

SC REVENUE RULING #04-6

SUBJECT: Deed Recording Fee

EFFECTIVE DATE: Applies to all periods open under the statute.

SUPERSEDES: All previous documents and any oral directives in conflict herewith.

REFERENCES: S. C. Code Ann. Section 12-24-10 (2000)
S. C. Code Ann. Section 12-24-30 (2000)
S. C. Code Ann. Section 12-24-40 (2000; Supp. 2003)

AUTHORITY: S. C. Code Ann. Section 12-4-320 (2000)
S. C. Code Section 1-23-10(4) (Supp. 2003)
SC Revenue Procedure #03-1

SCOPE: The purpose of a Revenue Ruling is to provide guidance to the public and to Department personnel. It is a written statement issued to apply principles of tax law to a specific set of facts or a general category of taxpayers. **A Revenue Ruling does not have the force or effect of law, and is not binding on the public.** It is, however, the Department's position and is binding on agency personnel until superseded or modified by a change in statute, regulation, court decision, or advisory opinion.

Introduction:

South Carolina imposes a deed recording fee pursuant to Chapter 24 of Title 12. This fee is composed of two fees – a state fee of one dollar thirty cents for each five hundred dollars, or fractional part of five hundred dollars, of the realty's value and a county fee of fifty-five cents for each five hundred dollars, or fractional part of five hundred dollars, of the realty's value. The fee is collected by the office of the clerk of court or register of deeds, which remits the state portion of the fee to the Department of Revenue on a monthly basis.

Since the enactment of the deed recording fee in 1996, many questions concerning its application have arisen. The Department has previously addressed many of these questions in its Deed Recording Fee Manual (published in 1997), in Department advisory opinions, and through informal opinions provided to recording official, attorneys and taxpayers.

The purpose of this advisory opinion is to provide a comprehensive discussion of the application of the deed recording fee to a wide variety of real estate transactions. The opinion will “summarize” longstanding Department opinion concerning the taxability of these transactions.

Law and Discussion:

Code Section 12-24-10 imposes the deed recording fee and reads:

In addition to all other recording fees, a recording fee will be imposed for the privilege of recording a deed in which any lands and all improvements on the land, tenements, or other realty is transferred to another person. The fee is one dollar and eighty-five cents for each five hundred dollars, or fractional part of five hundred dollars, of the realty's value as determined by Section 12-24-30.

Code Section 12-24-30 defines the term “value” as used in the imposition and reads:

(A) For purposes of this chapter, the term “value” means the consideration paid or to be paid in money or money’s worth for the realty including other realty, personal property, stocks, bonds, partnership interest, and other intangible property, the forgiveness or cancellation of a debt, the assumption of a debt, and the surrendering of a right. The fair market value of the consideration must be used in calculating the consideration paid in money’s worth. Taxpayers may elect to use the fair market value of the realty being transferred in determining fair market value of the consideration under the provisions of this section. However, in the case of realty transferred between a corporation, a partnership, or other entity and its stockholder, partner, or owner, and in the case of realty transferred to a trust or as a distribution to a trust beneficiary, “value” means the realty’s fair market value.

(B) A deduction from value is allowed for the amount of any lien or encumbrance existing on the land, tenement, or realty before the transfer and remaining on the land, tenement, or realty after the transfer.

(C) Taxpayers may elect to use the fair market value as determined for property tax purposes in determining fair market value under the provisions of this section.

Code Section 12-24-40 provides several exemptions from the fee and reads:

Exempted from the fee imposed by this chapter are deeds:

- (1) transferring realty in which the value of the realty, as defined in Code Section 12-24-30, is equal to or less than one hundred dollars;
- (2) transferring realty to the federal government or to a state, its agencies and departments, and its political subdivisions, including school districts;
- (3) that are otherwise exempted under the laws and Constitution of this State or of the United States;
- (4) transferring realty in which no gain or loss is recognized by reason of Section 1041 of the Internal Revenue Code as defined in Section 12-6-40(A);
- (5) transferring realty in order to partition realty as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than the interests in the realty that are being exchanged in order to partition the realty;
- (6) transferring an individual grave space at a cemetery owned by a cemetery company licensed under Chapter 55 of Title 39;
- (7) that constitute a contract for the sale of timber to be cut;
- (8) transferring realty to a corporation, a partnership, or a trust as a stockholder, partner, or trust beneficiary of the entity or so as to become a stockholder, partner, or trust beneficiary of the entity as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than stock in the corporation, interest in the partnership, beneficiary interest in the trust, or the increase in value in such stock or interest held by the grantor. However, except for transfers from one family trust to another family trust without consideration, the transfer of realty from a corporation, a partnership, or a trust to a stockholder, partner, or trust beneficiary of the entity is subject to the fee, even if the realty is transferred to another corporation, a partnership, or trust;
- (9) transferring realty from a family partnership to a partner or from a family trust to a beneficiary, as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than a reduction in the grantee's interest in the partnership or trust. A "family partnership" is a partnership whose partners are all members of the same family. A "family trust" is a trust, in which the beneficiaries are all members of the same family. "Family" means the grantor, the grantor's spouse, parents, grandparents, sisters, brothers, children, stepchildren, grandchildren, and the spouses and lineal descendants of any the them, and the grantor's and grantor's spouse's heir under a statute of descent and distribution. A "family partnership" or "family trust" also includes charitable entities, other family

partnerships and family trusts of the grantor, and charitable remainder and charitable lead trusts, if all the beneficiaries are charitable entities or members of the grantor's family. A "charitable entity" means an entity which may receive deductible contributions under Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code as defined in Section 12-6-40(A);

(10) transferring realty in a statutory merger or consolidation from a constituent corporation to the continuing or new corporation;

(11) transferring realty in a merger or consolidation from a constituent partnership to the continuing or new partnership; and,

(12) that constitute a corrective deed or a quitclaim deed used to confirm title already vested in the grantee, provided that no consideration of any kind is paid or is to be paid under the corrective or quitclaim deed.

