

Kent County

Office of the Recorder of Deeds

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Subject: Recorder of Deeds Office Redaction of Personal Identifying Information Not Specifically Mentioned in Law

1. As the Recorder of Deeds for Kent County, Delaware, I have a responsibility to serve the citizens of Kent County and stakeholders engaged in all legitimate transactions as prescribed by law. I directed my staff to employ property records industry standards and best practices and couple excellent customer service with public outreach to make property transactions safer, faster, and more convenient for everyone.
2. 9 Delaware § 9627 (a) authorizes the recorder "to establish administrative procedures to allow a party who has previously been a signatory on an instrument for recordation to request that the recorder redact personal identifying information. Personal identifying information shall include: bank and credit card account numbers; the first 5 digits of a social security number; official state- or government-issued driver's license or identification numbers; alien registration numbers; government passport numbers and employer or taxpayer identification numbers."
3. The recorder shall have "no liability for failure to redact personal identifying information" according to 9 Delaware § 9605 (c). Thus, removing information from documents that are not strictly allowed in the law will not be done by this office until statute redefines personal identifying information or a request in writing is submitted for county attorney review. Customers who disagree may petition the Superior Court for appropriate relief.



HONORABLE EUGENIA THORNTON
Recorder of Deeds