# Working Through the Water Right Title Update Process

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Smith Hartvigsen, PLLC



# Reasons for ROC Rejection

## 125 Reports of Conveyance rejected in 2012

Incomplete chain of title – 42

Appurtenance issues – 39

Mapping problems – 16

Signature issues – 9

Recording issues – 7

Sole supply issues – 4

Ownership discrepancies – 4

Name discrepancies – 4

Other – 17

#### **Report of Conveyance Checklist**

			orrect	
Criteria		Yes	No	
Section A:				

The deeds / Assignments / Affidavits have been

#### **WARRANTY DEED**

REED L. ORTON and ALEEN H. ORTON, Trustees of THE REED L. ORTON and ALEEN H. ORTON LIVING TRUST dated the 13th day of March, 1996, GRANTORS, of Parowan, Utah Iron County, State of Utah, for the sum of TEN (\$10) Dollars and other good and valuable consideration, hereby by CONVEY AND GRANT to:

i ming ice submitted.	
Water Right Number listed on ROC?	

http://www.waterrights.utah.gov/titleInfo/ROCChecklist.pdf

#### **Report of Conveyance Checklist**

	Correct	
Criteria	Yes No	
Section A:		
(1st Conveyance Summary)		
* Grantor (Same person shown to be owner of		
record on the Divisions of Water Rights Database		

## Section B (100% and Portions).

- \* New Owner must sign the ROC as the preparer or identify the professional that was retained.
- \* If a professional was retained to prepare the ROC they too must sign the ROC as the preparer. A professional must be retained if appurtenancy needs to be established. (Authorized Professionals: Attorney, Engineer, Title Insurance Agent, or Land Surveyor)

		-
ROC's based on Portions  * New Owner(s) needs to sign under Section B.  * Mailing Address of the new owner.  * Beneficial Uses will need to be listed, shown in acre-foot, Cubic feet per second, or percentages.  * Diversion Limit.  *Only if a Change Application has been filed*  *Beneficial Uses will need to be listed, shown in acre-foot, Cubic feet per second, or percentages.		
Filing fee submitted?		ĺ
Water Right Number listed on ROC?		ĺ

## **Signatures on Report of Conveyance**

REPORT OF WATER RIGHT CONVEYANCE \$40 Fee Rec'd BY	_
<ul><li>Must be signed by new owner</li><li>If owner is an entity, indicate the title of the person signing</li></ul>	- - - -
2. Date Signed / / Date Recorded / / Book Page # Recorder's #	_
Must be signed by professional (attorney, engineer, land surveyor, or title agent) if conveyance by appurtenance	- - - - - - -
2. Date Signed/ Date Recorded/ Book Page # Recorder's #	_
All signatures must be original	
5. Mailing Address :	_
	=
1. Assignment Wassanty Deed Quitclaim Deed Sheriff's Deed Trustee's Deed Water Deed Other: 2. Date Signed / / Date Recorded / / Book Page # Recorder's # 3. Grantor	_
4. Grantee(s)	_
5. Mailing Address :	_ _ _
Report of Water Right Conveyance	=

