

Happy March Notaries,

Our very own "Green Thumb" notary, Secretary Marshall has an update on her famous poinsettia plant. Click below for her update.



Update on Emergency Video Notarization

This is to alert you that, despite the vigorous efforts of the Secretary of State's Office and others to obtain a timely extension, the Emergency Video Notarization law expired on December 31, 2021. There appears to be legislative support for reinstating the Emergency Video Notarization law now that the General Assembly has returned to Raleigh.

On December 31, 2021 at 12:01 a.m., ALL notarial acts, traditional and electronic, reverted to the original law requiring in-person, physical presence by the principal or principals.

In addition, the General Assembly has been considering enacting a more permanent remote notarization law, however, those proposals remain in a conference committee. We do believe the General Assembly has an intention to adopt a permanent solution, but we are unable to forecast when it may act.

We will keep you updated on the status of these provisions when more information is available. In the meantime, keep visiting our website for more information.



eNotary Classes Available at Community Colleges

Notaries, many of you have inquired about opportunities to become electronic notaries. Here's a list of the educational institutions in North Carolina currently offering eNotary classes:

AB Tech CC
Alamance CC
Beaufort CC
Blue Ridge CC
Brunswick CC
Cape Fear CC
Catawba Valley CC
Central Carolina CC
Central Piedmont CC
Coastal Carolina CC

Craven CC
Davidson County CC
Durham Technical CC
Fayetteville CC
Forsyth Tech CC
Gaston CC
Guilford CC
Haywood CC
Johnston Tech CC
Lenoir CC
Mitchell CC

Nash CC
Pitt CC
Randolph CC
Rockingham CC
Rowan Cabarrus CC
Southeastern CC
Southwest CC
Surry CC
Wake Tech CC
Wayne CC
Wilkes Tech CC



Fast Five Q&A

Q: I am moving out of state in October, but my commission expires in May. Do I need to take the class all over again if I renew?

You do not need to retake the notary class and you may renew your commission by visiting our website:

https://www.sosnc.gov/Online_Services/Account/Sign_In?ReturnUrl=%2Fonline_services%2Fnotary%2Freappointment

However, once you leave the state, you will need to send a letter of resignation to

our office via fax, email (notary@sosnc.gov) or mail indicating the effective date of your resignation.

According to page 90 of the 2016 North Carolina Notary Public Manual, you are also required to mail your seal via certified mail to our office within 45 days of your resignation.

NC Department of the Secretary of State
Attn: Notary Public Section
PO Box 29626
Raleigh, NC 27626-0626

Q: A question from our FB group: I am doing my first mortgage signing. I noticed there's no certificate, but above the borrower's signature, it reads, "witness the hands and seal of the undersigned." Does the Note require notarization?

Good question. The signature is the "seal" of the signer. If there is not a certificate, then the document generally does not need to be notarized. In instances such as this, it is always best to ask the document preparer whether a notarization is required.

Q: From the Facebook Group: Do notaries charge for every signature? For example, a will has many areas for signatures. I think I only need to charge where I place my seal. Is this correct?

You may charge \$5 per signature.

Do NOT calculate the fees based on the number of seal impressions you make, or the number of certificates you complete or even the number of people who are before you. Each of these areas can change while not impacting the fee you may charge.

For example, two people may sign one document that has one notarial certificate reflecting the names of the two signers, where you will affix one notary seal and charge a maximum of \$10 because you notarized two signatures. Always count the number of signatures you are asked to notarize and calculate the total amount based on no more than \$5 per signature notarized

Click here for more information on fees for notarial acts: [G.S. 10B-31](#).

Q: From our email: Can I record an ID number in my journal? I was told this could be a privacy issue for me to do so.

Absolutely. As a commissioned notary, you can record driver's license numbers and other identification numbers in your journal.

But it is YOUR responsibility to ensure that your journal and seal are locked or secured in a place where only you can get to it.

Notaries, please take an opportunity to correct this information on page 34 of the 2016 NC Notary Public Manual. Go ahead and strike through the first four words of the last sentence in the section titled, Step 5. Complete the Journal on page 34 which reads, "Driver's license numbers and..."

Once you have made the correction, the sentence should read, "Social Security numbers should not be recorded in a notary journal." We will correct this in the next edition of the Notary Public Manual.

Q: What are the six items that constitute a proper assignment of a title document?

See page 68 in the 2016 NC Notary Public Manual for more information:

- Buyer's name and address
- Date of delivery of the vehicle to the buyer
- Odometer reading and certification (10 years old or newer)
- Seller's signature in Section A
- Notarization
- Damage disclosure statement

Failure to ensure that this information is provided will result in a complaint being filed against the notary by DMV officials. As a reminder, if you are not sure about how to notarize DMV documents refer the individual to the DMV or Tag office.

Do you have a question that you'd like us to answer for the **Fast Five**? Please send in your tips, practice ideas, and questions for us at notarynews@sosnc.gov.



Meet Your Notary Instructors!

(Instructors, we appreciate you and want notaries around the state to know who you are. Send your picture and information to us at notarynews@sosnc.gov to be featured.)



Deborah Stanley-Gatling
Hertford County

Deborah became a commissioned notary in 1998 and has been a Notary Public Instructor since 2010.

She teaches notary public classes at six community colleges in the state.

Get To "Know" Our Notaries!

Notaries, we know you are doing great things all over North Carolina, and we want everyone else to know it too. Every month, we will feature our notaries (as long as we have submissions). We want to feature YOU!

We'll make it super easy. Just send us a picture of yourself, along with your name, where you are from, the number of years (or months) you have been a commissioned notary, and one fun fact that you want us to know about you.

Email us at notarynews@sosnc.gov.





Brenda Lewis
Robeson County

*Brenda's been a notary
for over a year*

Brenda's fun fact is she loves to
praise dance.



Janet Wentz
Mecklenburg County

*Janet has been a
commissioned notary
for more than 35 years*

Janet took Irish dance lessons as
an adult and participated in
several competitions, winning
gold, silver and bronze in the
various styles of Irish dance.



NC Notary Facebook Group

Have you joined our notary Facebook group yet?
The North Carolina Notary Network

Well, what are you waiting for? More than 11,096 notaries around the state are in the group. If you haven't joined yet, click the link and come on in!

The purpose of the group is to connect NC notaries as well as give notaries an opportunity to share information, tips and ideas with one another.

When answering questions for fellow notaries, we encourage sharing page numbers, statutes or even pictures of citations from the *2016 NC Notary Public Manual*.

Click [here](#) to join today!





Breakfast? Yes, please!

"They" say that breakfast is the most important meal of the day. And with so many people working from home, who says you just have to grab a granola bar and a cup of coffee to get that first meal in?

Many people now have the time to actually turn on the stove to make something nutritious and healthy before they hop on the clock. We wanted to help inspire you to find things other than Cheerios to eat in the morning. So....

Here are the 12 healthiest foods (according to [Healthline](#)) that you should be eating in the morning:

- Eggs
- Greek Yogurt
- Coffee
- Oatmeal
- Chia Seeds
- Berries
- Cottage Cheese
- Whole Wheat Toast
- Nuts
- Green Tea
- Protein Shakes
- Fruit

Be creative. Mix and match. And, savor the morning goodness before you log on to your computer.



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