(13) transferring realty subject to a mortgage to the mortgagee whether by a deed in lieu of foreclosure executed by the mortgagor or deed executed pursuant to foreclosure proceedings.

(14) transferring realty from an agent to the agent's principal in which the realty was purchased with funds of the principal, provided that a notarized document is also filed with the deed that establishes the fact that the agent and principal relationship existed at the time of the original purchase as well as for the purpose of purchasing the realty.

(15) transferring title to facilities for transmitting electricity that is transferred, sold, or exchanged by electrical utilities, municipalities, electric cooperatives, or political subdivisions to a limited liability company which is subject to regulation under the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. Section 791(a)) and which is formed to operate or to take functional control of electric transmission assets as defined in the Federal Power Act;

Based on the above, the deed recording fee is imposed for the privilege of recording a deed based on the transaction of transferring realty from one person to another person.

When the consideration paid for realty is money, then the deed recording fee is based on the money paid.

When the consideration paid for realty is "money's worth" (e.g. other realty, stocks, forgiveness of debt), then the taxpayer must base the deed recording fee upon one of the following:

- (a) the fair market value of the consideration paid,
- (b) the fair market value of the realty being transferred, or

(c) the fair market value for property tax purposes of the realty being transferred.

When the realty is being “transferred between a corporation, a partnership, or other entity and its stockholder, partner, or owner, or the realty is being “transferred to a trust or as a distribution to a trust beneficiary,” then the taxpayer must base the deed recording fee upon one of the following:

(a) the fair market value of the realty being transferred, or

(b) the fair market value for property tax purposes of the realty being transferred.

It should also be noted that a “deduction from value is allowed for the amount of any lien or encumbrance existing on the land, tenement, or realty before the transfer and remaining on the land, tenement, or realty after the transfer.” As such, when the fair market value of the realty being transferred is used to calculate the fee, the value of the lien or encumbrance qualifying for this deduction may be deducted from the realty’s fair market value before calculating the deed recording fee due.

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Questions and Answers:

The following questions and answers are common transactions or transaction representing questions the Department has received from taxpayers, attorneys and recording officials.

Value:

1. What is the basis for the deed recording fee?

The basis for the deed recording fee is the realty's value. Code Section 12-24-30 defines the term "value" and states:

(A) For purposes of this chapter, the term "value" means the consideration paid or to be paid in money or money's worth for the realty including other realty, personal property, stocks, bonds, partnership interest, and other intangible property, the forgiveness or cancellation of a debt, the assumption of a debt, and the surrendering of a right. The fair market value of the consideration must be used in calculating the consideration paid in money's worth. Taxpayers may elect to use the fair market value of the realty being transferred in determining fair market value of the consideration under the provisions of this section. However, in the case of realty transferred between a corporation, a partnership, or other entity and its stockholder, partner, or owner, and in the case of realty transferred to a trust or as a distribution to a trust beneficiary, "value" means the realty's fair market value.

(B) A deduction from value is allowed for the amount of any lien or encumbrance existing on the land, tenement, or realty before the transfer and remaining on the land, tenement, or realty after the transfer.

(C) Taxpayers may elect to use the fair market value as determined for property tax purposes in determining fair market value under the provisions of this section.

2. If realty is transferred for money, and not money's worth such as services, other realty, forgiveness of debt, etc., what is the basis for the deed recording fee if the transaction does not involve realty transferred between a corporation, a partnership, or other entity and its stockholder, partner, or owner, or realty transferred to a trust or as a distribution to a trust beneficiary?

Code Section 12-24-30, in subsection (A), states that the fair market value of the realty may be used "in determining fair market value of the consideration under the provisions of this section." The only mention to fair market value in subsection (A) concerns when the consideration is in money's worth, or when the transaction involves a business entity and its owners or a trust. Subsection (C) allows the fair market value for property taxes to be used again only "in determining fair market value under the provisions of this section."

Therefore, if realty is transferred for money, and not money's worth, the basis for the deed recording fee is the money paid or to be paid if the transaction does not involve realty transferred between a corporation, a partnership, or other entity and its stockholder, partner, or owner, or realty transferred to a trust or as a distribution to a trust beneficiary. The realty's fair market value cannot be used in this case.

3. If realty is transferred for money's worth, such as services, other realty, forgiveness of debt, etc., what is the basis for the deed recording fee if the transaction does not involve realty transferred between a corporation, a partnership, or other entity and its stockholder, partner, or owner, or realty transferred to a trust or as a distribution to a trust beneficiary?

If realty is transferred for money's worth, such as services, other realty, forgiveness of debt, etc., and the transaction does not involve realty transferred between a corporation, a partnership, or other entity and its stockholder, partner, or owner, or realty transferred to a trust or as a distribution to a trust beneficiary, then the taxpayer must base the deed recording fee upon one of the following:

- (a) the fair market value of the consideration paid,
- (b) the fair market value of the realty being transferred, or
- (c) the fair market value for property tax purposes of the realty being transferred.

