# **Policies and Procedures Regarding Delinquent Assessment Accounts**

The Annual Property Owner Assessment is due January 1, and becomes delinguent January 15, of the year of that Annual Assessment. The full amount or first annual installment of the 2002 Master Plan Special Assessment was due March 1, 2003, and delinguent March 15, 2003. Subsequent annual installments will be due March 1 and delinguent March 15 of each succeeding year. Special Individual Assessments (Architectural Standards, Covenants and Forestry Assessments, Fines and Inspection Fees) are due thirty (30) days after invoicing and delinguent fifteen (15) days thereafter. Delinguent accounts are subject to the following schedule of procedures and charges. (The actions indicated below will not be taken until at least the date specified, but may occur at a later date due to scheduling considerations.)

### **Annual Assessment**

**March 1:** DELINQUENCY FEE (10 PERCENT OF ASSESSMENT BALANCE) is charged to the account; also, interest equal to the maximum allowed by law (currently 12 percent per annum) begins to accrue on the delinquent assessment balance.

**April 1:** Notice of pending suspension of membership rights (eligibility for candidacy to serve as a director, to vote in any election, to access the amenities as a member) for failure to pay the assessment and of the member's right to a prior hearing thereon, and notice of intent to record a lien against the member's property to secure amounts owed, is sent to Owner(s) of Record via certified mail.

**April 15:** Assessment Lien recorded against property; LIEN FEE OF \$185 is charged to the account. If requested, hearing on pending suspension of membership rights must be completed at least five days prior to the suspension's effective date.

**April 20:** Approximate effective date of suspension of membership rights, which shall remain in effect until the account is brought current.

**May 1:** Interest begins accruing on Delinquency Fee.

**June 15:** Delinquent accounts become subject to all appropriate collections/legal recourses, including FORECLOSURE of the assessment lien, to recover amounts owed. All costs and fees related to such actions, including attorneys' fees, become the property owner's obligation.

**July 1:** Interest begins accruing on Lien Fee.

# Master Plan Special Assessment

**May 1:** DELINQUENCY FEE (10 PERCENT OF THAT YEAR'S ANNUAL INSTALLMENT BALANCE) is charged to the account; also, interest equal to the maximum allowed by law (currently 12 percent per annum) begins to accrue on the delinquent installment balance.

**June 1:** Notice of pending suspension of membership rights (eligibility for candidacy to serve as a director, to vote in any election, to access the amenities as a member) for failure to pay the assessment and of the member's right to a prior hearing thereon, and notice of intent to record a lien against the member's property to secure amounts owed, is sent to Owner(s) of Record via certified mail.

June 15: Assessment Lien recorded against property; LIEN FEE OF \$185 is charged to the account. If requested, hearing on pending suspension of membership rights must be completed at least five days prior to the suspension's effective date.

**June 20:** Approximate effective date of suspension of membership rights, which shall remain in effect until the account is brought current.

**July 1:** Interest begins accruing on Delinquency Fee.

**July 15:** Delinquent accounts become subject to all appropriate collections/legal recourses, including FORECLOSURE of the assessment lien, to recover amounts owed. All costs and fees related to such actions, including attorneys' fees, become the property owner's obligation.

**August 1:** Interest begins accruing on Lien Fee.

# Special Individual Assessment(s)

#### Days after invoicing

**60:** DELINQUENCY FEE (10 PERCENT OF ASSESSMENT BALANCE) is charged to the account; also, interest equal to the maximum allowed by law (currently 12 percent per annum) begins to accrue on the delinquent assessment balance.

**90:** Notice of pending suspension of membership rights (eligibility for candidacy to serve as a director, to vote in any election, to access the amenities as a member) for failure to pay the assessment and of the member's right to a prior hearing thereon, and, if

applicable, notice of intent to record a lien against the member's property to secure amounts owed, is sent to Owner(s) of Record via certified mail.

**105:** If applicable, Assessment Lien recorded against property; **LIEN FEE OF \$185** is charged to the account. If requested, hearing on pending suspension of membership rights must be completed at least five days prior to the suspension's effective date.

**110:** Approximate effective date of suspension of membership rights, which shall remain in effect until the account is brought current.

