



## BALTIMORE HOUSING

SHEILA DIXON  
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO  
Executive Director, HABC  
Commissioner, HCD

# MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
c/o Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

From: Paul T. Graziano, Commissioner

Date: May 2, 2008

Re: City Council Bill 08-0065 Foreclosure Chattels

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The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 08-0065, which was introduced for the purpose providing for the disposition of certain foreclosure chattels; requiring certain notice prior to execution of a writ of possession; providing for a postponement of execution under certain circumstances; providing that unclaimed property is deemed abandoned under certain circumstances; prohibiting the placement of eviction chattels in certain public ways.

City Council Bill 08-0065 would establish procedures under which the possessions of a resident may be removed from a property after an order of foreclosure has been issued by the Circuit Court. These procedures are almost identical to the provisions of City Ordinance 07-946 that regulates the removal of the possessions of an evicted rental tenant. As with the previous legislation, the intent of this bill is to provide the resident sufficient notice and time to make arrangements to remove and safeguard their personal property and to end the unsightly practice of piling one's belongings in the street.

Under the provisions of City Council Bill 08-0065, the foreclosing party must notify the occupant by certified and First Class mail of the date on which the sheriff is initially scheduled to execute a writ of possession. The mailing must occur at least 14 days prior to the ejection date and the foreclosed property must be posted 7 days prior to that schedule date. The notice must inform the resident that their belongings will be considered abandoned if not removed. The foreclosing party may then dispose of any abandoned property at a waste disposal site or landfill or donate the items to charity. The proposed law is explicit that no items may be deposited in the public right-of-way such as a street or sidewalk.

The Department of Housing and Community Development supports the adoption of City Council Bill 08-0065.

PTG:pmd

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson  
Mr. Demaune Millard