It should also be noted that a "deduction from value is allowed for the amount of any lien or encumbrance existing on the land, tenement, or realty before the transfer and remaining on the land, tenement, or realty after the transfer." As such, when the fair market value of the realty being transferred is used to calculate the fee, the value of the lien or encumbrance qualifying for this deduction may be deducted from the realty's fair market value before calculating the deed recording fee due.

4. What is the basis for the deed recording fee if the transaction involves realty transferred between a corporation, a partnership, or other entity and its stockholder, partner, or owner, or realty transferred to a trust or as a distribution to a trust beneficiary?

When the realty is being “transferred between a corporation, a partnership, or other entity and its stockholder, partner, or owner, or the realty is being “transferred to a trust or as a distribution to a trust beneficiary,” then the taxpayer must base the deed recording fee upon one of the following:

- (a) the fair market value of the realty being transferred, or
- (b) the fair market value for property tax purposes of the realty being transferred.

It should also be noted that a “deduction from value is allowed for the amount of any lien or encumbrance existing on the land, tenement, or realty before the transfer and remaining on the land, tenement, or realty after the transfer.” As such, when the fair market value of the realty being transferred is used to calculate the fee, the value of the lien or encumbrance qualifying for this deduction may be deducted from the realty’s fair market value before calculating the deed recording fee due.

Responsible Person Signing the Affidavit:

5. Who may sign the affidavit required under Code Section 12-24-70?

The affidavit required under Code Section 12-24-70 must be signed by a responsible person connected with the transaction and the affidavit must state that connection. A “responsible person connected with the transaction” includes, but is not limited to, the grantor, grantee, and an attorney involved in the transaction. However, secretaries, paralegals, runners, other administrative personnel do not qualify as a “responsible person connected with the transaction” and, therefore, may not sign the affidavit.

Realty Located in More Than One County:

6. If realty is located in more than one county, how should the deed recording fee be paid when the deed is filed in each county?

Code Section 12-24-50 answers this question and states:

The fee imposed by this chapter must be remitted to the clerk of court or the register of deeds in the county in which the realty is located and recorded. If the realty is located in more than one county, the person having the deed recorded in a county must state by affidavit what portion of the value of the realty is in that county and payment of the fee must be made based on the proportionate value of the realty located in that county.

Unrecorded Deeds:

7. Are deeds that transfer realty but are not recorded at the courthouse (the office of the clerk of court, register of deeds, register of mesne conveyance or other recording official) subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty but are not recorded at the courthouse (the office of the clerk of court, register of deeds, register of mesne conveyance or other recording official) are not subject to the deed recording fee since under Code Section 12-24-10 “recording fee is imposed for the privilege of recording a deed” and therefore the deed recording fee is not applicable until the deed is recorded.

Refunds:

8. What are the procedures for applying for a refund of the deed recording fee?

The procedures for applying for a refund of the deed recording fee can be found in SC Revenue Procedure #97-3.

Gifts From One Individual To Another Individual:

9. Are deeds that transfer realty from one individual to another individual as a gift (no consideration paid of any kind) subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from one individual to another individual as a gift (no consideration paid of any kind) are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(1).

Family Deeds:

10. Are deeds that transfer realty to a spouse subject to the deed recording?

Deeds that transfer realty to a spouse are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(4) regardless of whether or not any consideration was paid or will be paid for the transfer.

11. Are deeds that transfer realty to a family member, other than a spouse, subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty to a family member, other than a spouse, are subject to the deed recording fee based on the consideration paid for the realty, unless otherwise exempt from the deed recording fee. The following are examples of deeds between family members (other than spouses) that are subject to the deed recording fee unless otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40:

- a) a transfer to a brother for \$30,000.00,

- b) a transfer to a sister in exchange for the forgiveness of a debt,
- c) a transfer to a child for \$10,000.00
- d) a transfer to a brother in exchange for other realty, and
- e) a transfer to a sister in exchange for paying off the mortgage on the realty.

The following are examples of deeds between family members (other than spouses) that are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40:

- a) a transfer in which the consideration that is paid or will be paid is equal to or less than \$100.00 (12-24-40(1)),
- b) a transfer in order to partition realty, as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than the interests in the realty that are exchanged in order to effect the partition (12-24-40(5)),
- c) a transfer that constitutes a contract for the sale of timber to be cut (12-24-40(7)) (See questions concerning timber deeds.),
- d) a transfer in which the realty is subject to a mortgage and the family member receiving the realty is the mortgagee and the transfer constitutes a deed in lieu of foreclosure executed by the family member that is the mortgagor or a deed executed pursuant to a foreclosure proceeding (12-24-40(13)). (See questions concerning foreclosure proceedings.), and
- e) a transfer otherwise exempt under the provisions of Code Section 12-24-40.

12. Are deeds that transfer realty to a former spouse subject to the deed recording?

Deeds that transfer realty to a former spouse are subject to the deed recording fee based on the consideration paid for the realty, unless otherwise exempt from the deed recording fee. The following are examples of deeds to a former spouse that are subject to the deed recording fee unless otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40:

- a) a transfer in exchange for past due alimony payments when the transfer of the realty is not pursuant to the terms of the divorce decree or settlement,
- b) a transfer for \$30,000.00,
- c) a transfer in exchange for the forgiveness of a debt,
- d) a transfer in exchange for other realty, and

e) a transfer in exchange for paying off the mortgage on the realty.

