



# **Strange, Bizarre and Unusual Notarizations**

**January 2013**

A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

# Topics We Will Address Today

- **Strange and unusual notarizations**
- **How to handle these uncommon requests**
- **Provide a forum to share your story**



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

During the webinar, please tweet with  
@NationalNotary #notaryedu - we'd love to  
hear from you!



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION



Can I certify the birth certificate of a horse?

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

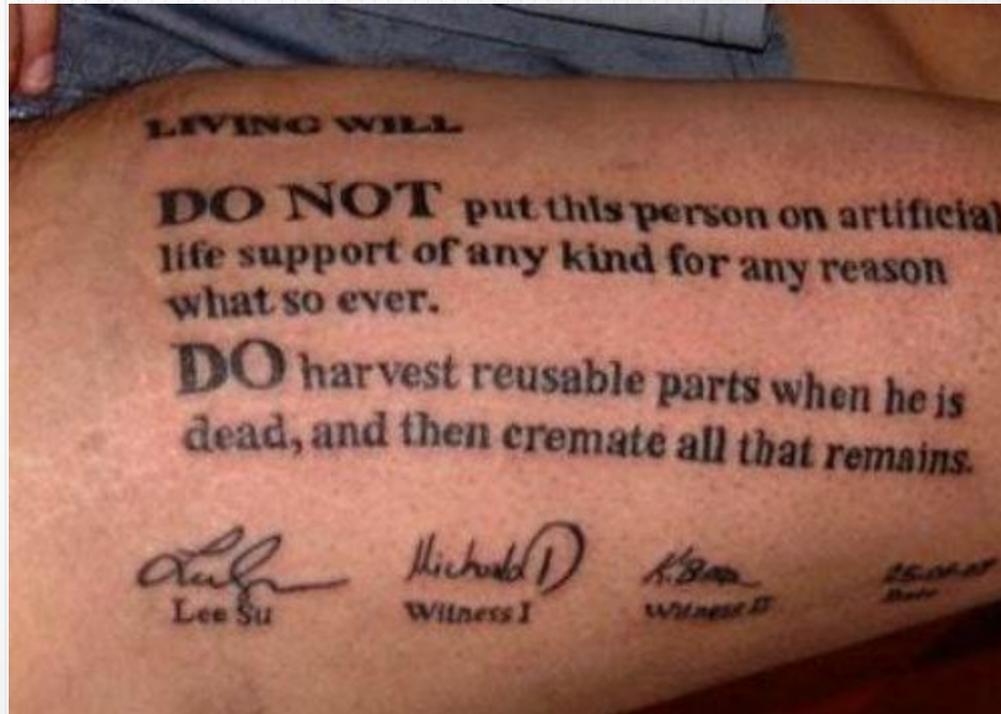
# Answer: Yes

- A signer may write a statement and the Notary could perform a jurat or verification
- It may not accomplish what the signer is after, but that's not your job

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION



Can I notarize a tattoo?

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

# Answer: No

- You can't just stamp and sign an image or document — notarization is not copyright protection
- However, the signer may write a statement about the tattoo and you can notarize that

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

Do I use the death certificate to identify a dead person? Do I write “deceased” after the name?

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

# Answer: No to both

- A vital record is not a proper ID
- You can't notarize the signature of someone who is dead
- If it's the executor, you are notarizing representative signature

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

# How do I notarize for someone with no hands?

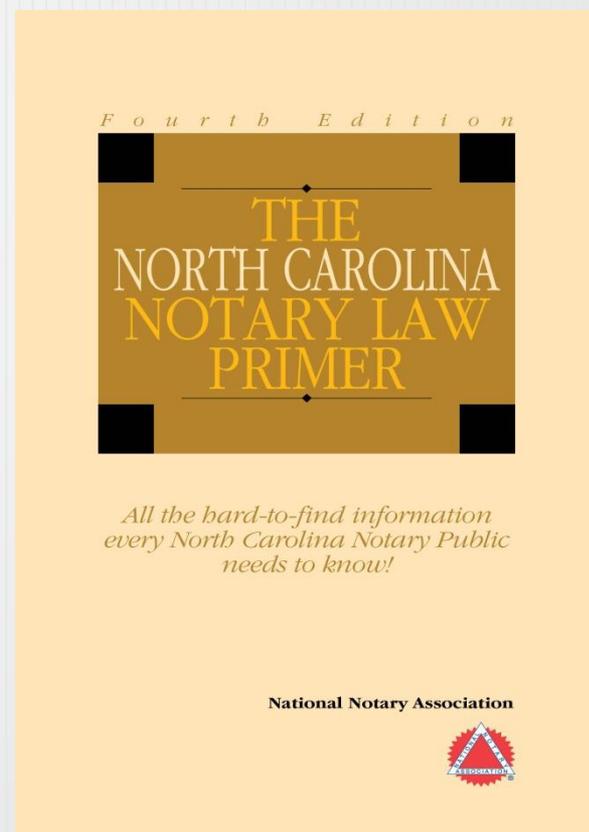
@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

