

The Notary news



The North Carolina Department of
The Secretary of State, Elaine F. Marshall



WELCOME, NC NOTARIES!

VOTE

ELECTION 2020

Primary Season + March Madness

Notaries, we are off to a great start in this new decade!

So much is happening next month. Super Tuesday is March 3rd, and North Carolina is one of *14 states and one U.S. territory* that will be holding primaries.

I encourage everyone to exercise their right to vote, and remember that you -- as a notary -- can witness North Carolina's absentee voter ballot, so please be prepared when voters come to you for help.

March isn't just about elections, it's also March Madness time! This season is like a holiday for sports lovers everywhere because all roads lead to the NCAA Tournament. As a former basketball player and an avid sports lover, I love this time of the year.

Basketball is a team sport, and as notaries we are all on one team -- helping each other to do our very best in our role as public officials. Our office is here standing ready to help answer any of your questions.

No matter where you live in our great state, we are all **Team Notary**. That means we all win when we work together!

Elaine J. Marshall

Please send in your tips, practice ideas, and questions for us
at notarynews@sosnc.gov.



Video Training For Notaries on Absentee Ballots

With North Carolina's primary coming up next Tuesday and the general election slated for November 3rd, many North Carolinians will be voting by absentee ballot this year.

If you don't know already, North Carolina's absentee voter application and certificate are required to be witnessed either by two witnesses or by you -- *one notary*.

We sat down with **Ozie Stallworth, Director of Electronic Notarization and Notary Enforcement** here at the **NC Department of the Secretary of State**, to walk us through your role as a notary in the voter absentee ballot process.

Click here to view the video:

<https://youtu.be/TSL0sw2rl1k>

We hope it will be a great resource for you.



Satisfactory Evidence of Identification

As a notary, your number one job is to make sure you can positively identify the person coming before you requesting your services. Establishing the identity of the principal signer is foundational to the integrity of the notarial process and should never be taken lightly. This not only prevents fraud and forgery, but it protects you as a notary from committing any violation that could potentially cause you headaches down the road.

There are three statutory methods notaries may rely on to establish the identity of the principal or subscribing witness: personal knowledge, credible witnesses, or satisfactory evidence of identity.

Today, let's take a peek at Satisfactory Evidence of Identity:

If an individual appears before you, and you have never seen him or her before, you may rely on a form of identification known as "satisfactory evidence." [10B-3(22)].

Satisfactory evidence includes one current federal or state issued identification card with a picture of the principal's face and their physical description or signature. Sample forms of acceptable identification include:

- State driver's licenses
- Passports
- Retired or dependents military ID cards
- Cards issued by recognized state tribal agencies

What forms of identification are NOT acceptable?:

- Social Security cards
- US Passport cards
- Matrícula consular cards
- Credit cards

- Newer active duty military ID cards (per page 31 of the Manual, the newer military ID cards cannot be used because the signature and physical description are embedded in a computer chip)
- Temporary driver's licenses

Reminder: If you don't have the 2016 North Carolina Notary Public Manual, you may purchase one from the UNC School of Government at <https://www.sog.unc.edu/publications/books/north-carolina-notary-public-manual-2016-print-version>.

As always, if you are unsure of anything, please reach out to the Department at notary@sosnc.gov. We are always happy to help.



Find A Notary

As we add more and more notaries to our rolls, we want to make you aware of the FIND A NOTARY database located on the Secretary of State's website. This is a place where you can voluntarily add your own information so members of the public can find you when they are in need of your notarial services.

We put together this step-by-step instructional video *We Hear You* (below) on how to add your name to the Find a Notary Database.

If you have questions, please feel free to send an email to notary@sosnc.gov.

We Hear You!



We're happy to help you add your information to the NCSOS

Notary Database.



NC Notary Facebook Group

Have you joined the notary Facebook group *The North Carolina Notary Network* yet? Well, what are you waiting for? More than 3,800 notaries around the state have signed up to join us. If you haven't yet, come join!

The purpose of the group is to connect notaries across the state as well as to share information and answer your questions.

Click [here](#) to join today!



Pick Your NCAA Winner

It's college basketball tournament season and North Carolina teams are represented in the ACC, American Athletic Conference, Atlantic 10, Big South, CCAA, Colonial, Conference USA, and MEAC Conferences.

We all have our favorite teams, but only ONE can take home the big prize at the 2020 NCAA championship game on April 6th.

So we have to ask: "Who ya got?"

Send your prediction for which team you think will win this year's NCAA Championship to notarynews@sosnc.gov + feel free to post your brackets to our Notary Facebook Group.

We will share the results in the March newsletter.



Fun Facts About March Madness!

To get everyone ready for tournament tip-off time, we found some Fun Facts about March Madness (*courtesy of Fox Sports*) that will get you pumped up for some hoop action:

- What are the odds of filling out a PERFECT bracket? Answer: *One in 9,223,372,036,854,775,808 (that's quintillion).*
- It's been a long tradition that the tournament champions have cut down the nets to take home, but since 1986, the winning school has also been given the hardwood court, too. Many athletes sell or auction off pieces to their fans.
- The oldest coach to win a title was Jim Calhoun in 2011 at the age of 68. The title of the youngest coach belongs to Emmett McCracken who led Indiana to the championship in 1940 at the age of 31.
- Kansas City, Missouri has hosted the most Final Fours to date with 10 since 1953. Indianapolis can overtake that mark in 2035. It is now an official NCAA rule that the Final Four take place in Indianapolis (NCAA HQ) every five years. The city has hosted six times already.
- AT&T Stadium (home of the 2014 Final Four) with a capacity of 80,000 is the largest stadium to ever host a Final Four.
- The record for most overtimes in a single game is four, and it happened twice, once in 1956 and again in 1961.

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