



## CHICAGO BULL

(10-11-2023)

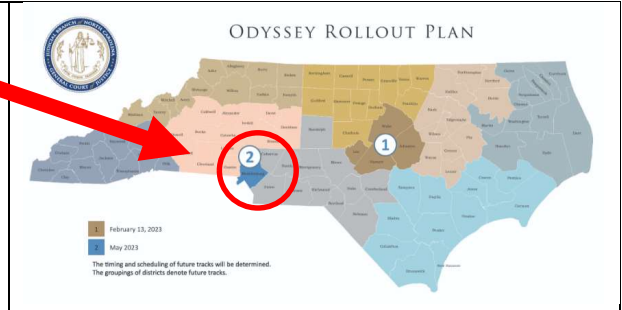
**Odyssey is now LIVE!**

**BEWARE: Search Function Issues!**

**NC ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS  
(AOC) ODYSSEY TRANSITION FROM VCAP:**

**Are You Watching? (Part IV)**

**(Track 2 – Mecklenburg County)**



On **October 9, 2023**, the Odyssey Portal and e-filing went live in Mecklenburg County, -- the 5<sup>th</sup> county on the system, in addition to Johnston, Lee, Harnett and Wake Counties. It is still absolutely critical that any attorney or title examiner who is searching titles in migrated counties follow several important protocols:

- (1) **Watch, read and STUDY the instructions on the website:** <https://www.nccourts.gov/ecourts> regarding how to search in BOTH Smart Search and Judgment Search.
- (2) **Watch the Real Property Section “Return to the Vault” presentations** where specific examples of concern are discussed so that you will be aware of the **EXTRA DUE DILIGENCE** needed.
- (3) **Consider a VCAP “all county” search as a backup** to your searches to be sure Odyssey is returning all applicable civil actions, special proceedings, lis pendens, claims of lien, estates as well as judgments.
- (4) **KEEP A PRINTOUT/PDF COPY OF YOUR SEARCHES AND RESULTS, EVEN IF (ESPECIALLY IF) NO RESULTS.**
- (5) **REPORT any problems or discrepancies to the AOC at [eCourts@nccourts.org](mailto:eCourts@nccourts.org).**
- (6) **Obtain the NCLTA “AFFIDAVIT OF UNDERSTANDING AND INDEMNITY AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT REGARDING COMPUTER DATA MIGRATION (VCAP to E-COURTS ODYSSEY PORTAL)”** on-line at [www.nclta.org](http://www.nclta.org) at every closing regarding property in the migrated counties, given the **“blackout” (Oct. 4-8 in Mecklenburg)** as well as the ongoing Portal search issues. This is to **PROTECT YOU AND YOUR CLIENTS**, to **DISCLOSE** to your buyers the limitations on your ability to search and verify information in your search, and to **OBTAIN VERIFICATION FROM THE SELLER (or Borrower on a refinance)** that they have disclosed any applicable issues you might have been unable to find.

**CAUTION:** Though the search engines have wild cards, you may be surprised by the search issues, such as the need to choose from a dropdown for a business or other parameters in the dropdown menus, or the limitation of requiring 3 or 4 characters (depending on your search), or the issue with special characters in business names or individual names with first initials, ongoing changes -- just to name a few issues.

**For more information**, see our Chicago Bull “NC Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) – Odyssey Transition from VCAP – Are You Watching? (Parts I, II and III)” (12-28-2022, 1-31-2023 and 3-17-2023), on-line at: <https://www.northcarolina.ctic.com/legal-articles> under Title Search & Opinions

**As always, please feel free to contact our North Carolina Chicago Title Counsel to discuss at any time! This is a developing situation and we are working diligently to keep you abreast of the latest information available!**

View this and more articles on our website at <https://www.northcarolina.ctic.com>