# Signer With No Hands

- Ask how they usually sign
- There are a few options:
  - Signature by Mark  
Consult your state's primer  
Call NNA® Hotline
  - Power of Attorney
- Note in your journal



@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

I tried to notarize for a bedridden woman, but her ID had expired and there was no witness. What could I have done?

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

# Bedridden Signer

- If they can't provide you with proper ID, you must refuse
- Talk to your signer before the appointment to let him or her know what counts as ID

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

I was asked to notarize documents in a foreign language. I required that they be in English as well as two forms of ID.

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

# Foreign Languages

- You could have notarized the first time
- Many states don't require the documents to be in English
- In most states, don't need two IDs

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

A homeless signer requested notarization. Can I use police documents, a birth certificate and a Social Security card as ID?

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

# Answer: No

- These documents are not acceptable IDs
- Best practice is to avoid using them even if your state doesn't say so
- Using one or two credible witnesses may be an option

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

Do I need a signature and a thumbprint from a person I personally know when doing a notarization by mail?

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

# Answer: No

- The first challenge is that if this request is made by mail you cannot perform the notarization.
- The person needs to physically appear before the Notary.
- In some situations the signer may need to sign the document in the presence of the Notary.
- Then the Notary must identify the signer and, if your state requires it, the Notary must get the person's signature and thumbprint in the journal during the time of notarization.

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

# Being an NNA Member has its benefits:

- 24-Hour Help Online at [NationalNotary.org](https://NationalNotary.org)
- Educational Resources
- Regular Updates with NNA Publications
- Toll-Free Hotline Support
- Member Privileges and Partner Discounts



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

# Connect with the NNA and other Notaries through our social media channels!

## Share your story here:



[facebook.com/nationalnotary](https://facebook.com/nationalnotary)

[twitter.com/nationalnotary](https://twitter.com/nationalnotary)

[linkedin.com/company/national-notary-association](https://linkedin.com/company/national-notary-association)



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

# Q & A

For further information, contact:

[hotline@nationalnotary.org](mailto:hotline@nationalnotary.org)

1-888-876-0827

Hotline Counselors are available to assist you

Monday-Friday 5:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m. PT

Saturday 5:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. PT

Webinar Archives at:

<http://www.nationalnotary.org/webinar-archives/index.html>



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

# Group Hotline Discounts

Contact:

**Chris Sturdivant**

[csturdivant@nationalnotary.org](mailto:csturdivant@nationalnotary.org)

818-739-4086

**Michael Appleby**

[mappleby@nationalnotary.org](mailto:mappleby@nationalnotary.org)

818-739-4099



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION



Austin, Texas  
June 2-5, 2013



## Join us for the Notary Event of the Year

The only Notary Conference of its kind, bringing Notaries together from all across the country to learn, network, and advance their careers by finding new income opportunities.

**You Don't Want to Miss Our**  
Networking Events with Representatives  
from Loan Origination Companies,  
Signing Services and Title Companies.



### **Workshops, Keynotes and Roundtable Discussions will cover:**

- Notary Fundamentals/Refresher Courses
- Opportunities to Grow Your Notary Business and Increase Your Income
- Hot-Button Issues
- Liability Concerns and Solutions
- Speakers will include Government Officials, Industry Experts and NNA® Seminar Instructors

# OPEN FORUM

@NationalNotary #notaryedu



A SPECIAL WEBINAR PRESENTATION BY THE  
NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION