

North Carolina Notary Association

Signatures

2018 NC Notary Association Annual Professional Development Conference held in Raleigh

**Special points of interest:**

- Annual Professional Development Conference held on May 5, 2018
- NCNA Officer Elections 2018
- Educational Scholarship 2018
- The Real ID
- Renew your Membership online via PayPal
- Like us on Facebook

The NC Notary Association held its Annual Professional Development Conference on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at the Blue Ridge Ramada Inn in Raleigh. It was a beautiful Spring day in Wake County and we were quite pleased to have 60 attendees! This broke all attendance records for NCNA conferences!

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The Association was most fortunate to have as speakers Torre Jessup, NCDMV Commissioner, Special Agent Ronald A. McLeod with the NC Department of the Secretary of State, and Agent R. R. Skamperle, NCDMV License & Theft Bureau.

DMV Commissioner Torre Jessup gave an informative presentation on the new Real ID. Pursuant to federal requirements each State must issue identification that meets higher security standards. This Real ID will be recognized as having an increased security measure

verifying identity and residency and will be required by military bases and nuclear power plants for sole identification purposes for entering those facilities. The Real ID will also be recognized by TSA as the one single form of identification for ease of travel. N. C. residents must make an appointment for applying for the Real ID with the DMV by calling 919-755-7000. For the complete list of requirements go to NCREALID.gov.



NCNA President Crystal Gilliard presenting the NCNA paperweight to Torre Jessup, NCDMV Commissioner.



Special Agent Ronald A. McLeod, N. C. Department of the Secretary of State, presented a notary enforcement report and updated the conference attendees on the types and numbers of notary violations that have occurred just in the last year. With over 183,000 active N. C. Notaries Public and 3,600 eNotaries in the State, the number of violations, revocations, suspensions, restrictions, and terminations of notary commissions are relatively low compared to the total number of notaries.

Agent McLeod stressed the importance of “not compromising” when performing notary acts. He also urged the use of the Notary Journal and explained that not only is this one of the major tools in preventing fraud and forgery, it is also the notary’s first line of defense.

Agent McLeod summarized a recent violation by a notary (applicant) who “forgot” to take the oath of office

(Continued on page two)

and was notarizing documents for the law firm in which she worked without a valid commission. This resulted in 57 closings and title searches having to be redone. The “notary” was heavily fined and received a jail sentence.

Agent McLeod gave a summary of the types of Class 1 Misdemeanors and the Class I Felonies as they apply to notaries as stated in the N. C. Notary Act (G.S. 10B-60).

Enforcement Activity 2017-2018

ACTIVITY	2017	2018 (THRU 4-15-18)
Total Complaints	1467	422
Total Admin. Actions	664	193
Suspensions	164	46
Revocations	11	10
Denials	479	129
Class Retakes	10	8
Cases Investigated by LEO/Criminal Investigators	68 (Felony or Misdemeanor)	34 (Felony or Misdemeanor)
Total Notaries		183,000

Agent R. R. Skamperle, NCDMV License & Theft Bureau gave an educational presentation on “Avoiding Notary Pitfalls with the DMV”.

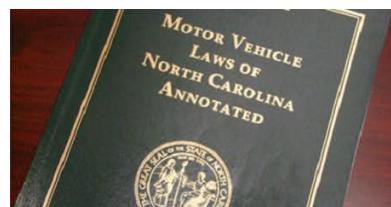
Given the fact that N. C. Notary Instructors are discouraged from covering the notarization of DOT title documents, and the fact that DOT title document notarizations are the most abused notary certificates especially in domestic disputes, this presentation was extremely helpful.

Here are some essential points to consider if you are asked and you decide to notarize, for instance, a “First Reassignment by Registered

Owner “(certificate):

- **Check ID!** Make sure their name as it appears on their driver’s license matches the vehicle title owner’s name that is printed on the front of the title.
- Make sure there is a **buyer’s name and address** at the top of the certificate. (If the notary completes the notarization without a **buyer’s** name, this is considered an open title and the notary could lose their commission and also be sanctioned by DOT.)
- Remember that with a “First Reassignment of Title by Registered Owner” notarization, only the seller is required to be in the physical presence of the notary.
- Sellers sign their names exactly as their names appear on their ID (ID name must match the name that is on the front of the title.) For example, if a woman purchased a vehicle while single and subsequently marries and changes her name on her ID, she must apply for a title in her married name to be able to sell her own vehicle.
- Always capture the principal(s) signatures in your Journal.
- Do not make any changes to the notary certificate that is contained on the title document. This will cause the form to be rejected by DMV.
- If you are unsure of how to proceed, or if the title, for in-

stance comes from another State, or if the principal needs to show proof of his or her authority as an attorney-in-fact, direct the principal to the nearest DMV tag agent. You must not notarize these incorrectly and cause someone to have to reapply for a title or have the form rejected, or even worse—cause monetary damages due to your negligence!



Donna Wray, NCNA Vice President, and Jonathan L. Brown Guerrero, NCNA Legislative Envoy, facilitated a question/answer session on the Top Ten Challenges for Signing Agents/Notaries. Ms. Wray and Mr. Brown Guerrero are both active Independent Signing Agents.

