eNotarization Benefits for North Carolina

- *Creates a competitive advantage for North Carolina's business communities who will be able to provide more efficient and timely service to its customers.*

- *Creates an environment where electronic documents can be executed, notarized and transmitted electronically.*

- *Creates opportunities to introduce automated work flow to complex consumer transactions.*

- *Enables organizations to transition to paperless work-flow where greater security, speed, efficiency and accuracy can be realized.*

- *Creates a progressive business environment which will attract out of state companies seeking to conduct business in and from North Carolina.*

- *Leverages new and existing technology to provide secure and trusted electronic transactions.*

N. C. Department of the Secretary of State

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Electronic Notarization in North Carolina

"Electronic notarization paves the way for North Carolina business enterprises to execute documents electronically which creates an environment that allows eCommerce to flourish."

**Elaine F. Marshall,
North Carolina Secretary of State**

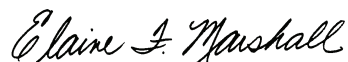## A Message from Secretary of State Elaine F. Marshall

Notaries have played an integral part in the economic growth and development of the State of North Carolina for more than 200 years. As we prepare to lead the country in electronic commerce, electronic notaries will pave the way to allow North Carolina businesses to integrate electronic processes into their modern, high speed operations.

Electronic notaries will be key in fusing technology's promise of greater security, increased speed and efficiency, more reliable data and information and significant cost savings with the time honored principles of enhancing interstate recognition of notarial acts, preventing fraud and forgery, promoting, serving and protecting the public interest.

As we build an environment of security, credibility and reliability that businesses need for operational viability and reliability needed for consumer confidence, electronic notaries will be turned to by the citizens of the state for the trusted, professional service that has become the hallmark of North Carolina notaries.

I encourage you to participate in the state's eCommerce initiative by becoming an eNotary and joining us in, "Pursuing Excellence in eCommerce in North Carolina."

Sincerely,

Elaine F. Marshall

Elaine F. Marshall

Key Attributes of eNotarization

- Personal appearance and positive identification is required for each notarial act.

- Tamper evident requirements for the notary's electronic signature and seal ensure that electronically notarized documents have a high level of security, trust and integrity.

- Electronically notarized documents are the legal equivalent to a traditional notarization.

- Only electronic notary solutions that have been authorized by the Department of Secretary of State may be obtained and used by North Carolina electronic notaries.

- The electronic notary signature appears as a handwritten signature.

- Technology neutral standards for eNotarization allow for flexible integration with existing software applications and operating systems.

- Electronic notaries are required to protect their electronic notary signatures and seals by using a password, token, biometric or other form of authentication verified by the Department.

- Electronic notaries may charge up to $10.00 for each electronically notarized signature.

How To Become an eNotary

- Hold a valid commission as a notary public in North Carolina.

- Take a three-hour electronic notary course of instruction and purchase the N.C. Electronic Notarization Manual (available at your local community college.)

- Pass the N.C. electronic notary exam with a score of 80% or better.

- Submit an electronic notary registration form with the $50.00 filing fee to the N.C. Department of Secretary of State.

- Take the eNotary oath of office at your county's Register of Deeds office.

- Obtain an eNotary solution from an authorized eNotary solution provider.