### **Homeowner Checklist**

## For Your Information Only - Do Not Return with Your Borrower Response Package

**GET STARTED** – use this checklist to ensure you have completed all required forms and have the right information.

Step 1		Review the information provided to help you understand your options, responsibilities, and next steps:			
		☐ Avoiding Foreclosure ☐ Frequently Asked Questions ☐ Beware of Foreclosure Rescue Scams			
Step 2					
		mortgage (notarization is not required) and must include:  ☐ All income, expenses, and assets for each borrower			
		☐ An explanation of financial hardship that makes it difficult to pay the mortgage			
		☐ Your acknowledgment and agreement that all information that you provide is true and accurate			
Step 3					
		☐ For each borrower, please submit a signed, dated copy of IRS Form 4506T-EZ (Short Form Request for Individual Tax Return Transcript)			
		☐ Borrowers who filed their tax returns jointly may send in one IRS Form 4506T-EZ signed and dated by			
		both joint filers			
Step 4		☐ Provide required Hardship Documentation. This documentation will be used to verify your hardship.			
otep 4		☐ Follow the instructions set forth on the Borrower Assistance Form (attached)			
Step 5		Provide required Income Documentation. This documentation will be used to verify your hardship and all of your income (Notice: Alimony, child support or separate maintenance income need not be			
		revealed if you do not choose to have it considered for repaying this loan).			
		☐ Follow the instructions set forth on the Borrower Assistance Form (attached)			
		☐ You may also disclose any income from a household member who is not on the promissory note (non-borrower), such as a relative, spouse, domestic partner, or fiancé who occupies the property as a			
		primary residence. If you elect to disclose and rely upon this income to qualify, the required income			
		documentation is the same as the income documentation required for a borrower. See Page 2 of the			
Step 6	Borrower Assistance Form for specific details on income documentation.  Gather and send completed documents—your Borrower Response Package—as soon as possible. You				
otop o	_	must send in all required documentation listed in steps 2-4 above, and summarized below:			
	Borrower Assistance Form (attached)				
	<ul> <li>Form 4506T-EZ (attached)</li> <li>Income Documentation as outlined on Page 2 of the Borrower Assistance Form (attached)</li> </ul>				
	Hardship Documentation as outlined on Page 3 of the Borrower Assistance Form (attached)				
	Please mail all documents above to James B. Nutter & Company, Attn: Loss Mitigation 4153 Broadway, Kansas City, MO 64111				
_		IT REMINDERS: u cannot provide the documentation within the time frame provided, have other types of income not			
	specified on Page 2 of the Borrower Assistance Form, cannot locate some or all of the required documents, OR				
	have any questions, please contact us at 800-943-7334 ext 1863.				
	Keep a copy of all documents and proof of mailing/e-mailing for your records. <b>Don't send original income or</b> hardship documents. Copies are acceptable.				
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Questions? Contact us at 800-943-7334 ext 1863					

# Information on Avoiding Foreclosure For Your Information Only - Do Not Return with Your Borrower Response Package

#### Mortgage Programs Are Available to Help

There are a variety of programs available to help you resolve your delinquency and keep your home. You may be eligible to refinance or modify your mortgage to make your payments and terms more manageable, for instance, lowering your monthly payment to make it more affordable. Or, if you have missed a few payments, you may qualify for a temporary (or permanent) solution to help you get your finances back on track. Depending on your circumstances, staying in your home may not be possible. However, a short sale or deed-in-lieu of foreclosure may be a better choice than foreclosure — see the table below for more information:

OPTION	OVERVIEW	BENEFIT
Refinance	Receive a new loan with lower interest rate or other favorable terms	Makes your payment or terms more affordable
Reinstatement	Pay the total amount you owe, in a lump sum payment and by a specific date. This may follow a forbearance plan as described below	Allows you to avoid foreclosure by bringing your mortgage current if you can show you have funds that will become available at a specific date in the future
Repayment Plan*	Pay back your past-due payments together with your regular payments over an extended period of time	Allows you time to catch up on late payments without having to come up with a lump sum
Forbearance Plan*	Make reduced mortgage payments or no mortgage payments for a specific period of time	Have time to improve your financial situation and get back on your feet
Modification	Receive modified terms of your mortgage to make it more affordable or manageable after successfully making the reduced payment during a "trial period" (i.e., completing a three [or four] month trial period plan)	Permanently modifies your mortgage so that your payments or terms are more manageable as a permanent solution to a long-term or permanent hardship
Short Sale	Sell your home and pay off a portion of your mortgage balance when you owe more on the home than it is worth	Allows you to transition out of your home without going through foreclosure. In some cases relocation assistance may be available
Deed-in-Lieu of Foreclosure	Transfer the ownership of your property to us	Allows you to transition out of your home without going through foreclosure. In some cases relocation assistance may be available. This is useful when there are no other liens on your property

#### We Want to Help

Take action and gain peace of mind and control of your situation. Complete and return the Borrower Response Package to start the process of getting the help you need now.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

### For Your Information Only - Do Not Return with Your Borrower Response Package

#### 1. Why Did I Receive This Package?

You received this package because we have not received one or more of your monthly mortgage payments and want to help you keep your home if at all possible. We are sending this information to you now so that we can work with you to quickly resolve any temporary or long-term financial challenge you face to making all of your late mortgage payments.

#### 2. Where Can I Find More Information on Foreclosure Prevention?

Please see the Avoiding Foreclosure attachment in this package for more information, or you can contact James B. Nutter & Company's Loss Mitigation department at 800-943-7334 ext 1863. Additional foreclosure prevention information is provided by James B. Nutter & Company at www.jamesbnutter.com.

# 3. Will I Be Evaluated for the Federal Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP) When I Submit My Borrower Response Package?