**120:** Interest begins accruing on Delinquency Fee.

**165:** Delinquent accounts become subject to all appropriate collections/legal recourses, including FORECLOSURE of the assessment lien, to recover amounts owed. All costs and fees related to such actions, including attorneys' fees, become the property owner's obligation.

**180:** If applicable, interest begins accruing on Lien Fee.

Timeliness of payments in relation to the imposition of penalties, etc., in accordance with this schedule shall be determined by:

• Actual date of RECEIPT of hand-delivered payments.

• Official U.S. Postal Service postmark date appearing on the envelope in which a payment is received through the mail (private postage meter dates are ignored).

• It is the association's policy to apply payments received as follows: First, to the oldest unpaid Assessment. Second, to the Interest and Penalties (Delinquency Fee, Lien Fee, costs of collection, etc.) related to that oldest unpaid Assessment. Next, to the second-oldest Assessment, followed by the Interest and Penalties related to that secondoldest Assessment. This sequence continues until the most recent Assessment is paid, the Interest and Penalties related to that most recent Assessment are then paid.

### ASSESSMENTS AND FORECLOSURE

This notice outlines some of the rights and responsibilities of owners of property in common interest developments and the associations that manage them. Please refer to the sections of the Civil Code indicated for further information. A portion of the information in this notice applies only to liens recorded on or after January 1, 2003. You may wish to consult a lawyer if you dispute an assessment.

# ASSESSMENTS AND NONJUDICIAL FORECLOSURE

The failure to pay association assessments may result in the loss of an owner's property without court action, often referred to as nonjudicial foreclosure. When using nonjudicial foreclosure, the association records a lien on the owner's property. The owner's property may be sold to satisfy the lien if the lien is not paid. Assessments become delinquent 15 days after they are due, unless the governing documents of the association provide for a longer time. (Sections 1366 and 1367.1 of the Civil Code)

In a nonjudicial foreclosure, the association may recover assessments, reasonable costs of collection, reasonable attorney's fees, late charges, and interest. The association may not use nonjudicial foreclosure to collect fines or penalties, except for costs to repair common areas damaged by a member or a member's guests, if the governing documents provide for this. (Sections 1366 and 1367.1 of the Civil Code)

The association must comply with the requirements of Section 1367.1 of the Civil Code when collecting delinquent assessments. If the association fails to follow these requirements, it may not record a lien on the owner's property until it has satisfied those requirements. Any additional costs that result from satisfying the requirements are the responsibility of the association. (Section 1367.1 of the Civil Code)

At least 30 days prior to recording a lien on an owner's separate interest, the association must provide the owner of record with certain documents by certified mail. Among these documents, the association must send a description of its collection and lien enforcement procedures and the method of calculating the amount. It must also provide an itemized statement of the charges owed by the owner. An owner has a right to review the association's records to verify the debt. (Section 1367.1 of the Civil Code)

If a lien is recorded against an owner's property in error, the person who recorded the lien is required to record a lien release within 21 days, and to provide an owner certain documents in this regard. (Section 1367.1 of the Civil Code)

The collection practices of the association may be governed by state and federal laws regarding fair debt collection. Penalties can be imposed for debt collection practices that violate these laws.

### PAYMENTS

When an owner makes a payment, he or she may request a receipt, and the association is required to provide it. On the receipt, the association must indicate the date of payment and the person who received it. The association must inform owners of a mailing address for overnight payments. (Sections 1367.1 and 1367.1 of the Civil Code)

An owner may dispute an assessment debt by giving the board of the association a written explanation, and the board must respond within 15 days if certain conditions are met. An owner may pay assessments that are in dispute in full under protest, and then request alternative dispute resolution. (Sections 1366.3 and 1367.1 of the Civil Code)

An owner is not liable for charges, interest, and costs of collection, if it is established that the assessment was paid properly on time. (Section 1367.1 of the Civil Code)

## MEETINGS AND PAYMENT PLANS

An owner of a separate interest that is not a time-share may request the association to consider a payment plan to satisfy a delinquent assessment. The association must inform owners of the standards for payment plans, if any exist. (Section 1367.1 of the Civil Code)

The board of the directors must meet with an owner who makes a proper written request for a meeting to discuss a payment plan when the owner has received a notice of a delinquent assessment. These payment plans must conform with the payment plan standards of the association, if they exist. (Section 1367.1 of the Civil Code)