**§480. Signature of nonowner**

An owner of real estate may convey that real estate, or any interest in it free from any claim to the real estate by his nonowner spouse, by deed, mortgage or any other instrument, without signature of his nonowner spouse, unless: [PL 1983, c. 748, §2 (NEW).]

**1. Non-bona fide purchaser.**  The transfer requires signature pursuant to Title 18‑C, section 2‑208, subsection 1; or

[PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. C, §89 (AMD); PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).]

**2. Divorce action.**  The nonowner spouse has filed a claim in the registry of deeds pursuant to Title 19‑A, section 953, and either the divorce action is still pending or the nonowner spouse has been granted an interest in the real estate by the court.

[PL 1995, c. 694, Pt. D, §60 (AMD); PL 1995, c. 694, Pt. E, §2 (AFF).]

After that conveyance, any claim of the nonowner spouse under probate, divorce or any other laws, shall be against the proceeds of that conveyance and not against the real estate. Notwithstanding any provision of the Maine Probate Code, a mortgage deed does not need to be signed by a nonowner spouse, provided that the mortgage deed secures actual consideration in money or money's worth given in good faith by the mortgagee to the owner. Notwithstanding any provision of the Maine Probate Code or divorce laws, a correcting deed does not need to be signed by a nonowner spouse. [PL 1983, c. 748, §2 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 748, §2 (NEW). PL 1995, c. 694, §D60 (AMD). PL 1995, c. 694, §E2 (AFF). PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. C, §89 (AMD). PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. F, §1 (AFF). PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14 (AFF).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Regular and First Special Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through November 1. 2023
. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.