

Andrea Gyger

From: Samantha Long [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 11:32 AM
To: SoS Rulemaking
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments - Notary rules - 11/16/2020 hearing

Dear Ms. Griswold,

I have been a paralegal and notary public at The Law Offices of Furutani & Merkel for nearly a decade. Our practice specializes in Worker's Compensation and Social Security Disability. A large and growing percentage of our clients do not speak English. The proposed New Rule 2.3 requiring notary publics to communicate directly with the individual for whom the notary public is performing a notarial act and prohibiting notary publics from using a translator or translator services would be terrible for our clients and our practice. Our attorneys and our notary publics rely heavily on interpreters for communicating and interpreting all sorts of legal documents, releases, agreements, etc. that our clients need notarized. These are not just Spanish speaking clients. We also have a growing number of clients who speak Polish, French and various Arabic dialects. Sometimes we even have clients who only speak native languages such as Q'anjob'al or Bambara. To require our clients to find notary publics in Colorado who are bilingual in English and their native language would most certainly make it more difficult for our non-English speaking clients to sign documents necessary to pursuing their claims and would, in some cases, make it impossible.

Please do not add the proposed New Rule 2.3 to the New Colorado Notary Rule. I cannot imagine we are the only firm or area of practice whose clients and business would suffer tremendously from such an addition to the Colorado Notary Rule. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Samantha Long
Paralegal

Law Offices of Furutani & Merkel

Workers' Compensation and Social Security Disability
1732 Race Street, Denver, CO 80206
Phone: 720.828.8418
Fax: 303.321.2499

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