	REPORT OF WATER RIGHT CONVEYANCE				
	ATER RIGHT #				
1					
	SECTION B. CERTIFICATION				
١	I,, certify that I retained to prepare and submit this Report of Water Right Conveyance on my behalf as the owner (grantee) described in				
1	Section A or as the representative of the current owners described in Section A. If this report was prepared				
P	as authorized by Administrative Rule R655-3-3, I further certify that the information contained herein				
ı	or attached hereto is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.				
ı	•				
	Signature Date Phone #				
	Signature Date Phone #				
	FOR LICENSED PROFESSIONALS ONLY				
١	I,, certify that I am licensed as				
ı	in the State of Utah, that my license number is, that I have reviewed the attached				
	documents and have prepared this Report of Water Right Conveyance or that it was done under my				
	direct supervision, and that the information contained herein or attached hereto is true and accurate to				
	the best of my knowledge. I further certify that the documents attached hereto evidence the ownership				
	interest of the "New Owner(s)", named in Section A, in the water right interest listed in Section A:				
ı					
ı					
ı	Signature Date Phone #				
ı	Address:				
ı	This report was arenared for the appears of undefine the records of the Division of Water Diebte. This report is				
	not a title opinion based on a complete title search. It does not warrant or guarantee title to water rights.				
	SECTION C. DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS - FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY				
	Received:/ Filed:/ Reviewed By:				
	Database Changed:/ By:				
	File Changed: / / By:				
	New File Number based on Segregation				
	Remarks:				
	Remats.				
	AMOUNT OF WATER RIGHT RETAINED				
	No agency of the State of Utah warrants or guarantees title to certain water rights. The water right ownership				
	information of second in the Division of Water Rights concerning this water is based on the information which				
	has been submitted by this Report of Water Right Conveyance.				
	REPORT OF WATER RIGHT CONVEYANCE				

#### **Report of Conveyance Checklist**

		Correct	
Criteria	Yes No		
Section A:			
(1st Conveyance Summary)			
* Grantor (Same person shown to be owner of			
record on the Divisions of Water Rights Database			
or Decree/ Proposed Determination ownership			
<ul> <li>Grantee(s) (New owner / owner in transit)</li> </ul>			
Usually the last grantee in the chain of title would			
be the new owner. (Sometimes the professionals			
complete the chain of title backwards. Hint: Look			
at the date of the deeds)			
* Mailing Address			
Section B (400% and Portions)			

# Supporting Documentation

The deeds / Assignments / Affidavits have been submitted with the ROC.

Maps If any of the deeds fail to mention the Water Right Number a map must be submitted to establish appurtenancy.	
ROC's based on Portions  * New Owner(s) needs to sign under Section B.  * Mailing Address of the new owner.  * Beneficial Uses will need to be listed, shown in acre-foot, Cubic feet per second, or percentages.  * Diversion Limit.  *Only if a Change Application has been filed*  *Beneficial Uses will need to be listed, shown in acre-foot, Cubic feet per second, or percentages.	
Filing fee submitted?	
Water Right Number listed on ROC?	

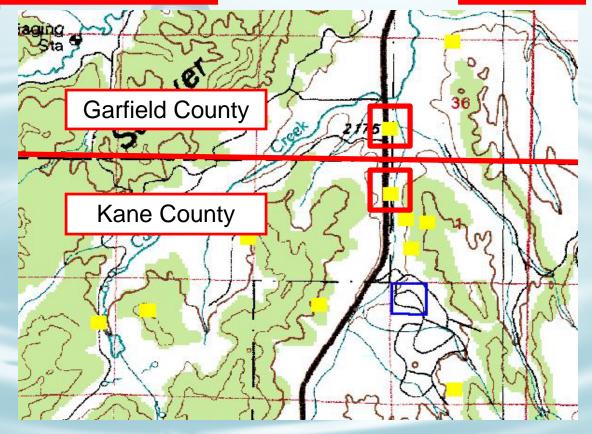
http://www.waterrights.utah.gov/titleInfo/ROCChecklist.pdf

#### Where to Record a Water Deed

Utah Code section 73-1-10

"A water right . . . shall be transferred by deed in substantially the same manner as is real estate. The deed must be recorded in the office of the recorder of the county where the point of diversion of the water is located and in the county where the

water is used."



### **Assignment of Water Rights**

<u>Unperfected</u> water rights may be conveyed by assignment.

