

VIRTUAL NOTARIZATION AVAILABLE DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS*

New York State has issued an emergency rule permitting online video notarization. The rule (Executive Order 202.7) below) explains how to notarize without visiting the notary. Persons wishing to notarize a parental designation without visiting a notary can contact a local notary to arrange via an online service. At this time, there are no lists of notaries who are offering this service.

Kinship Navigator Offering Notarization Service

The NYS Kinship Navigator is offering to notarize parental designations virtually. Please contact the Navigator to arrange an appointment at 877-454-6463, via chat at www.nysnavigator.org, or via email at navigator@nysnavigator.org.

Executive Order 202.7 (Reads in part):

IN ADDITION, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Section 29-a of Article 2-B of the Executive Law to issue any directive during a disaster emergency necessary to cope with the disaster, I hereby issue the following directives for the period from the date of Executive Order through April 18, 2020:

- Any notarial act that is required under New York State law is authorized to be performed utilizing audio-video technology provided that the following conditions are met:
- The person seeking the Notary's services, if not personally known to the Notary, must present valid photo ID to the Notary during the video conference, not merely transmit it prior to or after;
- The video conference must allow for direct interaction between the person and the Notary (e.g. no pre-recorded videos of the person signing);
- The person must affirmatively represent that he or she is physically situated in the State of New York;
- The person must transmit by fax or electronic means a legible copy of the signed document directly to the Notary on the same date it was signed;
- The Notary may notarize the transmitted copy of the document and transmit the same back to the person; and
- The Notary may repeat the notarization of the original signed document as of the date of execution provided the Notary receives such original signed document together with the electronically notarized copy within thirty days after the date of execution.

*New, March 29, 2020

The above information is not legal advice. It is not a substitute for consulting an attorney. Up-to-date legal advice and legal information can only be obtained by consulting with an attorney. Any opinions, legal opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication or on the NYS Kinship Navigator website or by any person or entity to whom you may be referred are those of the Kinship Navigator, Catholic Family Center and/or the person or entity you are referred to and do not necessarily represent the official views, opinions, legal opinions or policy of the State of New York and/or the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS). NYS Kinship Navigator is a Catholic Family Center program, funded by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. Catholic Family Center is the only agency authorized by New York State to provide a statewide information and referral service to kinship caregivers. The information herein is published by the NYS Kinship Navigator.