The top ten challenges discussed were:

- 1) Positively Identify the Principal Signer.
- 2) Limitations on the Notary’s Authority.
- 3) Oath and Affirmation.
- 4) Credible Witness.
- 5) Acting as a Witness.
- 6) Notary Fees.
- 7) Journal and Notary Handbook.
- 8) Loose Certificate.
- 9) Signatures.
- 10) Power of Attorney.

2018 Election of NCNA Officers

The election and installation of officers was held at the May 5, 2018 conference. The 2018-2020 Officers are as follows:

Crystal Gilliard, President
Donna Wray, Vice President
Faye Senter, Treasurer
Patty Holloway, Recording/Correspondence Officer
Jonathan L. Brown Guerrero, Legislative Envoy
Judy Chapman, Historian



The Honorable Stef Mendell, Raleigh City Council Member, administered the oaths of office.



LAW CHANGE 2017—2018 Session of the General Assembly, SB 569. Power of Attorney Page 32 (excerpt from the 35-page bill)

Section 2.2. G.S. 47-28 reads as rewritten:

47-28. Powers of attorney.

(a) Recording required for powers of attorney affecting real property:

- (1) Before any transfer of real property executed by an agent empowered by a power of attorney governed by Chapter 32C of the General Statutes, the power of attorney or a certified copy of the power of attorney shall be registered in the office of the register of deeds of the county in which the principal is domiciled or where the real property lies. If the principal is not a resident of North Carolina, the power of attorney or a certified copy of the power of attorney may be recorded in any county in the State wherein the principal owns real property or has a significant business reason for registering in the county.
- (3) Any instrument subject to the provisions of G.S. 47-17.2, 47-18, or 47-20 and signed by an agent and recorded in a county other than the county where a power of attorney is recorded in this State shall include the recording information, including book, page, and county for the power of attorney.

Website Updates, Facebook, and New Friends

The NCNA's website was updated last year by adding the opportunity to sign up and renew memberships on-line through PayPal. On average NCNA received an additional 10+ new memberships and renewals every month for the past 5 months. Also available as of the past conference, the majority of our conference attendees registered on-line. Please note that this conference had an epic attendance of 60! We are very happy to make this available to our members, and very excited so many of our members and new members took advantage of this feature!

NCNA is on Facebook! Our Facebook page can be found quite easily by searching for North Carolina Notary Association. For the first time ever, your Newsletter Editor was able to post real time photos of the conference as the event was going on. Become a friend of NCNA on Facebook!

New friends and alliances are being made through the Facebook page of the N. C. Notary & Signing Agent Professionals. This Closed Group already has 538 members so if you are interested in this industry of notaries, you may want to sign up to be a member. A good deal of information is shared daily on this page.

2018 Educational Scholarship Recipient Ms. Hannah Whalen

Ms. Hannah Whalen, daughter of NCNA member Pauline Styers, was awarded the 2018 NCNA \$500.00 Scholarship at the May 5, 2018 Annual Professional Development Conference in Raleigh, NC. Ms. Whalen plans on attending NC State University and majoring in Fashion and Textile Management. She will use the scholarship to help fund her college tuition relieving some of the financial burden off of her parents (Hannah has 4 siblings who plan on pursuing their college degrees in the coming years.).

A few of the other awards that Hannah has received include:

- National Honor Society and Beta Club Member
- Coaches Award in Gaston Day varsity volleyball
- Presbyterian Fellows College Award

Hannah currently volunteers at a local women's shelter and at Teens Changing Gaston County. She is also very active in various extracurriculars including volleyball, swimming, Drama Club and International Thespian Society, and Blutopia Literary and Arts Magazine.

Congratulations Hannah!! Well done!



Highlights from the 2017 Conference in Matthews, NC



Great speakers at this conference! ***Detective Gary Veasie, Monroe Police Department in Criminal Investigations**, warned notaries about people whose intentions are to deceive the public. Always be observant about the ID that is presented—look at the date of birth, photo, or any other information on the ID that doesn't look original. * **Michael Dickerson, Mecklenburg County Director of Elections**, gave a spirited, timely talk on the election process and specific problems associated with IDs that have been encountered in Mecklenburg County. ***Donna Wray** led a discussion on the “Do’s” and “Don’ts” in Signing Agent closings.

Highlights from the 2018 Annual Professional Conference



“We always have a good time, learn new things, see old friends, make new friends! Great networking opportunity!”

2019 Annual Professional Development Conference

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Email: info@ncnotary.org
Website. www.ncnotary.org
Like us on Facebook!!

The NCNA Executive Board is gearing up in its planning of next year's conference. The first planning meeting will be held on August 17, 2018 in Carthage, NC. If you would like to participate in this meeting, please email info@ncnotary.org. If you are not able to participate by attending this meeting, we would still like to have your input on topics you would like to see covered at the 2019 conference. Always helpful are suggestions for speakers as well. You may send those ideas to our Board by emailing info@ncnotary.org.

NCNA PURPOSE

**"To Promote excellence
in Notary work.
To Provide Notary
education and training.
To Encourage and
support those things that
are in the best interest of
Notaries and the public
they serve."**

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Patty Holloway, Recording and
Correspondence Secretary
Judy Chapman, Historian
Jonathan L. Brown Guerrero,
Legislative Envoy

Mary Louise Canter
Ila Penny
Jack Penny
JoAnne Morgan

Committees

Audit
Nominating
Educational Scholarship
Legislative



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