

ABANDONED PROPERTY REGISTRATION ORDINANCE 13-07

On March 12, 2013, the Board of County Commissioners approved an ordinance to require that when a property is under a notice of default and is the subject of foreclosure action or proceeding, the property must be registered with Leon County. The ordinance also requires that the mortgagee appoint a local representative to secure and maintain the property and that a sign be posted at the property to include the name and contact information for the mortgagee's property manager or agent. The ordinance became effective on March 12, 2013, and enforcement will begin on July 12, 2013. The regulations established by this new ordinance are applicable within unincorporated Leon County.

The initial compliance component of the ordinance requires the mortgagee to complete and mail the *Registration Form for Abandoned/Distressed Property* along with a \$150.00 registration fee within ten (10) days after the mortgagee determines that the property is in default. Registration is good for one (1) year, if the property remains in the same state. After a year, the property must be re-registered.

The *Registration Form for Abandoned/Distressed Property*, along with the recently adopted Abandoned Property Registration Ordinance (Article V of Chapter 14 *Public Nuisance* of the Leon County Code of Laws) is available on the Leon County Development Support and Environmental Management website www.leonpermits.org. In order to comply with the ordinance, all mortgagees are required to submit a completed registration form along with \$150.00 registration fee for each property, with a commencement date of Friday, July 12, 2013:

Department of Development Support and Environmental Management
Attention: Leon County Code Compliance Program – APR Registration
435 North Macomb Street, 2nd Floor
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

For information regarding the ordinance, registration requirements, or other compliance related issues, please contact Jessica Lowe, Compliance Board Coordinator, at (850) 606-1300.