



NORTH CAROLINA NOTARY ASSOCIATION

Post Office Box 30517 – Raleigh, North Carolina 27622-0517

October 22, 2008

Dear NCNA Member:

Visit our website:
www.ncnotary.org

If you missed the NCNA Fall Conference, you missed a very informative meeting. Of course you know we always have good food and good fellowship whenever and wherever we gather. Our gratitude to JoAnn Morgan for her efforts in preparing and conducting this event. Thank you JoAnn!!

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A part of our association's objective is to work toward objectives that are in the best interest of notaries and the general public that they serve. This was the first time since being sworn in as Legislative Envoy that I had a chance to survey the members regarding needed changes or improvements in legislation concerning notaries.

We had a lively, lengthy, and involved interchange on several issues, including the requirement for a notary to keep a journal, removal of the exemption for some re-commissioning notary from taking the exam, and requirement of the notary to supply seal producers/sellers with proof of effective commission.

There are many states that require the notary to keep a notary journal. There were positions voiced at the conference both for and against the requirement. Let me hear from you regarding your thoughts on this issue.

The original idea with the Notary Act, Chapter 10B, was to require all notaries (new or re-commissioning) to take an exam. Requiring an exam would create the likelihood that a re-commissioning notary would acquire the latest edition of the guidebook and study the new law before taking the exam. The exemption for notaries commissioned prior to July 10, 1991 blew a hole in this theory. Please forward your thoughts on this issue as well.

Some notaries prefer the impression seal because it feels official. Thought patterns are "Anybody can order a rubber stamp!" Well, truth be known, anybody can order an impression seal! The person who orders a notary seal (impression seal or rubber stamp) and holds himself out to be a notary when they are not has committed a criminal offense. Currently, there are no effective methods to prevent the non-notary from ordering a notary seal/stamp, setting up shop, and hanging out their shingle. Should we pursue legislation that would require the notary to provide proof of commissioning to the seal producer/seller? Let me hear from you.

I would also like to hear if *you* have ideas regarding legislation. No guarantee we will pursue all suggestions. We will pursue what we can. But as Step 1, we need to hear from you.

Also needed, would be members who are willing to volunteer their time and efforts to serve on the Legislative Committee. Please contact me if interested. Thanks.

Sincerely,

Judy B. Chapman

Judy B. Chapman
Legislative Envoy

The North Carolina Notary Association is a Non-profit organization organized to benefit all North Carolina notaries. Our mission is to promote excellence in notary work, to encourage continuing education, and to disseminate information to notaries.