



Notary Bulletin

Nebraska Secretary of State John A. Gale

Winter 2011

Gale starts bulletin for notaries

Welcome to the new Notary Bulletin.

Secretary of State John Gale decided to launch this new quarterly e-mail publication to communicate with Nebraska notaries. The publication will have new developments, tips and reminders for notaries.



John Gale

As secretary of state, Gale is responsible for issuing and enforcing licenses for notaries in Nebraska. The state has about 32,000 licensed notaries.

"My goal is that the Notary Bulletin will help our notaries be aware of their responsibilities under the law and to keep standards high," Gale said.

"Our banking, real estate and legal professions depend heavily on notarized documents to be filed for public record," he said. "Proper notarization is key to document reliability."

If you have questions or comments regarding the publication, please send an e-mail to sos.notary@nebraska.gov or call (402) 471-2558.

We hope that the Notary Bulletin will prove to be a valuable tool for you.

Notary ink stamp requirements outlined

When you are ordering a new notary ink stamp, you must be very specific in terms of the wording, according to Secretary of State John Gale.

Under Nebraska law, all notaries commissioned after Aug. 31, 2007, must use a seal engraved with the following:

- State of Nebraska.
- General Notary or General Notarial.
- His or her name as commissioned.
- The expiration date of the commission.

Upon renewal, each Nebraska notary's seal must comply with the above requirements.

Nebraska law allows the use of ink stamps only; embossed stamps are not allowed.

Ink stamps and embossed stamps have significant differences.

With ink stamps, the required information is engraved on the stamp, the surface is inked and an impression is stamped on paper. An embosser places a raised impression of the seal image on a document.

Application requires legal U.S. residency

A U.S. residency form is now part of the Nebraska notary application process.

Individuals applying for a new or renewal notary license must complete and submit a form attesting that they are a U.S. citizen or qualified alien under the federal Immigration and Nationality Act, Secretary of State John Gale said.

Nebraska law requires that every state agency verify the lawful presence of individuals receiving public benefits from a state agency. Included in the definition of "public benefits" is a professional license, which includes a notary public license.

The Legislature adopted the residency requirement as a curb to illegal immigration in Nebraska.



This is a publication of the Nebraska Secretary of State's Office, P.O. Box 94608, Lincoln, NE 68509-4608. If have questions or comments, e-mail us at sos.notary@nebraska.gov or call (402) 471-2558. To view the notary section of the secretary of state's website, [click here](#).