



It's time to soak in the last few weeks of summer 2021!

Summer is coming to a close, and I don't know about you, but it seems like it went by really quickly. It goes without saying, but please do your best to stay safe and help your friends and family do the same.

As you know, **Labor Day** celebrates the contributions, sacrifices and economic achievements of the American worker. It's a day for more than hanging out by the pool and grilling shrimp kabobs. It's a day for celebrating the spirit of those who work hard to earn a living for themselves and their families. And to those who have lost their jobs, we appreciate that their willingness to work hasn't waned.

I want to take this time to salute the American worker. We've all faced numerous challenges during this pandemic, but our spirits have not been broken. Whether you are working in the health care and teaching fields, local or state governments, office settings, construction, law enforcement, nursing homes, etc., we appreciate your tireless efforts to continue making contributions that benefit us all.

This includes our wonderful notaries. This pandemic has certainly tested how you have had to conduct your notarial duties over the the last 18 months. You have not stopped doing this much-needed business for our state. I sincerely appreciate the dedication you've all shown through these challenging times.

Enjoy your long weekend, but let's remember why we celebrate this great day and salute ALL American workers on this day, and EVERY day!

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.

Join Us In The Queen City this Fall!

Third Annual Electronic Mortgage Closing Conference

November 16-17, 2021

Charlotte Marriott City Center
Charlotte, North Carolina

Presenters From: FHLBank Atlanta, Freddie Mac and others

Topics Include: Evolution of eNotes, eTechnology Solutions & Advancements, and Future of Notarizations & eClosings



Registration is LIVE!

The registration page for the **Third Annual** Electronic Mortgage Closing Conference hosted by the NC Secretary of State's Office is LIVE!

https://www.sosnc.gov/online_services/Event_Registration/Front_Page/26

The conference agenda is also on the registration page. As more speakers are announced, the agenda will be updated. Hotel information will also be added to the registration page, but feel free to reach out to us about the hotel room block.

NC Attorneys, our application for CLE credit is pending approval.

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



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
Fayetteville CC
Forsyth Tech CC
Gaston CC
Guilford CC
Haywood CC
Johnston Tech CC

Lenoir CC
Mitchell CC
Pitt CC
Rockingham CC
Rowan Cabarrus CC
Southeastern CC
Southwest CC
Surry CC
Wake Tech CC



Fast Five Q &A

Q: Question from our Facebook Group: Can I notarize a document with a valid international ID?

The Notary Public Act defines satisfactory evidence of identity as at least one current document issued by a federal, state, or a federal or state-recognized tribal government agency bearing the photographic image of the individual's face and either a signature or physical description of the individual in N.C.G.S. 10B-3(22).

Additionally, N.C.G.S. 15A-311 authorizes government officials (notaries) to use valid passports from other countries in determining a person's identity. Identification documents matching these statutory requirements are the only forms of identification a North Carolina notary may use to positively identify document signers.

Q: Question from our Facebook Group: Can we notarize domestic partner forms for health insurance?

Yes. Other than knowing that a document is false or fraudulent or will be used for fraudulent purposes, there are no statutory limitations to the types of documents that a notary may notarize.

It is common for a Domestic Partner Form to have a jurat certificate where the signers swear or affirm that the statements in the document are true. In such a case the notary would have the signer(s) sign before them and administer an oath or an affirmation prior to completing the jurat certificate.

Q. From our Facebook Group: What do we do with our old stamp if we purchase a new one?

Notary stamps/seals that are no longer in use due to an expiration, change of name, wear and tear, etc. are REQUIRED to be turned into the Department of Secretary of State for disposal.

Please send them to our office by certified mail at the following address:

Office of the North Carolina Secretary of State
Notary Division
Post Office Box 29622
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601.

Q: From our email account: Is it okay for me to notarize a car title that my husband is planning to purchase?

Ooh, we get this question a lot. We mean A LOT. The answer is it depends. Notaries may notarize for family members as long as there is no financial or beneficial interest in the transaction. [N.C.G.S 10B-20 \(c\)\(5\)](#).

If the wife is not listed on the title, technically she would not be prohibited from notarizing her husband's signature. However, it is a Best Practice to have another notary notarize in these instances to avoid future challenges to the veracity of the document where the interest in the transaction could be challenged based on arguments that the wife drove the vehicle as much as the husband, and therefore was a beneficiary.

Remember a Best Practice is not law and if there is no financial or beneficial interest on the part of the notary, the notary is free to notarize.

