

Help for Homeowners: Understanding Impound Accounts



### **Our Mission**

To promote a fair and vibrant marketplace, we serve consumers, businesses, and communities through education, advocacy, and complaint resolution.

Serving Los Angeles County Consumers and Businesses since 1976

# Foreclosure Prevention Program

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# Monthly Payment with Impound Account

- An impound mortgage account, sometimes called an escrow account, is set up by your mortgage lender or servicer to pay specific property related expenses
- Paid monthly with your normal mortgage loan payment
- PITI(A)
- Disbursed throughout each year at certain intervals

Principle

nterest

**Property** 

Tax

Insurance

**A**ssociation

## When an Impound Account is Required

- State or Federal Regulatory authority requires a loan mortgage account
- A loan mortgage account is, guaranteed or insured by a state or federal governmental lending or insuring agency
- Borrower misses two consecutive property tax installments
- Original principal amount of the mortgage loan is 90% or more of the sales price or appraised value
- ► Two or more mortgages exceed 80% of appraised value
- The mortgage Loan is a higher priced mortgage
- Current mortgage is modified by a lender's home preservation program

# Benefits

- Budgeting made simpler
- No need to keep track of due dates

No Large lump sum payments



# **Escrow Analysis**

#### **Breakdown and Limits**

- Completed Annually
- Annual Obligation split into 12 months
- Initial deposit may be required
- ▶ 1/12 per month
  - ► PITIA

2 months cushion



### **Escrow Analysis**

2023

Principal - \$1,000 Interest - \$400

Annual Property tax - \$2,500 Annual Insurance - \$500

\$250

Monthly payment \$1650

2024

Principal - \$1,000 Interest - \$400

Annual Property tax - \$2,600 Annual Insurance - \$525

\$260.41

Monthly payment \$1660.41

# Changes in Monthly Payment

- Force placed home insurance
- Increase in property taxes and/or property insurance
  - Property tax due November 10th and February 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Property Insurance paid annually
- Adjustable-Rate Mortgage (ARM)
- Disbursement Error
- HOA Special and Emergency Assessments

### Foreclosure Prevention Services

- The Foreclosure Prevention Unit is designed to help property owners navigate the foreclosure process and explore all options available to avoid foreclosure.
- Open dialogue between property owners and mortgage lenders to ensure the property owner is reviewed for assistance.
- Provide guidance and understanding when mortgage lenders provide options to property owners.
- Individual attention is provided by a Foreclosure
  Prevention counselor to discuss the details of each property owner's unique situation.



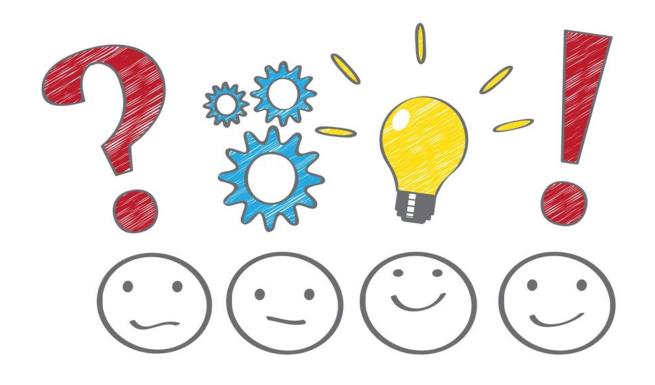
## California Mortgage Relief Fund

- Established to mitigate financial hardships associated with the coronavirus pandemic by providing funds to eligible property owners
- Up to \$80,000 thousand dollars mortgage delinquencies
- Up to \$20,000 thousand dollars property tax relief
- CA mortgage Relief contact information
- · 1-888-840-2594
- camortgagerelief.org



# Foreclosure Prevention Unit Contact Information

- Address: Los Angeles County Hall Records
- ▶ 320 West Temple Street, Room G10, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- Email address: homehelp@dcba.lacounty.gov
- Phone Number: 1-833-238-4450
- Office Hours 8:30 AM 4:30 PM



Questions?