Perfected water rights: water rights evidenced by a decree, a certificate of appropriation, a diligence claim (or underground water claim), or a water user's claim filed in a general adjudication

Assignment with original signatures must be filed with the Utah Division of Water Rights

Does not need to be recorded, but can be

Form available at www.waterrights.utah.gov/forms

## **Assignment of Water Rights**

#### WATER RIGHT ASSIGNMENT STATE OF UTAH

For valuable consideration,	
- <u></u>	, as assignor(s)
hereby assign(s) *Water Right Number	, and all water rights evidenced
thereby to the following assignee(s) for the following amounts;	

SECTION C. DIVI	SION OF WATER RIGH	ITS - FOR OFFICIAL USE O	NLY
Received:	//	Filed:/	Reviewed By:
Database Changed:	/	By:	
File Changed:	//	By:	
New File Number bas	sed on Segregation		
Remarks: Assign	ment does le	ot Convey a fluid	ected Water
40 Conve	Will need 4.	submit a L	Deed.
	(SEAL)	NOTARY PUBLIC	
	Commission Expires:	Residing at:	
	, 20		
	Note: If several parties are being assigned the attorney to handle processing of the water rig!	water right, it is suggested that one person be appointed power of ht.	
	*If this is an Exchange or Change Application	s, documentation for the underlying right must be attached.	
		Assignment	

## **Convey by "Deed and Assignment"**

Jane Doe	
126 North 500 West	1
Salt Lake City, UT 841	
WATER I	RIGHT QUITCLAIM DEED AND ASSIGNMENT
valuable considerat	TOR, hereby quitclaims and assigns o Jane Doe, GRANTEE, for good and tion, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, all of e, and interest in and to the following water right in Salt Lake County, Utah:
	ht No. 57-1184, as identified of record with the Utah Division of its, including Change Application a47821 and all other applications hereto.
D. 1 TTTT 1 1 1 1 1 1	037 4 0040
DATED this 15th d	lay of March, 2012.
DATED this 15th d	lay of March, 2012.
DATED this 15th d	lay of March, 2012.
	lay of March, 2012.
	day of March, 2012.
	lay of March, 2012.
John Doe	lay of March, 2012.
John Doe	lay of March, 2012.  } :SS.
John Doe State of Utah County of Salt Lake	} :ss.
John Doe State of Utah	} :ss.
John Doe State of Utah County of Salt Lake On this 12th day o	} :ss. e } of March, 2012, personally appeared before me John Doe, a Grantor herein.
John Doe State of Utah County of Salt Lake On this 12th day o whose identity has	} :ss. e } of March, 2012, personally appeared before me John Doe, a Grantor herein, s been satisfactorily established to me, who did duly acknowledge that he
John Doe State of Utah County of Salt Lake On this 12th day o whose identity has voluntarily execute	} :ss. e } of March, 2012, personally appeared before me John Doe, a Grantor herein.
John Doe State of Utah County of Salt Lake On this 12th day o whose identity has	} :ss. e } of March, 2012, personally appeared before me John Doe, a Grantor herein, s been satisfactorily established to me, who did duly acknowledge that he
John Doe State of Utah County of Salt Lake On this 12th day o whose identity has voluntarily execute	} :ss. e } of March, 2012, personally appeared before me John Doe, a Grantor herein, s been satisfactorily established to me, who did duly acknowledge that he

#### **Name Discrepancies**

Problem: Water right in name of A.O. Christensen. First deed in chain of title is from Alvin Oscar Christensen. How do you establish that A.O. and Alvin Oscar are the same person

- 1 Look for quitclaim deeds already filed
- 2 Look for affidavits already filed
- 3 Name affidavit by someone who knew the person
- 4 Look at other recorded documents (deed of trust, reconveyance, etc.)
- 5 Look at genealogy records or other records

#### **Look for Quit-Claim Deeds Already Filed**

QUITCLAIM DEED

JOHN AAGARD and MARY F. AAGARD, his wife, VANCE W. AAGARD

# QUIT-CLAIM DEED

#### Anne Jackson

grantors, hereby QUIT-CLAIM to

Joseph W. Jackson Properties, LC

grantee of 3449 Navajo Lane, Provo, UT 84604

for the sum of Ten Dollars and other good and Valuable considerations the following described tract(s) of land in Utah County, State of Utah;

