



February, 2023

Save the date! For the 4th ANNUAL

eMortgage Closing

CONFERENCE

October 24th & 25th
Greensboro, NC
Grandover Resort & Spa

Ken Sykes
Conference Chair

Elaine F. Marshall
NC Secretary of State

Presented by the Department of the NC Secretary of State

Click [here](#) or image above to view video

Save the Date, Notaries!

I want to personally invite you to join us at the Fourth Annual eMortgage conference this October in Greensboro! Can you believe we are on number four?

I was pleased to meet so many of you last year in Charlotte and look forward to you joining us at the Grandover Hotel on October 24 and 25, 2023.

Last year's conference was a success, and we have YOU to thank for it! Look for more content regarding eMortgage strategies.

Registration opens in April on our website (with a tentative agenda), and we encourage everyone to make their hotel reservations at the Grandover as our room block will sell out quickly. We have negotiated a great rate of \$229 per night, and we will provide a list of local hotels in the area as well.

We are bringing the fun to the conference too by hosting a "playdate" on October 23 for those who want to enjoy all of the amenities that the Grandover has to offer. Look for more details about this day over the next couple of months.

If you have any questions, email us at econf@sosnc.gov.

See you in Greensboro!

Elaine F. Marshall

If you have any questions for us, please reach out to the Department at notary@sosnc.gov. We are always happy to help.



**Notary Chat: Charlotte, NC
Tuesday, February 21
QUEEN CITY, you are up next!**

Secretary of State Elaine Marshall and Ozie Stallworth (Director of Electronic Notarization and Enforcement) are bringing the fifth NOTARY CHAT to Charlotte.

Although these *in-person* events are **FREE**, registration is required due to space constraints.

The next Notary Chat will be held on **Tuesday, February 21 at 5:30 pm at Central Piedmont Community College**. Thank you to Central Piedmont Community College for allowing us to use your space.

Click [here](#) to register for this event.



Thank you to the staff at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington for hosting our Notary Chat last month. And a big thank you to everyone who joined us at UNCW!





Secretary Marshall and Ozie with UNCW Provost Dr. James Winebrake and Registers of Deeds - Omega Jarman of Onslow County, Brenda Clemmons of Brunswick County and Sharon Willoughby of Pender County.



EVN Is Back and REN Is On The Way

With the signing of House Bill 776 into law, Emergency Video Notarization (EVN) is restored until the end of June while work on Remote Electronic Notarization (REN) rules are underway. In the meantime, here is what you need to know now:

- **Emergency Video Notarizations** have resumed as a stop-gap measure to allow video notarizations while permanent REN procedures are being put in place. *EVN expires on June 30, 2023 at 12:01am.*
- There are new or increased fees that notaries public across the state can charge now. The maximum fee that can be charged per principal signature is now \$10 for acknowledgments, jurats, and verifications or proofs. For oaths or affirmations without a signature, the maximum fee is now \$10 per person, except for the identity of a principal or subscribing witness. The fee for electronic notarizations under G.S. 10B-188 is \$15.

- For any notarial act under 10B, actual mileage at the federal mileage rate can be charged if the travel reimbursement is agreed to by the principal in writing prior to travel. (The State of NC uses the federal mileage rate of 62.5 cents per mile.)
- The new Remote Electronic Notarization fee will be \$25 per principal signature when REN becomes effective.

There are a lot of things that the Secretary of State's Office will have to work out over the coming months to get ready for REN. We are asking for your patience as we navigate this new law, and we are excited about the new opportunities that REN will open up for our notaries and our state.

Here is a link to EVN resources available on our website: [North Carolina Secretary of State Notary Emergency Video Notarization \(sosnc.gov\)](https://sosnc.gov)

If you have any questions for us, please reach out to the Department at notary@sosnc.gov. We are always happy to help.



Fast Five Q&A

Q: Now that notaries can charge \$10 for administering an oath, will the fees for being sworn in by the Register of Deeds be increased as well?

This is a great question. The answer is no.

The fee for administering the oaths of office to a notary public and making the appropriate record entries as provided in the Notary Act is set by statute at \$10. It would take a statutory change to N.C.G.S. 161-10 (17) to increase the fee for administering the notary oath of office.

Q: From our FB Group: Is there a website where I can let people know they can use my notarial services?

Our website is the perfect place to let people know where to find you and use your services.

We have a section called "[Find A Notary](#)" where anyone in our state can find NC notaries who have registered on this database. If you want to register yourself on this database, hop onto the Notary section [here](#) to sign in and add your information.

Q: From our notary chat: We keep hearing the acronyms RON and REN. What's the difference between the two and which one will be here in our state?

The difference between Remote Online Notarization (RON) and Remote Electronic Notarization (REN), which the NC legislature has passed, is more than just semantics. A RON has some of the same characteristics as our temporary Emergency Video Notarization (EVN) law, which allows paper documents to be notarized remotely by a traditional notary using a wet ink signature and notary seal.

North Carolina's REN law only provides for the remote notarization of electronic signatures by an electronic notary using an electronic notary signature and seal.

Q: From our email: Are we allowed to notarize a minor's signature?

Yes. You treat notarizing the signature of a minor the same way that you would treat notarizing the signature of an adult. You need to make sure that you can positively identify the signer.

If you do not personally know the minor, they will need to present an acceptable form of identification such as passport, driver's license or state ID. If they do not have an acceptable form of identification, you can use a credible witness to establish their identity (an individual who is personally known to both you and the minor).

Q: From our FB Group: What can I do if my seal is too faint to read because of an uneven application or a bad impression?

You won't be the first or the last notary that this will happen to. What's important to remember is that your seal impression must be legible so another impression will need to be made near the initial one.

Don't try and correct the first impression with a pen or ink. You don't want to be accused of tampering with a document and causing it to be rejected. Notaries are actually prohibited from altering a notary seal impression (10B-37(c1)).

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.

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.



Eva Nation
Mecklenburg County

*Eva has been a
commissioned notary
for over 20 years*

She has a beautiful pit bull, Jade, that is 77 years old in dog years. Jade is the apple of her eye, of course!



Leticia Carter
Mecklenburg County

*She has been a
commissioned notary
for two years*

Leticia says she's a kid at heart and loves watching cartoons with her grandchildren.



Tymeeka L. Williams
Johnston County

She has been a notary since 2017

Tymeeka is also a comedian who travels near and far sharing her gift at various conferences, conventions and events.



Denise Long
Buncombe County

Denise has been a notary since 2016

She has a Black Belt in Si Lum Kung Fu-Five Animal Style - although she's never had to use it either at work in her duties as a notary.



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 14,780 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 to 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!





Super Bowl 2023

Whether you are a Chiefs fan, an Eagles fan, you're just a fan of great football (or commercials!), February 12 cannot get here fast enough! Super Bowl 2023 is on the way in all of its glory, so you know we had to do some trivia.

Send us an email with your answers (include your name, your favorite NFL team and where you are commissioned), and we'll shout out a few of you winners in the next newsletter!

Q: What two teams have won the most Super Bowls?

Q: What two cities have hosted the most Super Bowls?

Q: What famous jeweler makes the Lombardi Trophy?

Q: What city hosted the coldest Super Bowl ever?

Q: Who was the first singer to perform at a Super Bowl Halftime Show?

Q: Which teams haven't appeared in a single Super Bowl?

FUN ONE: How many chicken wings are consumed on Super Bowl Sunday?



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