

# ATTENTION AND NOTICE OF SUIT

## Regarding Matured U.S. Savings Bonds

**Did you realize all U.S. Savings Bonds eventually “mature” and no longer earn interest?**

**Did you purchase U.S. Savings Bonds decades ago which have since been lost, stolen, or destroyed?**

**Are you a U.S. Savings Bond owner that has relinquished a claim over your bond?**

**Did your loved ones pass away with unredeemed U.S. Savings Bonds?**

If you are a person listed on the face of a U.S. Savings Bond described below or a person who may have an interest in a U.S. Savings Bond that has reached its final maturity date and no longer earns interest, that is registered to an address in the State of South Carolina according to the records of the United States Treasury Department, and that was issued during the following timeframes:

- a. 40-year Series E bonds issued between 1941 and November 30, 1965;
- b. 30-year Series E bonds issued between 1965 and June 30, 1980;
- c. Series A, B, C, D, F, G, J and K bonds (all of which were issued prior to 1958);
- d. Series H bonds issued between June 1, 1952 and December 31, 1979;
- e. Series EE bonds issued between January 1, 1980 and December 31, 1980; and
- f. Series HH bonds issued between January 1, 1980 and December 31, 1990;

You are hereby notified of the existence of a civil action filed in the Richland County Court of Common Pleas that would impact your title interest in such U.S. Savings bonds.

There are hundreds of millions of dollars in matured U.S. Savings Bonds which were issued to South Carolinians decades ago, most of which have become abandoned, lost, stolen, or destroyed. The U.S. Treasury owes billions of dollars for mature bonds which have gone unclaimed for decades, but the U.S. Treasury continues to hold the proceeds of these bonds while making little to no effort to seek out the owners and return the proceeds to the original owners or to a person who may have an interest in the bond. Millions of mature bonds remain unclaimed for years and are never redeemed. To address this inequity, the South Carolina legislature passed legislation to allow the State of South Carolina to take title to these U.S. Savings Bonds by a process known as title-based escheatment. The new law also provides persons asserting an equitable interest in the proceeds from these bonds to assert a claim after redemption occurs. The Office of the State Treasurer of South Carolina has filed a civil action in Richland County to seek escheatment and a declaration of title ownership of these bonds to the State of South Carolina. The Office of the State Treasurer of South Carolina is taking steps to recover the proceeds from these abandoned, lost, stolen, destroyed, and unclaimed mature U.S. Savings Bonds. If you have a mature and unredeemed U.S. Savings Bond described in this notice and have questions about redeeming this bond or desire to keep legal title to such bond, please contact the number at the bottom of this notice for additional information.

*There are two groups of U.S. savings bonds subject to this escheatment action:*

**Group One** are U.S. Savings Bonds identified above which are considered “absent”—that is abandoned, lost, stolen, destroyed or the original owner has simply relinquished a claim over the bonds—and therefore the bonds are not in the physical possession of the Office of the State Treasurer of South Carolina (“absent bonds”). The Office of the State Treasurer of South Carolina is seeking the identity of the persons who purchased these absent bonds from the U.S. Treasury, but the U.S. Treasury refuses to

reveal their identity. The U.S. Treasury makes little to no effort to locate these persons and this civil action is the first step in an effort by the Office of the State Treasurer of South Carolina to address this failure.

**Group Two** are U.S. Savings Bonds identified above which are abandoned, unclaimed, and currently in the possession of the Office of the State Treasurer of South Carolina (“bonds in possession”). The Office of the State Treasurer of South Carolina has twelve (12) bonds in possession and these bonds in possession bear the names and addresses of the following five (5) individuals:

William P. Howell	102 Beeren Drive, Clover, SC 29710
Charles Lewis	RR 1 Box 150, Holly Hill, SC
Johnny B. Randolph	RR 1 Box 147, Elloree, SC
Dan C. Waring	Route 1 Box 73, Santee, SC
Eddie Washington	c/o Mrs. Louise Washington, RFD 2 Box 84, Elloree, SC

If you believe you are a person listed on the face of or a person who may have an interest in either of the groups of U.S. Savings Bonds listed above and you wish to learn more information about this civil action, visit <http://www.treasurer.sc.gov/unclaimed-property/>, or call toll free at 1-800-966-7752.

You are further notified that a Petition pursuant to South Carolina’s Uniform Unclaimed Property Act has been filed in the Richland County Circuit Court, 1701 Main St., Room #205, Columbia, South Carolina 29201, by the Office of the State Treasurer of South Carolina seeking a declaration that title to the above-described U.S. Savings Bonds has passed to the State of South Carolina by way of escheatment pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 27-18-75. This civil action is captioned as follows:

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA	)	IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
COUNTY OF RICHLAND	)	FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
	)	Civil Action No.: 2015-CP-40-7526
<b>IN RE: ESCHEATMENT OF</b>	)	
<b>MATURED, UNREDEEMED,</b>	)	
<b>AND UNCLAIMED UNITED</b>	)	
<b>STATES SAVINGS BONDS WITH</b>	)	
<b>PURCHASERS OR OWNERS WITH</b>	)	
<b>LAST KNOWN ADDRESSES IN THE</b>	)	
<b>STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA</b>	)	
Office of the State Treasurer of South	)	
Carolina,	)	
	)	Petitioner,
v.	)	
William P. Howell, Charles Lewis, Johnny	)	
B. Randolph, Dan C. Waring, Eddie	)	
Washington, and Unknown John and Jane	)	
Doe Owners,	)	
	)	Respondents.

You are hereby required to answer the Petition or otherwise respond on or before February 22, 2016, in the Richland County Circuit Court, whose address is listed in the paragraph above. If you fail to answer or otherwise defend, the Petition and other related pleadings will be taken as true, and judgment, the nature of which will be stated and may include a declaration that title to the above-described U.S. Savings Bonds have passed to the State of South Carolina by way of escheatment, will be rendered accordingly.

You are further notified that on February 23, 2016, at 2:00 p.m. EST, a hearing will be held at the Richland County Circuit Court, at which time the court will determine whether the above-referenced bonds should escheat to and be titled in the State of South Carolina.