

EFFECTIVE DATE - DECEMBER 8, 2006. INCREDIBLY URGENT!!!

OKAY folks, here's the NEWEST CHANGE for the cert pages. Those of you who did what the original letter told you to do, make two pages and notarize the one - **STOP IT IMMEDIATELY**. Go back to your original pages and **DO NOT STAMP IT - EVER**.

Go back to your one-page cert, don't stamp it, don't put your expiration date on it. Instead of the verbiage of "Subscribed and sworn to by me on this X day of X" just place "This, the X day of X" on the line before you sign.
Beneath your name, you place your Notary Number...

What's that? It should be located on your paperwork you recieved from the SOS's office when you last renewed. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE IT - contact Ms. Rebecca Matthews by email at: **RMatthews@SOSNC.com** to request it.

As of Today, any stamped/sealed cert pages will be deemed UNUSABLE by the Courts. (Can you see how your attorneys might react???)

Please advise any freelancers you know who are not members of any associations to PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE make this change.

Below are: A memo from Dennis and a Sample from Nita Miller

See the following note from Dennis:

Memorandum

DATE: December 8, 2006

TO: North Carolina Court Reporters

FROM: Dennis R. Coley, Jr., CVR, Court Reporting Coordinator

RE: Notary Seals on Deposition Transcripts

Rule 30 of the Rules of Civil Procedure requires the following: "The person administering the oath shall certify that the deponent was duly sworn by him and that the deposition is a true record of the testimony given by the deponent. This certificate shall be in writing and accompany the sound-and-visual or sound recording or transcript of the deposition....."

For years, court reporters have been putting a notary seal on their Certificate page in deposition transcripts. The Administrative Office of the Courts, in conjunction with the Secretary of State's office, has determined that Certificate pages should not contain a notary seal, as court reporters should not be notarizing their own signatures.

The court reporter can comply with Rule 30 of the Rules of Civil Procedure without placing a notary seal on the Certificate. The method that court reporters in North Carolina will be asked to follow from this point forward is to only place their notary number under their name on the Certificate page without the use of a notarial seal.

Please ensure that deposition transcripts containing notary seals are no longer being utilized, as District and Superior Court Judges have been instructed to no longer accept notarized transcripts in North Carolina courts. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

While sifting through all of the issues regarding the notary issue, you have received two letters from the Secretary of State's office. Please disregard those two letters. You will now use the same Certificate page that you've always used, only without the notary seal.

If you do not know your notary number, you may request that information from the Secretary of State's office in writing either by fax or by mail.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at (919) 733-2927.

From Nita:

The cert is to remain the same, except the last line will just read
This the ____ day of _____, 2006. (or whatever year)

Then the line for your signature, then your name as you've always done, THEN THE VERY NEXT LINE UNDER YOUR NAME IS WHERE YOUR NOTARY PUBLIC NUMBER APPEARS.

I did mine like this:

Anita A. Miller
Notary Public #whatever

(Over to the right of the page, natch, as always)

DO NOT PUT SEAL ON CERT PAGE AND DO NOT PUT EXPIRATION DATE.

Thanks for updating your production!

Tori Pittman, RDR, CRI
NCCRA President, 2005-2007