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IN ESCROW
30.4 - 10.06.2016

IN ESCROW

In escrow is known to most by its use on real estate signs, hanging below the placard for the indeterminate period of time after **for sale** and before **sold**. In this regard, being **in escrow** means that a buyer has shown committed interest in the property by making an additional mortgage payment designated for property taxes and hazard insurance. This is known as **T&I**, for taxes and insurance, which, in addition to standard mortgage insurance consisting of principal and insurance (or **P&I**) is referred to as **PITI** (pronounced "pity").

ASSETS

An **asset** is a resource controlled by an **entity** from which future economic benefits are expected to flow. It must be owned or controlled to produce value or have **positive economic value**. Tangible assets include anything from real estate to the body, while intangible assets include trademarks or intellectual property. In programming, an asset refers to CSS, JavaScript, and image files – all front-end elements that control the appearance of a web page. Assets (plural) is a term also used to refer to a person's ass, breast, legs or hips. Speaking of one's body in terms of **long-term investment** may feel familiar – a mother telling her daughter to **protect her assets** might be said to mean that she should control her appearance and furthermore regulate other people's access to it.

LOSING THE HAND

More broadly, escrow is a contractual agreement in which a third party receives and holds assets for primary transacting parties. Disbursement is contingent on an agreement being met, or a set term of conditions being fulfilled. Again, in real estate, when withholding rent from a landlord one might put their rent in an escrow account in order to prove that you do, in fact, have the money, but that you won't hand it over until say, the heating has been fixed. In essence this is a principle of proving that you have something by putting it in the hands of a neutral third party. Putting one's assets in escrow is an act of **demonstrative forfeit**. You're showing your cards to prove that you have them, then **losing the hand**.