

# **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS**



### Claiming Surplus Proceeds From Tax Foreclosure

If someone loses their property to the local government for not paying property taxes (tax foreclosure) and the government auctions the property for more than what is owed in back taxes, the previous owner is entitled to any remaining money after the sale.

This right remains even after the property officially belongs to the county.

### **Understanding the Claims Process**

- You must notify the County Treasurer of your intent to claim surplus proceeds, using Form 5743 by July 1, following foreclosure.
- In January, you will receive a notice, Form 5744, from the County Treasurer requesting you to file a motion with the Circuit Court.
- You must file a motion between February 1 and May 15 with the Circuit Court, immediately following the sale of the property.
- Must meet all deadlines to ensures you retain your right to the proceeds.

# **CLAIM YOUR MONEY**

## Seek Assistance From An Attorney Or Contact These Agencies For Help

#### Michigan Legal Help

For a step-by-step tool to claim proceeds, visit: michiganlegalhelp.org/resources/housing/do-it-yourself-motion-reclaim-proceeds-from-tax-foreclosure-sale

 Note that the step-by-step tool only works for former owners and instances where there are no other claimants for the proceeds.



#### Legal Aid of Western Michigan

25 Division Ave S Ste 300 Grand Rapids, MI 49503 616-774-0672 | Fax 616-774-2412 | lawestmi.org

#### Lawyer Referral and Information Service

Grand Rapids Bar Association 99 Monroe Suite 510 Grand Rapids, MI 49503 616-454-5550 | Fax 616-454-7707 | grbar.org

### Legal Assistance Center

180 Ottawa Ave NW, Suite 5100 Grand Rapids, MI 49503 616-632-6000 | www.legalassistancecenter.org

You can visit the Legal Assistance Center located on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Kent County 17<sup>th</sup> Circuit Courthouse. It is open Monday - Friday from 9am until 4pm Wednesday from 9am until 1pm. No appointment is needed.



For further details, contact the Kent County Treasurer at: 616-632-7500 | accesskent.com

**Peter MacGregor** Kent County Treasurer