, browse through previously created Property Profiles and even view property information based on your GPS location.

California Title's News Blog www.caltitlenews.wordpress.com

## CONTACTS

#### **CUSTOMER SERVICE/FARMING**

PH 619.516.5240 | FX 619.516.5249 | custserv@caltitle.com Debbie Gandy & Jesse Aquiningoc

### Contact our customer service team for the following items:

Hard Copy and/or Emailed Property Profiles Sales Comparables Plat Maps Ownership Information Farming Packages CC&R's Tax Rolls

Customer Service Hours: MON-FRI | 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
After Hours: Call your Cal Title Sales Rep or visit www.caltitle.com

### TITLE DEPARTMENT

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Karen Ludden, Title Assistant, ext. 115 titlesd@caltitle.com Dave Turner, Title Assistant, ext. 110 titlesd@caltitle.com

Chuck Bishop, Vice President & Title Manager

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CELL 619.843.2264 | chuckb@caltitle.com

## SD - USEFUL WEBSITES

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