North Carolina

Petition to Digitize and Make Available Online All Records in the Office of the Wilkes County Register of Deeds

Wilkes County

The undersigned, citizens and residents of Wilkes County, North Carolina, hereby respectfully petition the Honorable Richard L. ("Rick") Woodruff, Register of Deeds of Wilkes County, to digitize and make available for online access to the public, all documents that are currently recorded and that may hereafter be recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Wilkes County.

In support of this Petition, it is respectfully submitted that of the 100 separate counties in North Carolina, only four-Beautfort, Greene, Northhampton and Wilkes, have failed to modernize by digitizing and making such documents available online. Digitization of those records would be a very positive and progressive step for the citizens of Wilkes County and for anyone desiring prompt access to public records. It would eliminate the inconvenience, expense and delay of having to make personal visits to the office of the Register of Deeds and would give the public access to those records 24 hours a day, 7 days per week.

Identity theft is not an issue or an excuse for delaying the implementation of this request. North Carolina law, G.S. 132.10(g)(1) provides stringent safeguards to prevent identity theft by requiring the removal of social security numbers, taxpayer identification numbers, driver's license numbers, state identification, passport, checking account, savings account, credit card, debit card, PIN codes or passwords from documents being recorded in a Register of Deeds office. Furthermore, any member of the public may submit a written request to a register of deeds office asking that such information be removed from any previously recorded document. (G.S. 131.10(g)(2)).

Wherefore, the undersigned respectfully petition the Honorable Richard L. ("Rick") Woodruff, Register of Deeds of Wilkes County, to proceed with the prompt digitization of those documents and with the acquisition of such equipment and personnel in the Wilkes County Register of Deeds Office as may be necessary to effectuate this change and make those records available to the public online.

Printed Name	Signature	Town/City of Residence	Date