

FRANKLIN COUNTY FORECLOSURE MEDIATION PROJECT
375 S. HIGH STREET 16TH FLOOR
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-4520
614-645-5009 or 614-645-5006
(Fax) 614-645-8465
foreclosuremediation@fcmclerk.com

Lender's Name Case No. ____ CVE _____
Plaintiff,
vs. Judge _____

Homeowner's Name
Defendant.

**REQUEST FOR FORECLOSURE MEDIATION
AND EXTENSION OF TIME TO ANSWER**

A Foreclosure Complaint and Summons are in this envelope. This lawsuit could result in the loss of your home. You may request mediation to help you resolve your case. If you request mediation, you will receive a 120-day extension of time to answer the complaint.

In mediation a neutral third party, the mediator, will discuss the concerns and issues you and the other parties raise. The goal in mediation is to exchange critical and current information and to work toward an outcome that is acceptable to all parties. Mediation is a free service.

To participate in mediation, you should schedule an appointment with a HUD Approved Housing Counseling Agency. Call HandsOn Central Ohio at 211 (614-221-2255) for a referral to a HUD Approved Counseling Agency. When you meet with the HUD approved counseling agency they will help you prepare the financial information you need for mediation. They can also help you examine your options. Information about foreclosure and resources that are available as well as information about mediation are available at <http://www.franklincountyohio.gov/commissioners/homeownerhelpline>.

You may also qualify for a volunteer lawyer to represent you in mediation. HandsOn Central Ohio can help you determine if you qualify for a free lawyer.

NEXT STEPS: You must either:

- 1. Request mediation by completing the information on the front and back of this form and returning it to the Franklin County Clerk of Courts by the 28th day after you receive this packet from the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. You must e-file the form with the Franklin County Clerk of Courts, and you can learn more about e-filing at the following: <http://www.franklincountyohio.gov/clerk/e-File.cfm>**
- 2. eFile your Answer to the complaint with the Franklin County Clerk of Courts, 345 S. High St., Columbus, OH 43215 by the 28th day after you receive this packet from the**

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Common Pleas Court . You must also send a copy of your Answer to the plaintiff's attorney and all other parties and state that you did so in your Answer. An explanation about a Complaint, Summons and Answer can be found at www.ohiolegalservices.org (click on For the Public, then click on Courts and Hearings, then click on Documents and Papers from a Court, then click on Complaint and Summons). A Sample Answer can be found on the Franklin County Law Library website at www.fclawlib.org (click on Forms, then select Sample Forms and scroll down the page to find the form that you need).

If you do not return this request or file an answer within 28 days from the date you receive the summons and complaint, the Lender (Plaintiff) can file a motion with the court and obtain a foreclosure order. If a foreclosure order (default judgment) is granted, the county sheriff will hold an auction where all interested parties may bid for the home.

You will receive written notice of the time and date for your mediation. This request only provides an extension of time for filing the Answer. If the mediation is not complete within 120 days, you will have to file an Answer to avoid a foreclosure order.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

This address is my primary residence: Yes No

Home Phone #: _____ Work #: _____ Cell #: _____

A working telephone number is required to participate in mediation.

- **I wish to participate in mediation in order to resolve this case.**
- **I am also requesting an Extension of Time of 120 days to answer the Complaint so I have an opportunity to meet with a housing counselor and attend mediation.**

I have an appointment with _____ HUD Approved Counseling Agency on _____.
Name of Agency *Date*

Signature

Date

If you are unable to get an appointment with a HUD-approved counseling agency, Please contact the Franklin County Foreclosure Mediation Project at 614-645-5006, 614-645-5009 or by Email: foreclosuremediation@fcmclerk.com.

Once you have completed this form, you must e-file it with the Franklin County Clerk of Courts office by following the instructions on the enclosed form entitled *We're-Filing!* If you have questions about e-filing you can call the Franklin County Clerk of Courts Civil Division at 614-525-3621.