Grantee.S., of 344	9 Navajo Lane.	Provo	Utah	Utah
	Street Address	City	County	State
for the sum of ten	and no/100			DOLLARS
for the sum often and for	other good & va	luable consider	ration Utah	
the following describ	ed tract of land in			County,

# **Look for Affidavits Already Filed**

# Water right titled in **Shasta Marie Merrill**

Grantor in first deed in chain of title: Marie W. Merrill

#### **AFFIDAVIT**

STATE OF UTAH COUNTY OF CACHE )

I, Ned Low, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and say:

That I am a citizen of the United States of America over the age of 21 years and a resident of

Smithfield, County of Cache, State of Utah;

That I was well and personally acquainted with MARIE MERRILL during her lifetime. I know of my own knowledge that MARIE MERRILL went by several variations of her name during her lifetime which included:

MARIE W. MERRILL SHASTA MARIE MERRILL MARIE WEST MERRILL

and that the said MARIE MERRILL aka MARIE W. MERRILL aka SHASTA MARIE MERRILL aka MARIE WEST MERRILL were all one and the same person. This Affidavit is given to help clarify the record of title to the following described property:

## **Name Affidavit**

AFFIDAVIT			
STATE OF Utah )			
Country of Service )			
County of Sevier )			
Dwight L. Jenkins being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That he			
is a citizen of the United States, over the age of 21 years, and that he was well and personally			
acquainted with DALE D. JENKINS			
NAMED ON THE UTAH STATE DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS DATA BASE			
AS OWNER OF WATER RIGHT: 63-2202 AND AFFIRMS THAT HE WAS ONE AND			
THE SAME PERSON AS DELBERT D. JENKINS, ONE OF THE GRANTORS IN THAT			
QUIT-CLAIM DEED from Delbert D. Jenkins and Geraldine Jenkins to Delbert D. Jenkins			
(AKA Dale Jenkins), Geraldine Jenkins, Dwight L. Jenkins and Julia Jenkins, dated 2/11/1993			
and recorded 3/11/1993 in Book 269 at Page 742 in Sevier County Utah, and			
THAT the said Dale D. Jonkins also Delbort D. Jonkins also Dale Jonkins is also and all the			
THAT the said Dale D. Jenkins, aka Delbert D. Jenkins, aka Dale Jenkins is also one and the			
same person as DELBERT DALE JENKINS, DECEASED, named in that certain Adjudica-			
tion of Intestacy and Determination of Heirship dated 6/5/2001 and recorded 6/6/2001 in			
Book 412 at page 475 in Sevier County Utah.			
It is the express purpose of this Affidavit to establish the identity of Dale D. Jenkins aka			
Delbert D. Jenkins aka Dale Jenkins aka Delbert Dale Jenkins			
as to the following property situate in Sevier County, Utah:			

#### **Look at Other Recorded Documents**

## QUIT-CLAIM DEED

TRUST WITH ASSIGNM	DEED HENT OF RENTS
THIS TRUST DEED, made this23rd	day of September , 1968, between
* * *LILLIE RASMUSSEN BURGI, 1	ka Lillie Rasmussen,
	as TRUSTOR,
whose address is 2120 Major Street, Salt	Lake City, Utah
WESTERN STATES TITLE COMPANY, a Title	Company (CITY) (STATE)  authorized to do business
in Utah, under the laws of Utah, and in such capacity her a Utah Corporation, and in such capacity herein calle is given,	rein called TRUSTEE, and THE LOCKHART COMPANY, and BENEFICIARY, for whose benefit this Trust Deed
Deceased.	) Probate No. 55885

#### **Research Genealogy and Other Records**

Example:

Water right decreed to **Jane Doe** 

Grantor in first deed in chain of title: Jane Doe Smith

Researched genealogy records and discovered that Jane Doe married John Smith in between the decree and the deed

Prepared affidavit of expert to present research findings, and included printouts from two genealogy databases evidencing marriage

#### **Joint Tenancy**

Husband and Wife owned property and water rights as joint tenants. Husband has passed away.

