



# Press Release

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## **Philadelphia's January Foreclosure Sheriff Sale Halted!**

President Judge Pamela Dembe, of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, signed an order today to which granted a stay of the January Sheriff Sale for all owner occupied residential properties. The order was in response to a petition filed today for the Philadelphia Unemployment Project by attorneys from Community Legal Services and Philadelphia Legal Assistance.

The petition was filed by PUP to give Philadelphia homeowners an opportunity to apply for the federal Emergency Homeowners Loan Program (EHLA) which has appropriated \$106 Million to provide bridge loans to PA homeowners behind on their mortgages due to unemployment, underemployment or illness. The program is due to become operational in January although funds have been available since October 1, 2010. The state is waiting for authorization from HUD to begin taking applications.

The program comes from legislation that was originally introduced by Rep. Chaka Fattah of Philadelphia.

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