



Notary Law Update - 2024

AALS, an Association of NALS and BLSA | Fall Board Meeting 2024

Notaries
For Alabama

Michelle L. Riley, B.A.

- d/b/a Notaries for Alabama; and Alabama Notary & Process Server
- Account Manager, Employee Health & Benefits for Marsh McLennan Agency
- Former Member of BLSA
- Commissioned Alabama Notary Public
- Alabama Licensed Private Investigator #584
- Alabama Licensed Insurance Agent



About Me

“Helping Alabama residents become successful Alabama notaries”.



Today's Topics

- Notary Accountability Act of 2023
- Alabama Remote Notarization
- Absentee Voting
- Real Life Cases Involving Notaries

Notary Accountability Act of 2023

Effective September 1, 2023

What's Working?

- Statewide, uniform commission process.
- Stricter eligibility requirements
- Law enforcement is “alive & well”.
- Notaries have more resources to consult.
 - Notary Certificates are optional/recommended; not required.

What Isn't Working?

- Too many notaries still don't know about it .
 - Commission Start Date of 2020 thru 2022 are “unaware”.
- Commission process takes longer.
- Still little to no interest in formal notary training.
- Notary's legal name vs. name on commission.

Remote (Ink) Notarization

Effective July 1, 2021

What's Working Well?

- Addressing a real and present need.
 - Enlisted Military
 - Real Estate Transactions
 - Americans living abroad/Remote workforce
 - Certain transactions require an Alabama Notary
- Stringent ID requirements deter fraud.

What Isn't Working Well?

- It isn't Remote Online Notarization (RON)
 - Notary Entrepreneurs
 - Alabama Residents
- Non-Alabama Companies – False Advertisements
- Attorney General Opinion 2022-033
 - Alabama Marriage Certificate requires an Alabama notarization.
 - Conjugal visits at prisons.
- Demand exceeds supply.
- Entire process 4-10 days.

Absentee Voting

Started September 11, 2024

Affidavit of Absentee Voter

- Requires notarization or two (2) witnesses
- Oath/Affirmation
- Notary **MUST** sign, stamp and add commission expiration date, otherwise vote may not be counted.
- Refer all questions/concerns to the voter's Absentee Election Manager.

Absentee Voting Law | Act 2024-33

- No more handwritten requests to vote absentee.
- Prohibits:
 - 3rd Parties from completing ballot applications
 - Persons from being paid/gifted for assisting with the process.
 - 3rd parties from delivering applications for voter.
- Criminal Charges

Real Life Cases Involving Notaries



Alabama Notary Resources

- Alabama Probate Judges Association | www.ALPJA.org | New & Renewing Notary Commission
- Alabama Secretary of State Website | www.sos.alabama.gov | Notary Directory, AGO's, Absentee Voter
- www.TrainAlabama.com | Alabama-specific Notary Classes, Free Downloads, Notary Bond and E&O
- Michelle's YouTube Channels
 - Notaries for Alabama | "Just the Basics," Subscriber Questions, Mentoring, Day-in-the-Life-Of
 - Alabama Remote Notary | "How To"
 - Alabama Process Server | "How To"
- Michelle's Websites
 - www.NotariesforAlabama.com
 - www.AlabamaRemoteNotary.com
 - www.TheBondLady.org

Alabama Notary Resources

- Michelle's Books on Amazon/Kindle
 - Alabama's Absentee Voter Affidavit: A Handbook for Notaries
 - Alabama's Notary Accountability Act
 - Getting Started as an Alabama Notary



Thank You

Michelle L. Riley



256-503-6595



michelle@notariesforalabama.com



www.TrainAlabama.com