Utah Code section 57-1-5.1

#### **AFFIDAVIT**

I, (name of affiant), being of legal age and being first duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

(The name of the deceased person), the decedent in the attached certificate of death or other document witnessing death is the same person as (the name of the deceased person) named as a party in the document dated (date of document) as entry \_\_\_\_\_ in book \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_ in the records of the (name of county) County Recorder.

This affidavit is given to terminate the decedent's interest in the following described property located in \_\_\_\_\_ County, State of Utah: (description of the property).

### **Joint Tenancy**

Division's database shows owners as Husband and Wife, without any indication as to whether the water right is held as joint tenants or tenants in common.

Grantor in the first deed in the chain of title is Wife only.

An affidavit is most likely already recorded, and perhaps already on the Division's water right file

## **Joint Tenancy**

#### AFFIDAVIT TO EVIDENCE TERMINATION OF JOINT TENANCY

STATE OF ILLINOIS)

County of Kane: ss.

Personally appeared Jacquelyn Dibble, who, being first duly sworn, on her oath, deposes and says as follows:

1. Affiant is the surviving wife of Donald Charles Dibble who died on June 15, 2008, and is the decedent in the State of Illinois Certificate of Death, Local File Number 751, a certified copy of which is attached to the Affidavit to Terminate Joint Tenancy dated May 30, 2012 and recorded in the Grand County, Utah recorder's office on June 1, 2012 in Book 783, at

#### WARRANTY DEED

MAXINE V. WILLIAMS AND MARK S. WILLIAMS Grantors, hereby CONVEYS and WARRANTS to DONALD C. DIBBLE AND JACQUELYN DIBBLE as joint tenants, Grantee's, of, ELBURN ILLINOIS for the sum of ten dollars and other good and valuable consideration, the following described tract of land in Grand County, State of Utah, to-wit:

#### **Divorce**

	Attest: Alvin Keddington, Clerk  By: J. Harold Call, Deputy Clerk  Filed in the Clerk's Office October Control of State County, Utah  Py. M. Fee paid \$ 3.0 Hazel Taggert Chase. Recorder Self Lake County, Utah  Dep. Ref. 700 March County, Utah	ors by
S. R. RASMUSSEN,  V.  LILLIE RASMUSSEN,	Plaintiff.  DECREE  No. 94928	ee 8
	Defendant,	

- 4. That defendant is hereby awarded as her sole and separate property the following:
- (a) Home at 2120 Major St., Salt Lake City, Utah, subject to the umpaid balance thereon, which home property is more particularly described as follows:

All of Lots 27 and 28, Block 2, South Boulovard Addition, and known as 2120 Major Street.

#### **Foreclosures**

If there is a foreclosure, you need to include more than just the Trustee's Deed

#### Include:

- Deed of Trust
- Appointment of Successor Trustee
- Notice of Default
- Trustee's Deed

#### 100% ROC Form vs. Portion ROC Form

#### Two forms:

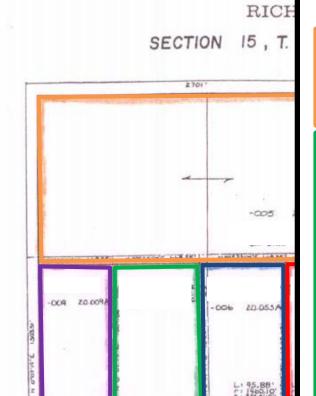
- --100% form
- --Portion form

Note: Use 100% form if all of grantor's interest in the water right is conveyed, even if it is less than 100% of the total water right

#### Example:

Water right is for 20 acre-feet A owns 10 acre-feet and B owns 10 acre-feet If B conveys 10 acre-feet to C, use 100% form If B conveys 5 acre-feet to C, use portion form

#### **Multiple Parcels**



#### EXHIBIT A

#### Parcel 1 (County Parcel ID No. 19-15-00-005)

North half of the North West Quarter; North half of the North East Quarter; South West Quarter of the North East Quarter; North half of the South East Quarter of the North East Quarter; of Section 15, Township 9 North, Range 7 East, of the Salt Lake Base and Meridian. Containing 220 Acres.

#### Parcel 2 (County Parcel ID No. 19-15-00-007)

Part of the West half of the North half of Section 15, Township 9 North, Range 7 East of the Salt Lake Base and Meridian, described as follows:

Commencing at the West Quarter Corner of said Section 15 and running thence North 07019" East along the West boundary of said Section 15, 50.42 feet, said point being located on the North right-of-way line of Utah State Highway 16; thence North 89030'00" East along said rightof-way line, 668.35 feet to the point of beginning of the tract of land herein described, thence North 07'19" East parallel with the West boundary of said Section 15, 1,304.86 feet; thence North 89°23'04" East parallel with the East-West centerline of said Section 15, 668.35 feet; thence South 007'19" West parallel with the West boundary of said Section 15, 1,306.21 feet to a point located on said North right-of-way line of Highway 16; thence South 89°30'00" West along said North right-of-way line, 668.35 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 20.029 acres, more or less.

#### Water Rights Addendum ("Deed Rider")

Utah Code section 57-3-109
H.B. 314, 2010
Became effective July 1, 2011

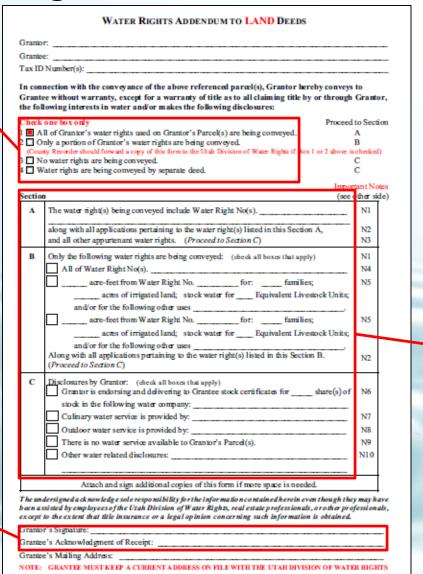
Two forms:

Water Rights Addendum to Land Deeds Water Rights Addendum to Water Deeds

Forms available at www.waterrights.utah.gov/form

#### Water Rights Addendum to Land Deeds

Select whether all, a portion, or no water rights are being conveyed with land



Complete additional information and disclosures

Must be signed by both Grantor and Grantee

#### Water Rights Addendum to Water Deeds

Select the type of deed

Must be signed by both Grantor and Grantee

WATER RIGHTS ADDENDUM TO WATER DEEDS In connection with the foregoing water rights conveyance, Grantor hereby assigns to Grantee all water rights listed which are not yet capable by law of being conveyed by deed (e.g., pending or unapproved water rights) and all applications pertaining to the water rights listed (e.g., all change applications, extension applications, non-use applications, etc.). Grantor also makes the following declarations and disclosures: □ The foregoing deed is a warranty deed. (Grantor is making all standard warranties.) □ The foregoing deed is a special warranty deed. (Grantor is only warranting that Grantor has not previously conveyed title to others, i.e., a warranty of title as to all claiming by or through Grantor.) The foregoing deed is a quit claim deed. (Grantor is making no warranties.) The language in the foregoing deed is controlling as to the type of deed and associated warranties, if any. SECTION 2 - APPURTENANT WATER RIGHTS Check one box onl All of Grantor's water rights approved for use on the following described parcel(s) are being conveyed. In addition to any specifically identified rights, all other water rights owned by Grantor and approved for use on the following described parcel(s) are being conveyed. No water rights other than those specifically identified by water right number are being conveyed. SECTION 3 - WATER RIGHTS CONVEYED IN WHOLE OR IN PART Check all applicable boxes 100% of the following water rights described in the deed are being conveyed. Water Right Nos. Only the portion indicated of the following water rights described in the deed are being conveyed. acre-feet from Water Right No. \_\_\_\_\_ for: \_\_\_\_\_ families; \_\_\_\_\_ acres of irrigated land; stock water for \_\_\_\_\_ Equivalent Livestock Units; and/or for the following other uses: acre-feet from Water Right No. acres of irrigated land; stock water for \_\_\_\_\_ Equivalent Livestock Units; and/or for the following other uses: acre-feet from Water Right No. for: \_\_\_\_ families; \_\_\_\_ acres of irrigated land; stock water for Equivalent Livestock Units; and/or for the following other uses: The language in the foregoing deed is controlling as to quantity, if any. SECTION 4 - OTHER DISCLOSURES Check all applicable boxes ☐ Grantor is endorsing and delivering to Grantee stock certificates for \_\_\_\_\_\_shares of stock in the following water company: Other water related disclosures: The undersigned acknowledge so le responsibility for the information contained herein even though they may have been assisted by employees of the Utah Division of Water Rights, realestate professionals, or other professionals, except to the extent that title insurance or a legal opinion concerning such information is obtained. Grantor's Signature: Grantee's Acknowledgment of Receipt: Grantee's Mailing Address: NOTE: GRANTEE MUST KEEP A CURRENT ADDRESS ON FILE WITH THE UTAH DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

