

D.C. purchases United Medical Center



By [Catherine D. Bertram](#) - 07/30/2010

The District of Columbia has [purchased United Medical Center](#) for \$20 million after foreclosing on the property. There were no other bidders at the foreclosure sale, and no money will change hands.

In late June, [the city council voted to foreclose on the property](#) because Specialty Hospitals of America, the hospital's owner, defaulted on its lease agreements. The council created a nonprofit tasked with running the hospital, which council member David Catania called "a de facto safety-net hospital in the District". D.C. has already spent \$70 million on the hospital and may have to continue subsidizing the services it provides.

According to recent reports, the city stands to lose \$1 million per month. There are IRS liens of \$3.9 million.