The following are examples of deeds to a former spouse that are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40:

a) a transfer in which the consideration that is paid or will be paid is equal to or less than \$100.00 (12-24-40(1)),

b) a transfer pursuant to the terms of the divorce decree or settlement,

c) a transfer in order to partition realty, as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than the interests in the realty that are exchanged in order to effect the partition (12-24-40(5)),

d) a transfer that constitutes a contract for the sale of timber to be cut (12-24-40(7) (See questions concerning timber deeds.),

e) a transfer in which the realty is subject to a mortgage and the former spouse receiving the realty is the mortgagee and the transfer constitutes a deed in lieu of foreclosure executed by the grantor as the mortgagor or a deed executed pursuant to a foreclosure proceeding (12-24-40(13). (See questions concerning foreclosure proceedings.), and

f) a transfer otherwise exempt under the provisions of Code Section 12-24-40.

Charitable Deeds:

13. Are deeds that transfer realty to a church or other charitable organization subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty to a church or other charitable organization are subject to the deed recording fee based on the consideration paid for the realty¹, unless otherwise exempt from the deed recording fee. The following are examples of deeds to a church or other charitable organization that are subject to the deed recording fee unless otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40:

a) a transfer for \$50,000.00,

b) a transfer in exchange for other realty whether or not the transaction qualifies as a like-kind exchange for federal income tax purposes (Both deeds are subject to the deed recording fee.), and

¹ If, however, the church or other charitable organization is a stockholder, partner, limited liability company member, or trust beneficiary of the grantor (corporation, partnership, limited liability company or trust), then the deed recording fee is based on the fair market value of the realty or the fair market value of the realty for property tax purposes.

c) a transfer of realty with a fair market value of \$100,000.00 for only \$50,000.00 (The deed recording fee is based upon \$50,000.00.).

The following are examples of deeds to a church or other charitable organization that are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40:

a) a transfer in which the consideration that is paid or will be paid is equal to or less than \$100.00 (12-24-40(1)),

b) a transfer in order to partition realty, as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than the interests in the realty that are exchanged in order to effect the partition (12-24-40(5)),

d) a transfer that constitutes a contract for the sale of timber to be cut (12-24-40(7) (See questions concerning timber deeds.),

e) a transfer in which the realty is subject to a mortgage and the church or other charitable organization receiving the realty is the mortgagee and the transfer constitutes a deed in lieu of foreclosure executed by the grantor as the mortgagor or a deed executed pursuant to a foreclosure proceeding (12-24-40(13). (See questions concerning foreclosure proceedings.), and

f) a transfer otherwise exempt under the provisions of Code Section 12-24-40.

14. Are deeds that transfer realty from a church or other charitable organization to an individual or business subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from a church or other charitable organization to an individual or business are subject to the deed recording fee based on the consideration paid for the realty, unless otherwise exempt from the deed recording fee. The following are examples of deeds to a church or other charitable organization that are subject to the deed recording fee unless otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40:

a) a transfer for \$50,000.00, and

b) a transfer in exchange for other realty whether or not the transaction qualifies as a like-kind exchange for federal income tax purposes (Both deeds are subject to the deed recording fee.).

The following are examples of deeds from a church or other charitable organization to an individual or business that are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40:

a) a transfer in which the consideration that is paid or will be paid is equal to or less than \$100.00 (12-24-40(1)),

b) a transfer in order to partition realty, as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than the interests in the realty that are exchanged in order to effect the partition (12-24-40(5)),

d) a transfer that constitutes a contract for the sale of timber to be cut (12-24-40(7) (See questions concerning timber deeds.),

e) a transfer in which the realty is subject to a mortgage and the individual or business receiving the realty is the mortgagee and the transfer constitutes a deed in lieu of foreclosure executed by the church or other charitable organization as the mortgagor or a deed executed pursuant to a foreclosure proceeding (12-24-40(13). (See questions concerning foreclosure proceedings.), and

f) a transfer otherwise exempt under the provisions of Code Section 12-24-40.

Deeds from an Estate:

15. Are deeds that transfer realty from an estate to a beneficiary subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from an estate to a beneficiary are subject to the deed recording fee based on the consideration paid for the realty, unless otherwise exempt from the deed recording fee. The following are examples of deeds from an estate to a beneficiary that are subject to the deed recording fee unless otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40:

a) a transfer pursuant to the will where the will requires the beneficiary to pay a consideration for the realty, and

b) a transfer in which the beneficiary of the realty directs the personal representative of the estate to transfer the realty directly to a third party in exchange for a consideration paid to the personal representative or the beneficiary (e.g., cash, forgiveness of a debt, etc.)

The following are examples of deeds from an estate to a beneficiary that are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40:

a) a transfer in which the consideration that is paid or will be paid is equal to or less than \$100.00 (12-24-40(1)), and

b) a transfer otherwise exempt under the provisions of Code Section 12-24-40.

16. Are deeds that transfer realty from an estate to a third party for a consideration in order to pay off debts of the estate subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer from an estate to a third party for a consideration in order to pay off debts of the estate are subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid (including debts forgiven) for the transfer of realty is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Deeds to and from Trusts:

17. Are deeds that transfer realty into a trust subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty into a trust are subject to the deed recording fee based on the fair market value of the realty, except for the following deeds:

- a) a transfer to a trust by a beneficiary of the trust or by a person who will become a beneficiary of the trust as a result of the transfer as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than beneficial interest in the trust or an increase in value in the beneficial interest in the trust (12-24-40(8)),
- b) a transfer from one family trust to another family trust for the same family, provided no consideration is paid or will be paid for the transfer (12-24-40(8) and 12-24-40(9)),
- c) a transfer in order to partition realty, as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than the interests in the realty that are exchanged in order to effect the partition (12-24-40(5)),
- d) a transfer in which the realty is subject to a mortgage and the trust receiving the realty is the mortgagee and the transfer constitutes a deed in lieu of foreclosure executed by the mortgagor or a deed executed pursuant to a foreclosure proceeding (12-24-40(13). Note: See questions concerning foreclosure proceedings, and
- e) a transfer otherwise exempt under the provisions of Code Section 12-24-40.

