

From: Melinda Schlinsog
To: [SoS Rulemaking](#)
Subject: Comments on Proposed Notary Rule Changes
Date: Thursday, March 8, 2018 11:12:18 AM

To who it may concern,

I received your email on proposed changes to the 'Notary Program Rules' and would like to provide input on the changes being considered. My comments are below each of the bullet points.

- Amend rules to require notaries to take a notary course and pass an exam in order to renew their commissions.

I find the suggested requirement above to be burdensome upon both the Notary and in our situation (a law firm), upon the firm. We have 4 Notaries in our office who can be called upon to affirm the identity and acknowledge the signing of documents. Before becoming a Notary, each of us had to take the mandated course and exam. To have to do this prior to every renewal places an unfairly increases the time and money spent. Perhaps if there are complaints received about a Notary, those individuals would be required to have further training. Otherwise, this drastically increases the costs involved in being a Notary without any appreciable gain, as Notaries are already required to be educated, pass an exam, and keep up to date on the status of Notary requirements. I'm sure that the Secretary of State's goal is not to create a cost-bar to holding a Notary license.

- Amend rules to specify that a notary's firm or employer in possession of a notary journal has the same responsibility as a notary concerning that journal.

The proposed change above is placing responsibility for each Notary's journal upon a firm they may work for. For some employers that may not cause any concern but for others who perhaps do not use the Notary service of the person in their employment, it seems an unfair and overly broad requirement.

Thank you.

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