If you are not eligible for a refinance, reinstatement, repayment, or forbearance plan based on the information you provide, we will evaluate you for participation in the Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP). If you are not eligible for HAMP, we will evaluate you for a non-HAMP Fannie Mae loan modification.

#### 4. Will It Cost Money to Get Help?

There should never be a fee from your servicer or qualified counselor to obtain assistance or information about foreclosure prevention options. However, foreclosure prevention has become a target for scam artists. Be wary of companies or individuals offering to help you for a fee, and never send a mortgage payment to any company other than the one listed on your monthly mortgage statement or one designated to receive your payments under a state assistance program.

#### 5. What Happens Once I Have Sent the Borrower Response Package to You?

We will contact you within three business days of our receipt of your Borrower Response Package to confirm that we have received your package and will review it to determine whether it is complete. Within five business days of receipt of your request, we will send you a notice of incompleteness in the event there is any missing information or documentation that you must still submit. We cannot guarantee that you will receive any (or a particular type of) assistance.

Within 30 days of receipt of a complete Borrower Response Package, we will let you know which foreclosure alternatives, if any, are available to you and will inform you of your next steps to accept our offer. However, if you submit your complete Borrower Response Package less than 37 days prior to a scheduled foreclosure sale date, we will strive to process your request as quickly as possible, but you may not receive a notice of incompleteness or a decision on your request prior to sale. Please submit your Borrower Response Package as soon as possible.

#### 6. What Happens to My Mortgage While You Are Evaluating My Borrower Response Package?

You remain obligated to make all mortgage payments as they come due, even while we are evaluating the types of assistance that may be available.

#### 7. Will the Foreclosure Process Begin If I Do Not Respond to this Letter?

If you have missed four monthly payments or there is reason to believe the property is vacant or abandoned, we may refer your mortgage to foreclosure regardless of whether you are being considered for a modification or other types of foreclosure alternatives.

## 8. What Happens if I Have Waited Too Long and My Property Has Been Referred to an Attorney for Foreclosure? Should I Still Contact You?

Yes, the sooner the better!

#### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS continued

#### 9. What if My Property is Scheduled for a Foreclosure Sale in the Future?

If you submit a complete Borrower Response Package less than 37 calendar days before a scheduled foreclosure sale, there is no guarantee we can evaluate you for a foreclosure alternative in time to stop the foreclosure sale. Even if we are able to approve you for a foreclosure alternative prior to a sale, a court with jurisdiction over the foreclosure proceeding (if any) or public official charged with carrying out the sale may not halt the scheduled sale.

#### 10. Will My Property be Sold at a Foreclosure Sale If I Accept a Foreclosure Alternative?

No. The property will not be sold at a foreclosure sale once you accept a foreclosure alternative, such as a forbearance or repayment plan, and comply with all requirements.

#### 11. Will My Credit Score Be Affected by My Late Payments or Being in Default?

The delinquency status of your loan will be reported to credit reporting agencies as well as your entry into a Repayment Plan, Forbearance Plan, or Trial Period Plan in accordance with the requirements of the Fair Credit Reporting Act and the Consumer Data Industry Association requirements.

#### 12. Will My Credit Score Be Affected if I Accept a Foreclosure Prevention Option?

While the affect on your credit will depend on your individual credit history, credit scoring companies generally would consider entering into a plan with reduced payments as increasing your credit risk. As a result, entering into a plan with reduced payments may adversely affect your credit score, particularly if you are current on your mortgage or otherwise have a good credit score.

#### 13. Is Foreclosure Prevention Counseling Available?

Yes, HUD-approved counselors are available to provide you with the information and assistance you may need to avoid foreclosure. You can use the search tool at <a href="http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hcc/fc/">http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/hcc/fc/</a> to find a counselor near you.

# 14. I Have Seen Ads and Flyers From Companies Offering to Help Me Avoid Foreclosure for a Fee. Are These Companies on the Level?

Foreclosure prevention has become a target for scam artists. We suggest using the HUD Web site referenced in question 13 to locate a counselor near you. Also, please refer to the attached document called "Beware of Foreclosure Rescue Scams" for more information.

# BEWARE OF FORECLOSURE RESCUE SCAMS — TIPS & WARNING SIGNS For Your Information Only - Do Not Return with Your Borrower Response Package

Scam artists are stealing millions of dollars from distressed homeowners by promising immediate relief from foreclosure, or demanding cash for counseling services when HUD-approved counseling agencies provide the same services for FREE. If you receive an offer, information or advice that sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Don't let them take advantage of you, your situation, your house or your money. **Remember, help is FREE**.

#### **How to Spot a Scam** – beware of a company or person who:

- Asks for a fee in advance to work with your lender to modify, refinance or reinstate your mortgage.
- Guarantees they can stop a foreclosure or get your loan modified.
- Advises you to stop paying your mortgage company and pay them instead.
- Pressures you to sign over the deed to your home or sign any paperwork that you haven't had a chance to read, and you don't fully understand.
- Claims to offer "government-approved" or "official government" loan modifications.
- Asks you to release personal financial information online or over the phone and you have not been working with this person and/or do not know them.

#### How to Report a Scam – do one of the following:

- Go to <a href="https://www.preventloanscams.org">www.preventloanscams.org</a> and fill out the Loan Modification Scam Prevention Network's (LMSPN) complaint form online and get more information on how to fight back. Note: you can also fill out this form and send to the fax number/e-mail/address (your choice!) on the back of the form.
- Call 1(888)995-HOPE (4673) and tell the counselor about your situation and that you believe you got scammed or know of a scam.

The Loan Modification Scam Prevention Network is a national coalition of governmental and private organizations led by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, NeighborWorks America™ and the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.