

From: Heidi Schwartz
To: [SoS Rulemaking](#)
Subject: Comments to help shape Colorado's Notary Program Rules
Date: Tuesday, March 6, 2018 11:26:02 AM

Several observations after reading the comments from other notaries:

1. Training and testing for renewing notaries is ill favored unless there has been some sort of disciplinary action. For notaries public who serve their communities with no compensation, additional expenses will be too burdensome to continue.
2. The relationship between notary and employer needs to be more carefully defined before putting rules into effect that define who may control a notary's journal. The state has put a legal burden on the person who is commissioned, not the employer, and unless the employer is somehow named in the commission or the notary's commission is tied to an employer, the journal should not be controlled by an employer. As a private citizen putting detailed personal information in the journal in an age of rampant identity theft, I would not want to trust that information to some corporate entity that may or may not understand the rules for the security of the journal.
3. Several comments were made about the language for the notary signing lines. Any notary who wants to provide a valuable service will make sure that their notarization meets the codes and standards set by the State, however, as many documents come from other states whose rules may be different or whose companies do not keep abreast of notarization changes, it would be helpful to have a quick template for notaries to refer to for consistency.

As with a majority of revisions to statutes and regulations within the State of Colorado, these revisions seem to be a patch applied to a crack that isn't leaking. I did not get the sense from others' comments, and I certainly have not witnessed in the 1000s of documents that I have reviewed, that fraud or deceit is happening at the hands of the notaries. We are essentially commissioned volunteers, we do not have a certification or a licensure, we are not paralegals or attorneys through our commissions, and should not be required to continually retrain and retest.

I have often felt it would be useful to be able to cross state lines as a notary for my work. Perhaps what we really need is a multi-tiered system of notaries public, wherein a notary may serve multiple states under a single license once certified under a uniform law if that notary is interested and has a need to be so certified. For those who serve only within the State and who serve in a limited capacity, the simple commission system as it has been may continue.

Rachel Davenport