18. Are deeds that transfer realty from a trust to an individual or other legal entity subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from a trust to an individual or other legal entity are subject to the deed recording fee based on the fair market value of the realty if the grantee is a beneficiary of the trust, except for the following deeds:

- a) a transfer from a family trust to a trust beneficiary as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than a reduction in the grantee's interest in the family trust (12-24-40(9)),

b) a transfer from one family trust to another family trust for the same family, provided no consideration is paid or will be paid for the transfer (12-24-40(8) and 12-24-40(9),

c) a transfer in order to partition realty, as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than the interests in the realty that are exchanged in order to effect the partition (12-24-40(5)),

d) a transfer in which the realty is subject to a mortgage and the trust beneficiary receiving the realty is the mortgagee and the transfer constitutes a deed in lieu of foreclosure executed by the family trust that is the mortgagor or a deed executed pursuant to a foreclosure proceeding (12-24-40(13)). (See questions concerning foreclosure proceedings.), and

e) a transfer otherwise exempt under the provisions of Code Section 12-24-40.

Deeds that transfer realty from a trust to an individual or other legal entity are subject to the subject to the deed recording fee based on the consideration paid or to be paid if the grantee is not a beneficiary of the trust, the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00, and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Deeds to and from Partnerships:

19. Are deeds that transfer realty from a partner to the partnership subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from a partner to the partnership are subject to the deed recording fee based on the fair market value of the realty, except for the following deeds:

a) a transfer from a partner to the partnership if no consideration is paid for the transfer other than additional interest in the partnership or an increase in value in the partner's interest in the partnership (12-24-40(8)),

b) a transfer in order to partition realty owned jointly by the partner and the partnership of which he is a partner, as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than the interests in the realty that are exchanged in order to effect the partition (12-24-40(5)), and

c) a transfer that is otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

20. Are deeds that transfer realty from the partnership to a partner subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from the partnership to a partner, including deeds transferring realty to the partner upon liquidation of the partnership, are subject to the deed recording fee based on the fair market value of the realty, except for the following deeds:

a) a transfer from a family partnership to a partner as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than a reduction in the grantee's interest in the partnership (12-24-40(9)),

b) a transfer in order to partition realty owned jointly by the partner and the partnership of which he is a partner, as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than the interests in the realty that are exchanged in order to effect the partition (12-24-40(5)),

c) a transfer in which the realty is subject to a mortgage and the partner receiving the realty is the mortgagee and the transfer constitutes a deed in lieu of foreclosure executed by the partnership that is the mortgagor or a deed executed pursuant to a foreclosure proceeding (12-24-40(13)). Note: See questions concerning foreclosure proceedings, and

d) a transfer otherwise exempt under the provisions of Code Section 12-24-40.

21. Are deeds that transfer realty from a non-partner to a partnership, or from a partnership to a non-partner, subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from a non-partner to a partnership are subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

If a consideration of \$100.00 or less is paid or the transfer is otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40, then the deed transferring realty from a non-partner to the partnership is exempt from the deed recording fee.

22. If Partnership A and Partnership B have the same partners but neither partnership is a partner in the other, is a deed that transfers realty from Partnership A to Partnership B subject to the deed recording fee?

If Partnership A and Partnership B have the same partners but neither partnership is a partner in the other, then a deed that transfers realty from Partnership A to Partnership B is subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

If a consideration of \$100.00 or less is paid or the transfer is otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40, then the deed transferring realty from Partnership A to Partnership B is exempt from the deed recording fee.

Limited Liability Company (LLC) Deeds:

23. How are deeds that transfer realty to and from a limited liability company ("LLC") treated under the deed recording fee law?

Deeds that transfer realty to and from an LLC, which is treated as a partnership for South Carolina income tax purposes, are treated in the same manner under the deed recording fee as deeds that transfer realty to and from a partnership. See the section in this advisory opinion concerning deed to and from partnerships.

Deeds that transfer realty to and from an LLC, which is treated as a corporation for South Carolina income tax purposes, are treated in the same manner under the deed recording fee as deeds that transfer realty to and from a corporation. See the section in this advisory opinion concerning deed to and from corporations.

Deeds that transfer realty to and from a single member LLC (“SMLLC”), which is treated as a corporation for South Carolina income tax purposes, are treated in the same manner under the deed recording fee as deeds that transfer realty to and from a corporation. See the section in this advisory opinion concerning deed to and from corporations.

Deeds that transfer realty to the SMLLC from its single member, and deeds that transfer realty to the single member of the SMLLC from the SMLLC, are not subject to the deed recording fee if the SMLLC is ignored for all tax purposes under the provisions of Code Section 12-2-25(B).

Deeds that transfer realty from the SMLLC to a person who is not the single member, and deeds that transfer realty from a person who is not the single member to the SMLLC, are treated as if the realty were transferred from or to the single member if the SMLLC is ignored for all tax purposes under the provisions of Code Section 12-2-25(B). As such, the application will depend on the facts and circumstances of the transfer and on whether the single member is an individual, partnership, LLC, trust or corporation.

