



*State of North Carolina  
Department of the Secretary of State*

ELAINE F. MARSHALL  
SECRETARY OF STATE

GAYLE HOLDER, DIRECTOR  
CERTIFICATION AND FILING DIVISION

Pursuant to NCGS Chapter 10B, the Secretary of State is responsible for the education program for notaries and enforcement of violations that may occur. Effective December 1, 2005, your seal will need to meet the requirements of the new notary law.

According to NCGS Chapter 10B-24, "Near the notary's official signature on the notarial certificate of a paper record, the notary shall place a sharp, legible, permanent and photographically reproducible image of the official seal.

A notary's seal shall include only the following elements:

- The notary's name exactly as commissioned;
- The words "Notary Public";
- The county of commissioning, including the word "County" or the abbreviation "Co."; and
- The words "North Carolina" or the abbreviation "NC".

The notary seal may be either circular or rectangular in shape. The circular seal shall not be less than 1 ½ inches, nor more than 2 inches in diameter. The rectangular seal shall not be over 1 inch high and 2 ½ inches long. The perimeter of the seal shall contain a border that is visible when impressed.

A notarial seal may contain the notary's commission expiration date; however, a notarial act shall be invalid if the expiration date contained on the seal is incorrect at that time that the notarial act is performed."

Please send an impression of your new seal within thirty (30) days.

If you need additional assistance, please contact our Customer Service Section by telephone at 919.807.2219 or by e-mail at [notary@sosnc.com](mailto:notary@sosnc.com). The recently adopted Notary Act, Chapter 10B, is currently available to download from the Secretary of State's web site at [www.sosnc.com](http://www.sosnc.com).

