Implementation of Chapter 452 – Laws of Maryland 2010 Disclosure of Personal Information on Websites - Prohibition

What the Bill Does

- o Defines social security numbers and driver's license numbers as "personal information."
- o Authorizes agencies upon request, the ability to mask this personal information on the internet version of the record without altering the original; and where Notice of Records are concerned, without affecting the validity of the instrument.
- o Prohibits state agencies "to the extent practicable," from displaying personal information on an internet site.
- o Outlines a procedure for an individual to petition to have personal information masked.
- o Prohibits individuals from preparing for recordation documents which include social security numbers or driver's license numbers.
- If personal information is inadvertently included in a document presented for recordation; the Bill allows the person to ask that the personal information be masked before the document is made public on the Internet.

Procedures

Users of *mdlandrec.net* should notify the helpdesk upon discovering "personal information" on the site. The notification can be emailed to msahelp@mdsa.net, submitted through the "Contact the Help Desk" links on *mdlandrec.net* or can be called in to 410-260-6487. All requests must include the county, book and page number.

Individuals contacting the help desk should indicate if it is their own personal information. These requests will receive top priority and must by law, be handled within 30 days.

These procedures allow the original image to remain unchanged while meeting the requirements of the legislation. The procedures put in place will also provide an audit trail that documents the changes made to the online image.