Written instruments whereby a single member transfers its interest in the SMLLC to another person are treated as if the realty were transferred from the single member to the other person if the SMLLC is ignored for all tax purposes under the provisions of Code Section 12-2-25(B). As such, the application will depend on the facts and circumstances of the transfer and on whether the single member selling the interest is an individual, partnership, LLC, trust or corporation and whether the person purchasing the interest, the new single member, is an individual, partnership, LLC, trust or corporation.

Deeds to and from Corporations:

24. Are deeds that transfer realty from a stockholder to the corporation subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from a stockholder to the corporation are subject to the deed recording fee based on the fair market value of the realty, except for the following deeds:

- a) a transfer from a stockholder to the corporation if no consideration is paid for the transfer other than stock in the corporation or an increase in value in the stockholder's stock in the corporation (12-24-40(8)),
- b) a transfer in which the realty is subject to a mortgage and the corporation receiving the realty is the mortgagee and the transfer constitutes a deed in lieu of foreclosure executed by the stockholder that is the mortgagor or a deed executed pursuant to a foreclosure proceeding (12-24-40(13) (See questions concerning foreclosure proceedings.),
- c) a transfer in order to partition realty owned jointly by the stockholder and the corporation of which he is a stockholder, as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than the interests in the realty that are exchanged in order to effect the partition (12-24-40(5)), and
- d) a transfer that is otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

25. Are deeds that transfer realty from the corporation to one of the stockholders subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from the corporation to one of the stockholders, including deeds transferring realty to the stockholder upon dissolution of the corporation, are subject to the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(8) except for the following deeds:

- a) a transfer in order to partition realty owned jointly by the stockholder and the corporation of which he is a stockholder, as long as no consideration is paid for the transfer other than the interests in the realty that are exchanged in order to effect the partition (12-24-40(5)),
- b) a transfer in which the realty is subject to a mortgage and the stockholder receiving the realty is the mortgagee and the transfer constitutes a deed in lieu of foreclosure executed by the corporation that is the mortgagor or a deed executed pursuant to a foreclosure proceeding (12-24-40(13) (Note: See questions concerning foreclosure proceedings), and
- c) a transfer otherwise exempt under the provisions of Code Section 12-24-40.

26. Are deeds that transfer realty from a non-stockholder to a corporation, or from a corporation to a non-stockholder, subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from a non-stockholder to a corporation are subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

If a consideration of \$100.00 or less is paid or will be paid or the transfer is otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40, then the deed transferring realty from a non-stockholder to the corporation is exempt from the deed recording.

27. If Corporation A and Corporation B have the same stockholders but neither corporation is a stockholder in the other, is a deed that transfers realty from Corporation A to Corporation B subject to the deed recording fee?

If Corporation A and Corporation B have the same stockholders but neither corporation is a stockholder in the other, then a deed that transfers realty from Corporation A to Corporation B is subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

If a consideration of \$100.00 or less is paid or will be paid or the transfer is otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40, then the deed transferring realty from Corporation A to Corporation B is exempt from the deed recording.

Master-in Equity Deeds:

28. Are deeds that transfer realty from a Master-in-Equity to an individual or business subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from a Master-in-Equity to an individual or business are subject to the deed recording fee, with the grantee liable for the fee under the provisions of Code Section 12-24-20(B), unless the transfer is otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Note: Since the liability for the deed recording fee has shifted to the grantee in the case of a Master-in-Equity deed, the deed may be exempt if the grantee is otherwise exempted by law. For example, the following deeds are exempt from the deed recording fee when the grantor is a Master-in-Equity:

<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Reason for Exemption</u>
Federal, State or Local Government	12-24-40(2)
Federal Credit Union	12-24-40(2)
Government National Mortgage Association	12-24-40(2)
Farm Credit Bank	12-24-40(2)
Production Credit Association	12-24-40(2)
Bank for Cooperatives	12-24-40(2)
Federal Land Bank Association	12-24-40(2)
U.S. Veterans Administration	12-24-40(2)
Federal National Mortgage Association	12-24-40(3), 12 USCS 1717, and 12 USCA 1723a
Federal Home Loan Mortgage	12-24-40(3) & 12 USCA 1452

Note: By statute or case law, Federal Credit Unions, the Government National Mortgage Association, Farm Credit Banks, Production Credit Associations, Banks for Cooperatives, and Federal Land Bank Associations are considered instrumentalities of the federal government.

The Federal National Mortgage Association (“Fannie Mae”) and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage (“Freddie Mac”) are not instrumentalities of the federal government, but have been granted exemption from most state and local taxes when the liability for the tax falls upon them. Since the liability for the fee transfers to the grantee in the case of a deed from a Master-in-Equity to the Federal National Mortgage Association (“Fannie Mae”) or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage (“Freddie Mac”), the transfer is exempt from the deed recording fee pursuant to federal law.

Foreclosure Deeds:

29. Are deeds that transfer realty, subject to a mortgage, from the mortgagor to the mortgagee subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty, subject to a mortgage, from the mortgagor to the mortgagee are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(13) if the transfer is by a deed in lieu of foreclosure executed by the mortgagor.

Deeds that transfer realty from the mortgagor to the mortgagee for cancellation or forgiveness of the mortgage are subject to the deed recording fee and do not come within the exemption under Code Section 12-24-40(13) unless the books and records of the parties indicate that the transfer was made in lieu of foreclosure. If the Department determines after the deed is recorded that the transfer was not in lieu of foreclosure, the Department will assess the appropriate deed recording fee, penalty and interest.

