



**Loan Modifications: Will They Save the Day?**

**Presented to the Mortgage Bankers Assoc.**

**Paul Miller**

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## ▶ Employment

- Friedman, Billings, Ramsey - Equity Analyst Covering Mortgage Related Stocks since 1997
- Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia – Examiner

## ▶ Education / Certifications

- B.S. Economics
- B.A. International Relations
- M.S. Economics
- Chartered Financial Analyst

# Introduction

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- ▶ Believe loan modification will materially reduce losses on loan pools and to bond investors.
- ▶ No way to quantify financial impact.
- ▶ Modifications can improve credit profile of a securitization and benefit investors.
- ▶ Regulators are advising servicers to assist subprime borrowers with modification to reduce impact of resets, but want option used carefully and with controls.

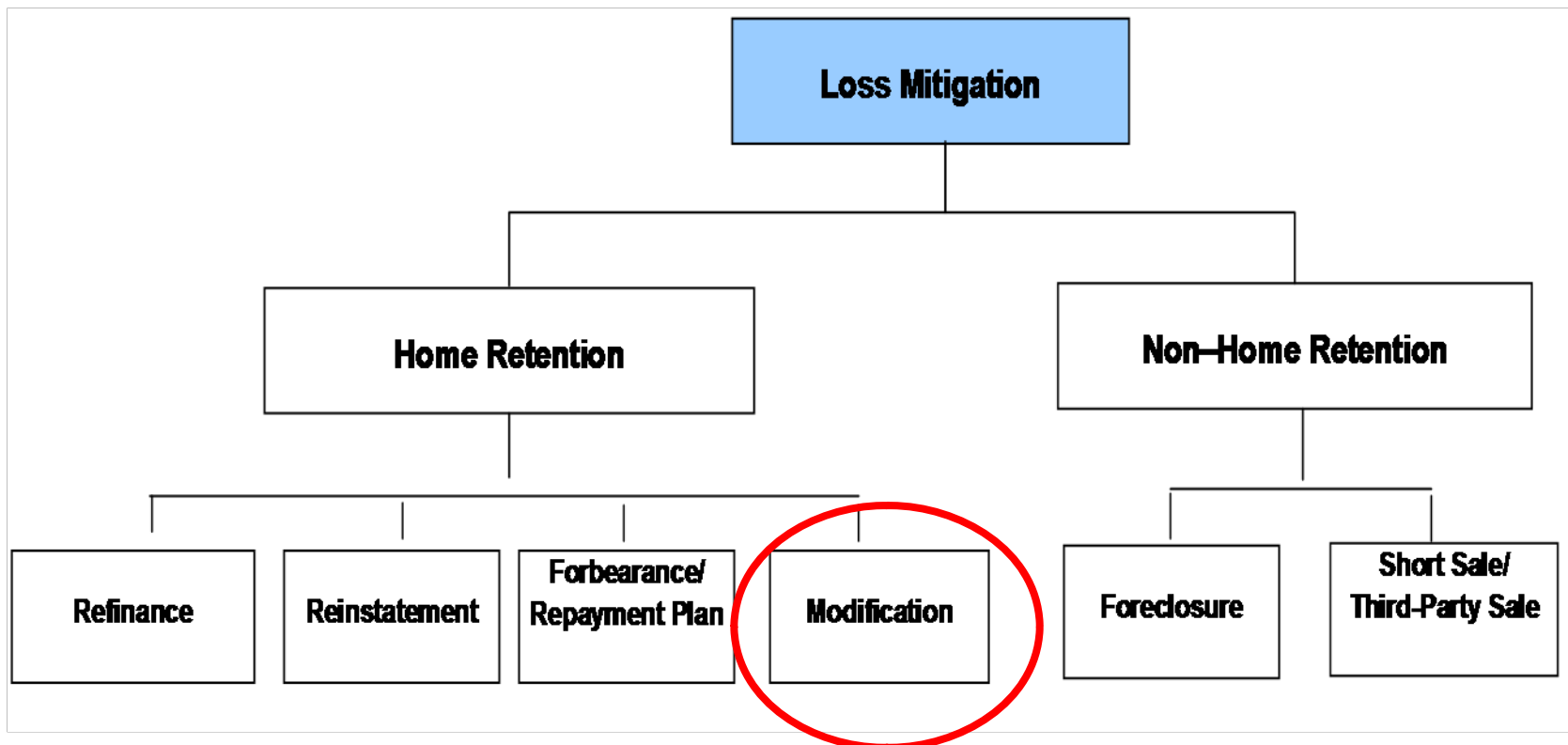
# Key Points

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- ▶ Looking at possible pending second wave of defaults.
- ▶ What will the economic impact be of modifications and can we measure it?
- ▶ Any loan modification program will be complex.
- ▶ Mortgage banking environment not getting better any time soon.

# The Loss Mitigation Process

- ▶ Servicers use default decision technology to calculate and compare the NPV of each alternative.



Source: FBR Research

## Criteria for Loan Modification

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Willingness	Financial Ability	Equity
Dialogue with servicer	Stable work history	80 to 95% LTV based on original value
Payment history	Other Sources of Funds	Local housing market trends
	Positive Disposable Income	

Source: FBR Research

# Foreclosure

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Foreclosure	
Unpaid Principal Balance	\$125,270
P&I, Escrow, Corp Advances	(\$4,672)
Projected Property Sale Price	\$107,950
Future Interest, Taxes, Insurance, Legal Fees	(\$30,173)
FC/REO	\$73,105
Projected Loss	(\$52,165)
Projected Loss Severity	41.6%

Source: FBR Research

# Short Sale

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Short Sale	
Unpaid Principal Balance	\$125,270
P&I, Escrow, Corp Advances	(\$4,672)
Projected Property Sale Price	\$107,950
Short Sale	\$103,278
Projected Loss	(\$21,992)
Projected Loss Severity	17.6%

Source: FBR Research

# Loan Modification

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Loan MOD	
Interest Rate Reduction	(4yr x 3%) =12 %
Principal Forgiveness	

Source: FBR Research

## Projected Loss Severity

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<b>Projected Loss Severity</b>	
<b>Loan Modification</b>	<b>12 %</b>
<b>Short Sale</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>Foreclosure</b>	<b>42%</b>

*Source: FBR Research*

# Loan Modifications

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- ▶ Resets of more than \$170 billion of subprime hybrid loans in 2H 07.
- ▶ Additional \$130 - \$140 billion resets in 1H 08.
- ▶ Servicers preparing for increasing level of loan modifications.

# Modification Terms

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- ▶ Modifications allow for one or more mortgage terms to be changed.

- Conversion from adjustable to fixed.
- Interest rate reductions
- Principal and interest forgiveness
- Maturity extensions
- Capitalization of unpaid amounts

## No Clear Guidelines on Reporting Modifications

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- ▶ Cannot be certain of capturing and reporting credit performance of modified loans to the trust.



**RESULT**

MAY NEVER KNOW EXTENT OF MODIFICATIONS OR ECONOMIC  
LOSS TO THE TRUST

# Analyzing Losses to Bondholders

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- ▶ Use of unlimited or non-controlled modifications may result in additional losses.
- ▶ Can estimate loss to trust if involves forgiveness of principal/interest payments.
- ▶ Other strategies can make estimates more complicated.

# Conclusions

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- ▶ Modifications have tradeoffs.
  - Benefits to homebuyer, residual holder and regulators.
  - Increased risk to AAA-rated tranches.
  
- ▶ Higher costs to servicers.
  - Large volume requires an increase in loss mitigation proficiency and staffing.
  - No way to anticipate expenses that could come with loan workouts or foreclosure.

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