

GLOUCESTER COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE RECORDS FIRST ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS

On September 15, 2003 the Gloucester County Clerk's Office recorded the first electronic land recordings within the State of New Jersey. Homestead Title Agency located in Woodbury, New Jersey participated in these landmark transactions along with ACS (Affiliated Computer Services based in Dallas, Texas). Using ACS' eRX (electronic recordation exchange), two mortgages were sent through the Internet-based system by the local title agency. The end result was the electronic recordation of these mortgages without the original paper documents ever reaching the Clerk's Office.

Once the mortgages were electronically transmitted via scanning to the Clerk's Office, they were checked and verified by county staff, then automatically booked and paged by the Clerk's land recording system. Within the hour, the documents were returned via the Internet and eRX to Homestead Title Agency, officially recorded and thus, part of the office's permanent records.

After researching the advent of electronic recording with a consortium of New Jersey Clerks, County Clerk, James N. Hogan, whose office records approximately 100,000 instruments per year, chose Homestead Title Agency to participate in this historic, first electronic exchange. Homestead was chosen due to both a high accuracy rate when preparing documents and an impeccable reputation within the title industry.

The Clerk is extremely delighted to offer this timesaving service to its stakeholders and believes that the electronic recording of land documents will allow his office to run more efficiently due to the decrease in time that it takes to record the average document. In addition, within the upcoming months Clerk Hogan plans to expand on the variety of electronically recordable documents along with amassing additional clients who are willing to embrace this timesaving, innovative technology.