30. Are deeds that transfer realty, subject to a mortgage, to the mortgagee pursuant to a foreclosure proceeding subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty, subject to a mortgage, to the mortgagee pursuant to a foreclosure proceeding are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(13).

31. Are deeds that transfer realty, subject to a mortgage, to the assignee of the mortgagee pursuant to foreclosure a proceeding subject to the deed recording fee?

Since the assignee was not the mortgagee of record at the time of the sale, the provisions of Code Section 12-24-40(13) are not applicable.

However, if the assignee is the federal government, or the deed is a Master-in-Equity deed and the assignee is the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage, the deed that transfers the realty, subject to a mortgage, to the assignee of the mortgagee pursuant to a foreclosure proceeding is not subject to the deed recording fee.

Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Deeds:

32. Are deeds that transfer realty under a Chapter 7 bankruptcy subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty under a Chapter 7 bankruptcy to a person who is not a stockholder, partner, or owner of the business are subject to the deed recording fee if a consideration of more than \$100.00 is paid or will be paid and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Deeds that transfer realty under a Chapter 7 bankruptcy to a person who is a stockholder, partner, or owner of the business are subject to the deed recording fee based on the fair market value of the realty unless the transfer is otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Deeds:

33. Are deeds that transfer realty under a Chapter 11 bankruptcy subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty under a Chapter 11 bankruptcy are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(3) and 11 U.S.C.A. Section 1146 if the transfer is under a plan confirmed under 11 U.S.C.A. Section 1129. If the transfer is not under a plan confirmed under 11 U.S.C.A. Section 1129, then the deed transferring the realty is subject to the deed recording fee if consideration of more than \$100.00 is paid for the transfer and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Chapter 12 Bankruptcy Deeds:

34. Are deeds that transfer realty under a Chapter 12 bankruptcy subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty under a Chapter 12 bankruptcy are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(3) and 11 U.S.C.A. Section 1231 if the transfer is under a plan confirmed under 11 U.S.C.A. Section 1225. If the transfer is not under a plan confirmed under 11 U.S.C.A. Section 1225, then the deed transferring the realty is subject to the deed recording fee if consideration of more than \$100.00 is paid for the transfer and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Deeds:

35. Are deeds that transfer realty under a Chapter 13 bankruptcy subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty under a Chapter 13 bankruptcy to a person who is not a stockholder, partner, or owner of the business are subject to the deed recording fee if a consideration of more than \$100.00 is paid or will be paid and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Deeds that transfer realty under a Chapter 13 bankruptcy to a person who is a stockholder, partner, or owner of the business are subject to the deed recording fee based on the fair market value of the realty unless the transfer is otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

State and Local Government Deeds:

36. Are deeds that transfer realty to the State, or to a political subdivision of the State (e.g., counties, cities, school districts), subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty to the State, or to a political subdivision of the State (e.g., counties, cities, school districts), are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(2).

37. Are deeds that transfer realty from the State, or from a political subdivision of the State (e.g., counties, cities, school districts), to non-governmental entity subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from the State, or from a political subdivision of the State (e.g., counties, cities, school districts), to non-governmental entity are subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Note: Since under Code Section 12-24-20(B) the liability for the deed recording fee has shifted to the grantee in the case of a deed from the State, or from a political subdivision of the State (e.g., counties, cities, school districts), to non-governmental entity, the deed may be exempt if the grantee is otherwise exempted by law.

38. Are deeds that transfer realty from the State, or from a political subdivision of the State (e.g., counties, cities, school districts), to another governmental entity subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from the State, or from a political subdivision of the State (e.g., counties, cities, school districts), to another governmental entity are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(2).

Federal Government Deeds:

39. Are deeds that transfer realty to the federal government subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty to the federal government are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(2).

40. Are deeds that transfer realty from the federal government to a non-governmental entity subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from the federal government to a non-governmental entity are subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Note: Since under Code Section 12-24-20(B) the liability for the deed recording fee has shifted to the grantee in the case of a deed from the federal government, the deed may be exempt if the grantee is otherwise exempted by law.

Federal Credit Union Deeds:

41. Are deeds that transfer realty to a federal credit union subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty to a federal credit union are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(2) since federal credit unions are considered instrumentalities of the federal government. See 1986 Op. Atty. Gen. No. 86-72, and a second South Carolina Attorney General Opinion dated March 26, 1991, which both concluded that federally chartered credit unions are instrumentalities of the federal government.

42. Are deeds that transfer realty from the federal credit union to a non-governmental entity subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from a federal credit union to a non-governmental entity are subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Note: Since under Code Section 12-24-20(B) the liability for the deed recording fee has shifted to the grantee in the case of a deed from the federal government, the deed may be exempt if the grantee is otherwise exempted by law.

Government National Mortgage Association Deeds:

43. Are deeds that transfer realty to the Government National Mortgage Association subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty to the Government National Mortgage Association are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(2) since the Government National Mortgage Association is considered an instrumentality of the federal government pursuant to 12 USCS 1717 and 12 USCS 1723a.

44. Are deeds that transfer realty from the Government National Mortgage Association to a non-governmental entity subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from the Government National Mortgage Association to a non-governmental entity are subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Note: Since under Code Section 12-24-20(B) the liability for the deed recording fee has shifted to the grantee in the case of a deed from the federal government, the deed may be exempt if the grantee is otherwise exempted by law.

