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Orange County Clerk-Recorder Department Records  
7 Million Electronically Submitted Documents

On Thursday, September 4, 2014 at 10:08 am, the Orange County Clerk-Recorder Department reviewed and recorded a full reconveyance document. The significance of this event was that this document was the 7 millionth electronically submitted document processed by the Clerk-Recorder Department. Orange County was a pioneer in the development and implementation of electronic recording. The office is recognized as the national leader in electronic recording and has recorded more documents electronically than any other County Recorder in the nation.

While the electronic recording of real property documents is a common occurrence today, in 1997 the mere idea was groundbreaking. The Orange County Clerk-Recorder at that time was Gary Granville. His team implemented the first electronic delivery system in the nation. Current Orange County Clerk-Recorder Hugh Nguyen was part of the team in 1997 that implemented the first electronic recording system.

“People thought that it wouldn’t work,” Clerk-Recorder Nguyen said. “Many County Recorders in California couldn’t envision how such a secure electronic process could be implemented to replace paper documents submitted by title companies. We worked with title and mortgage industry leaders, overcame legal barriers and created a secure electronic delivery system. The new process required legislative approval and a lengthy two year process to work with the State on regulations. The Orange County system was the pilot program which proved the concept did work and formed the foundation for today’s system guidelines and procedures. The success of the OC Clerk-Recorder’s Office processing 7 million documents is a testimony to the vision and legacy Mr. Granville delivered.”

The electronic recording system provides efficiencies by reducing delivery expense and staff time. The system allows documents to be processed in a matter of seconds and currently 62% of all documents submitted for recording in Orange County are processed electronically.

In 2008, Orange County joined with Los Angeles, Riverside and San Diego counties to implement a multi-county electronic recording delivery system, known as SECURE, using Orange County’s pioneering system as a model. SECURE allows title, escrow and financial companies to record property documents electronically to multiple counties from a single computer screen. Currently, there are more than 466 authorized users of the system.

For more information about the services provided by the Orange County Clerk-Recorder or its convenient locations please visit: www.ocrecorder.com

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