Lea County Document Detail: Three Dates and the Lease Number Line

LMJ Chalk Talk · Site Walkthrough 105 · Lea County Clerk, New Mexico

Today we open one instrument on the Lea County Clerk's site and read the detail page line by line, because two of its lines decide what goes on your runsheet.

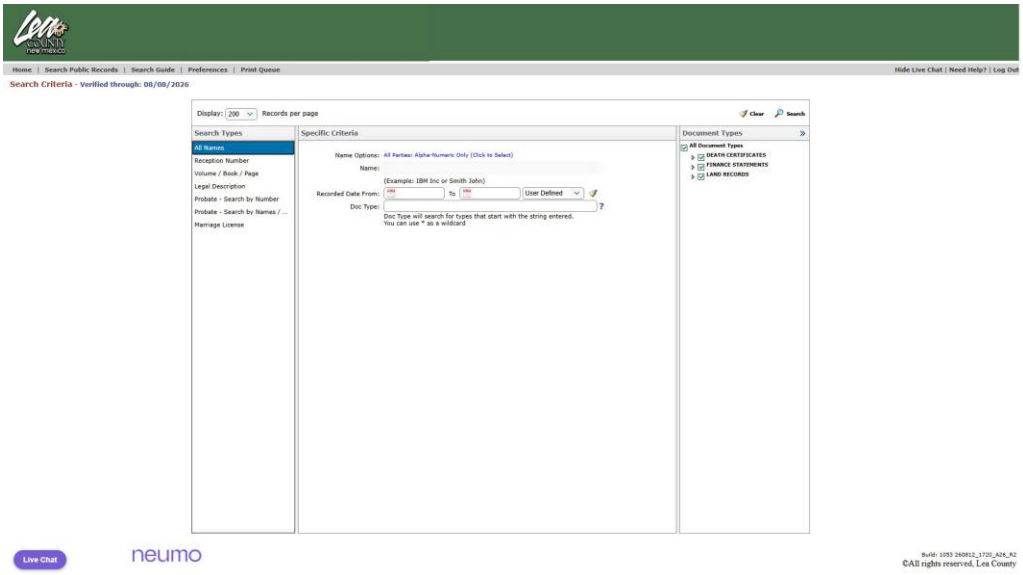
Every screen here is a real frame from the video, on the Lea County Clerk's public site.

Questions about your title?

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Title. Ownership. Due Diligence.

Step by step

Login as Guest, then Search Public Records.

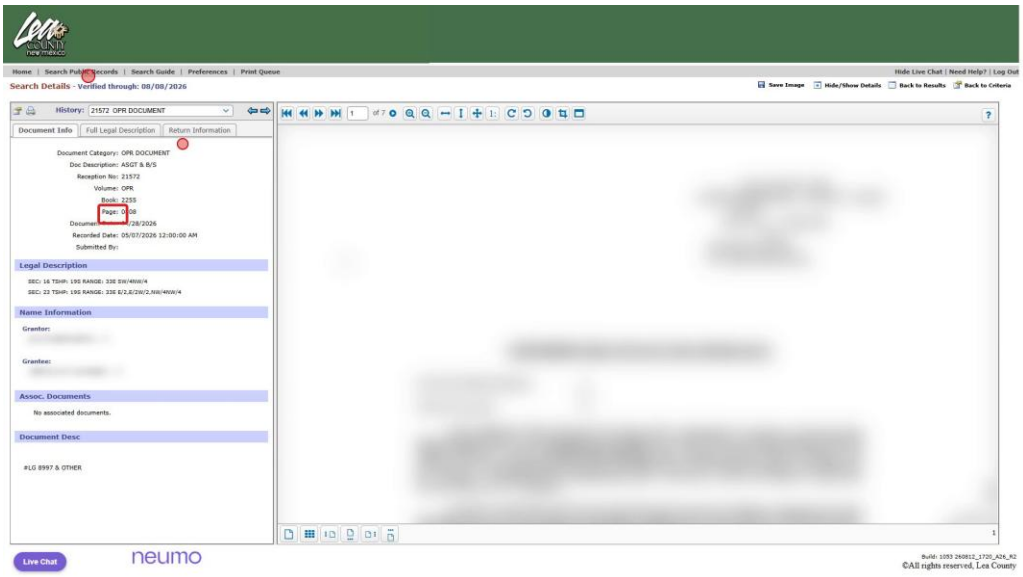


Site Walkthrough 105, at 0:16. Lea County Clerk public site. Names blurred.

I'll pull the assignment from Walkthrough one oh three: book twenty-two fifty-five, page zero eight zero eight. One item. Click the reception number to open it.

General helpful information only. I'm not an attorney or a teacher, and this is not legal, tax or financial advice. The attorney makes the final call.

Document Info, on the left. The description, assignment and bill of sale. Reception number twenty-one five seventy-two. Volume OPR. Book twenty-two fifty-five, page zero eight zero eight.



Site Walkthrough 105, at 0:34. Lea County Clerk public site. Names blurred.

Now the dates. Document Date, April 28th, 2026. Recorded Date, May 7th, 2026. And inside the instrument, it says it's effective March 1st, 2026. Three dates on one assignment. Your runsheet needs all three, labeled, because they answer different questions.

The image opens on the right. Seven pages. I'm blurring it, because it names the parties.

The legal description, as the clerk indexed it: Section sixteen, nineteen South, thirty-three East, the southwest of the northwest, and land in Section twenty-three. Then the grantor and grantee, blurred.

And here's the line most people skip. Document Desc: pound LG eighty-nine ninety-seven and other. That's a State Land Office lease number, the same LG eighty-nine ninety-seven from Walkthroughs thirty-two and thirty-eight. The clerk keyed it in, so now you know which state lease this assignment moves, before you read a page.

Associated Documents: none here. When it's filled in, it links the related instruments the clerk tied to this one.

Return Information shows the date and who it went back to after recording. That's often the filer, not a party, so don't treat it as an owner.

Now a second one. Book twenty-two thirty-six, page five sixty. A ratification.

Document Date, May 20th, 2022. Recorded Date, February 25th, 2025. Almost three years between signing and recording. Section twenty-seven and Section thirty-four, twenty-four South, thirty-three East.

That's why the recorded date matters. A search by recorded date for 2022 would never find it, and a runsheet built in 2023 never had it. The instrument existed. It just wasn't of record yet.

The routine

1. Open every instrument, not just the result line.
2. Write down the document date, the recorded date, and the effective date from the instrument itself.
3. Read the Document Desc line for lease and serial numbers.
4. And check Associated Documents.

The trap

Dating your chain by the recorded date alone. Recorded late doesn't mean signed late, and signed early doesn't mean it was of record.

Links

- **Lea County Clerk records search:** https://countyfusion15.govos.com/countyweb/loginDisplay.action?countyname=LeaNM
- **Watch the video:** LMJ Chalk Talk on YouTube, Site Walkthroughs playlist
- **LMJ directory, New Mexico counties:** https://lmjlandservices.com/directory/new-mexico/
- **LMJ Land Services:** https://lmjlandservices.com

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