Farm Credit Bank Deeds:

45. Are deeds that transfer realty to a Farm Credit Bank subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty to a Farm Credit Bank are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(2) since a Farm Credit Bank is considered an instrumentality of the federal government pursuant to 12 USCS 2011 and 12 USCS 2023.

46. Are deeds that transfer realty from a Farm Credit Bank to a non-governmental entity subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from a Farm Credit Bank to a non-governmental entity are subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Note: Since under Code Section 12-24-20(B) the liability for the deed recording fee has shifted to the grantee in the case of a deed from the federal government, the deed may be exempt if the grantee is otherwise exempted by law.

Production Credit Association Deeds:

47. Are deeds that transfer realty to a Production Credit Association subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty to a Production Credit Association are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(2) since a Production Credit Association is considered an instrumentality of the federal government pursuant to 12 USCS 2071 and 12 USCS 2077.

48. Are deeds that transfer realty from a Production Credit Association to a non-governmental entity subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from a Production Credit Association to a non-governmental entity are subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Note: Since under Code Section 12-24-20(B) the liability for the deed recording fee has shifted to the grantee in the case of a deed from the federal government, the deed may be exempt if the grantee is otherwise exempted by law.

Federal Land Bank Association Deeds:

49. Are deeds that transfer realty to a Federal Land Bank Association subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty to a Federal Land Bank Association are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(2) since a Federal Land Bank Association is considered an instrumentality of the federal government pursuant to 12 USCS 2091 and 12 USCS 2098.

50. Are deeds that transfer realty from a Federal Land Bank Association to a non-governmental entity subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from a Federal Land Bank Association to a non-governmental entity are subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Note: Since under Code Section 12-24-20(B) the liability for the deed recording fee has shifted to the grantee in the case of a deed from the federal government, the deed may be exempt if the grantee is otherwise exempted by law.

Federal National Mortgage Association (“Fannie Mae”) Deeds:

51. Are deeds that transfer realty to the Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA” or “Fannie Mae”) subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty to the Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA” or “Fannie Mae”) are subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

52. Are deeds that transfer realty from the Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA” or “Fannie Mae”) to a non-governmental entity subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from the Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA” or “Fannie Mae”) to a non-governmental entity are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(3), 12 USCS 1717, and 12 U.S.C.A. 1723a.

Note: The Federal National Mortgage Association is not a federal instrumentality

Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie Mac”) Deeds:

53. Are deeds that transfer realty to the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie Mac”) subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty to the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie Mac”) are subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

54. Are deeds that transfer realty from the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie Mac”) to a non-governmental entity subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer realty from the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie Mac”) to a non-governmental entity are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(3) and 12 U.S.C.A. 1452.

Note: The Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“Freddie Mac”) is not a federal instrumentality

Timeshare Deeds:

55. Are deeds that transfer a one-week interest in a timeshare unit under a vacation time sharing ownership plan (not a “vacation time sharing lease plan”) as defined in Chapter 32 of Title 27 subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer a one-week interest in a timeshare unit under a vacation time sharing ownership plan as defined in Chapter 32 of Title 27 are subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

56. Are deeds that transfer a one-week interest in a timeshare unit under a vacation time sharing ownership plan (not a “vacation time sharing lease plan”) as defined in Chapter 32 of Title 27 to the original seller, or to the company managing the timeshare development, in exchange for forgiving any unpaid fees subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer a one-week interest in a timeshare unit under a vacation time sharing ownership plan as defined in Chapter 32 of Title 27 to the original seller, or to the company managing the timeshare development, in exchange for forgiving any unpaid fees are subject to the deed recording fee if the consideration paid or to be paid (the amount of the unpaid fees forgiven) is more than \$100.00 and the transfer is not otherwise exempt under Code Section 12-24-40.

Internal Revenue Code Section 1031 Tax Deferred Exchange Deeds:

57. Are deeds that transfer realty as part of an income tax deferred exchange under Internal Revenue Code Section 1031 subject to the deed recording fee?

Generally, transactions under Internal Revenue Code Section 1031 involve the exchange of realty and exchanges of realty are subject to the deed recording fee. However, such transactions can be complex and can also involve an intermediary who may act as an agent for one of the parties.

The Department has issued a separate advisory opinion, SC Revenue #99-2, concerning the deed recording fee and the transfer of realty as part of an income tax deferred exchange under Internal Revenue Code Section 1031. For information concerning the taxability of the various transactions in an income tax deferred exchange under Internal Revenue Code Section 1031, consult SC Revenue #99-2.

Manufactured Homes:

58. Are deeds that transfer land and the manufactured home anchored to the land subject to the deed recording fee based on the full consideration paid or may the value of the home be deducted in calculating the deed recording fee?

Deeds that transfer land and the manufactured home anchored to the land are subject to the deed recording fee based on the full consideration paid. The manufactured home anchored to the land is realty and its value may not be deducted from the consideration paid in calculating the deed recording fee.

Note: "A deduction from value is allowed for the amount of any lien or encumbrance existing on the land, tenement, or realty before the transfer and remaining on the land, tenement, or realty after the transfer." See Code Section 12-24-30(B).

Timber Deeds:

59. Are "timber deeds" subject to the deed recording fee?

Deeds that constitute a contract for the sale of timber to be cut are exempt from the deed recording fee under Code Section 12-24-40(7).

Deeds transferring the timber and the underlying land are subject to the deed recording fee based on the full "value" as defined in Code Section 12-24-30, unless otherwise exempt under the statute.

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

s/Burnet R. Maybank III
Burnet R. Maybank III, Director

March 30, 2004
Columbia, South Carolina