Complete additional information and disclosures

#### Water Rights Addendum ("Deed Rider")

#### Advantages:

- Makes buyer and seller think about water rights
- Clarifies if appurtenant water rights are being conveyed
- Don't have to file a Report of Conveyance (if grantee is the person listed as the owner of the water right on the Division of Water Rights' database)

#### Water Right Addendum ("Deed Rider")

When Recorded Return to: Jane Doe 126 North 500 West Salt Lake City, UT 8411

#### WATER RIGHT QUITCLAIM DEED AND ASSIGNMENT

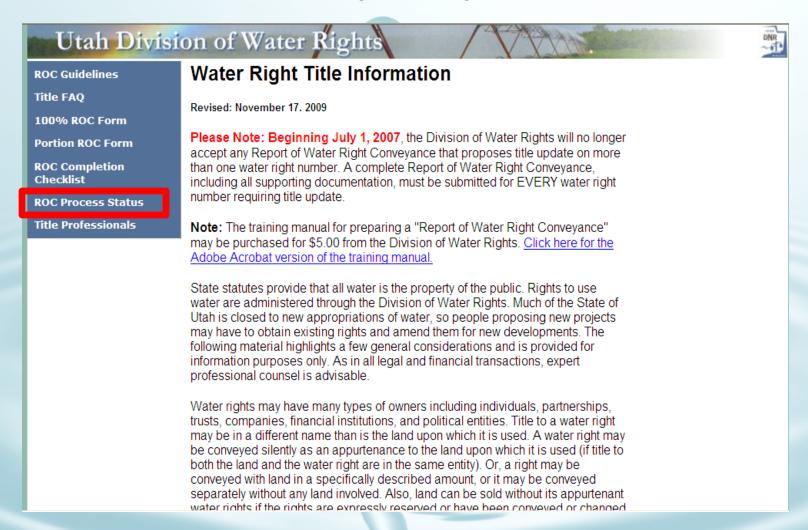
John Doe, GRANTOR, hereby quitclaims and assigns to Jane Doe, GRANTEE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, all of Grantor's right, title, and interest in and to the following water right in Salt Lake County, Utah:

Water Right No. 57-1184, as identified of record with the Utah Division of Water Rights, including Change Application a47821 and all other applications pertaining thereto.

DATED this 15th day of March, 2012.

#### **Report of Conveyance Status**

http://waterrights.utah.gov/titleinfo/



#### **Report of Conveyance Status**



### **Additional Information on Reports of Conveyance**

- Utah Administrative Code R655-3
- Division of Water Rights title information page http://www.waterrights.utah.gov/titleinfo
- Training Manual www.waterrights.utah.gov/titleinfo/trainman.pdf
- Randy Tarantino or Sue Glenn at Utah Division of Water Rights (801-538-7240)

# Questions?

Contact information:

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