

**RHONDA G. PAYNE  
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT  
CLERK OF STATE COURT**

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**Tammy Howard, Chief Deputy Clerk**  
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**PRESS RELEASE**

The Superior Court Clerks' Association of Georgia, Inc. wants to inform the state's citizens of the existence of private companies sending letters to home and property owners offering a retrieval service to provide the property owner with a copy of their "Grant Deed". The term Grant Deed is not commonly used in Georgia, but usually refers to the deed that transfers title to real property or a real property interest from one party (grantor) to another (grantee). The transfer is finalized when the deed is recorded in the office of the Clerk of Superior Court in the county in which the property lies.

In the letter, the company recommends that all U.S. homeowners obtain a copy of their current grant deed. The company will acquire the copy of the deed and deliver it to the landowner for a fee of \$87.00.

In Georgia, all recorded deeds are public record. Anyone can obtain a copy of a property deed for a fraction of this cost by visiting the Real Estate Division in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court in the county where the land lies and request a copy. Retrieval and receipt of a deed is typically \$1.00 per page, with most deeds consisting of just a few pages.

Many of these letters have been received by Georgia citizens nearing or enjoying their retirement age. All residents should be aware that while this service may be legitimate, there is no need to use such a service when anyone can get a copy of a deed for a nominal fee. We urge you to contact your local Clerk of Superior Court's office before paying a private company a premium for this service.

You may obtain a copy of your deed in the office of Rhonda G. Payne, Clerk of Superior Court in Douglas County.

Office Location: Douglas County Courthouse, 8700 Hospital Drive, Douglasville, Ga 30134. Office hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.