When dealing with family members, after establishing that there is no financial or beneficial interest, the determination about notarizing should be based on the specific circumstances of the situation.

Q: Another Facebook page question: Does my seal go on top of the word "seal", under it or beside it?

Don't cover any printed wording on the document with your seal including the word "seal". You may place your seal above, below or beside the word, however.

The statute requires the seal to be placed near the notary's signature and on the same page as the notarial certificate. [N.C.G.S. 10B-36\(b\).](#)

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.

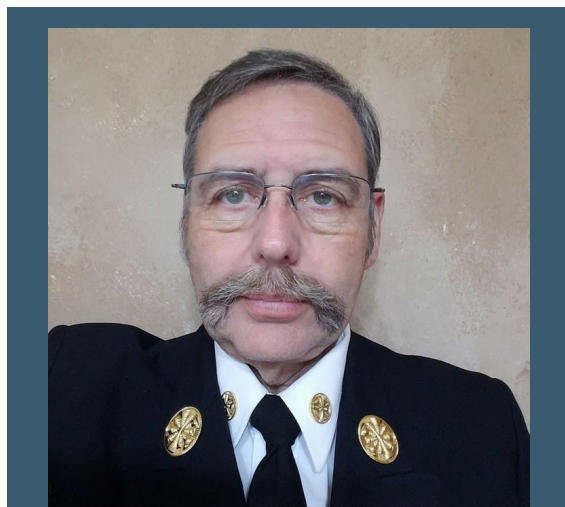


Get To "Know" our Notaries!

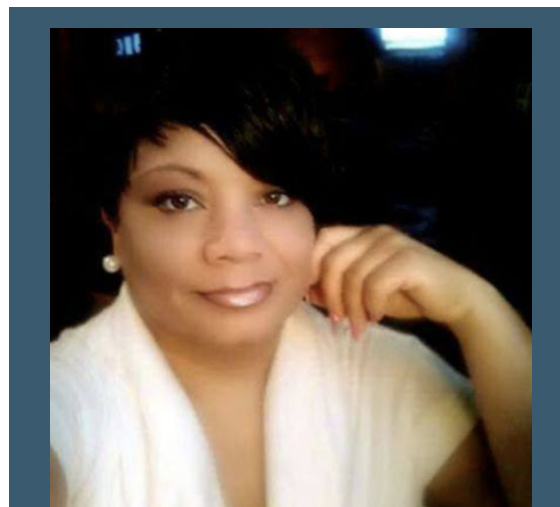
Notaries, we know you are doing great things all over North Carolina, and we want everyone else to know it too. Every month, we will feature our notaries (as long as we have submissions). We want to feature YOU!

We'll make it super easy. Just send us a picture of you, 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.



Robert Penrod
Onslow County



Oveida A. Lunsford
Person County

**Bob's been a notary
for 21 years.**

He's worked as a volunteer and paid firefighter for 47 years in Swansboro. And, he was assigned to two former United States Presidents on their medical team.

**Oveida's been a notary
since 2019.**

She owns a Professional Life Coach business in Roxboro and feels her business and being a notary is a great way for her to serve her small township and community.

December 2021

**The Emergency Video Notarization
due date has been extended to
sunset on December 31st, 2021**

COVID-19 + Notaries

Sunset for Emergency Video Notarizations Has Been Extended:

The sunset date for conducting emergency video notarizations is now December 31, 2021.

Register of Deeds Offices:

Notaries must contact the Register of Deeds Office in their county of residence about their hours of operation during the coronavirus pandemic. Some of these offices are accepting walk-ins while others are requiring appointments.



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 9,362 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

Click [here](#) to join today!



End of Summer Bucket List

Labor Day Weekend is THIS weekend. THIS WEEKEND, ya'll! Don't panic if you haven't done the million and one things that **you said** you were going to accomplish during summer 2021.

Yes, fall officially begins on September 22, so you have a few weeks left to squeeze out some summer fun while the weather is still good in North Carolina.

You don't have to do it all, just get out there and do what you want! Here are some things to put on your "last days of summer" list. And don't forget to be safe doing these activities:

- Take a weekend road trip - pack your bags, your car and hit the road
- Attend an outdoor concert, movie or play
- Take a dip in your local pool
- Squeeze in one last book
- Fire up the smoker or grill and try new dishes
- Take a nap outdoors on a Sunday afternoon
- Host a "girls" or "boys" night out
- Learn how to make a new mixed drink
- Go for a bike or motorcycle ride

