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CHAPTER 358

SEALS, OATHS, ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

358.41 DEFINITIONS. 358.42 NOTARIAL ACTS. 358.50 EFFECT OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

358.41 DEFINITIONS.

As used in sections 358.41 to 358.49:

- (1) "Notarial act" means any act that a notary public of this state is authorized to perform, and includes taking an acknowledgment, administering an oath or affirmation, taking a verification upon oath or affirmation, witnessing or attesting a signature, certifying or attesting a copy, and noting a protest of a negotiable instrument. A notary public may perform a notarial act by electronic means.
- (2) "Acknowledgment" means a declaration by a person that the person has executed an instrument or electronic record for the purposes stated therein and, if the instrument or electronic record is executed in a representative capacity, that the person signed the instrument with proper authority and executed it as the act of the person or entity represented and identified therein.
- (3) "Verification upon oath or affirmation" means a declaration that a statement is true made by a person upon oath or affirmation.
 - (4) "In a representative capacity" means:
- (i) for and on behalf of a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, trust, or other entity, as an authorized officer, agent, partner, trustee, or other representative;
- (ii) as a public officer, personal representative, guardian, or other representative, in the capacity recited in the instrument;
 - (iii) as an attorney in fact for a principal; or
 - (iv) in any other capacity as an authorized representative of another.
- (5) "Notarial officer" means a notary public or other officer authorized to perform notarial acts.
- (6) "Electronic signature" means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record.
- (7) "Electronic record" means a record created, generated, sent, communicated, received, or stored by electronic means.

History: 2007 c 148 art 2 s 63

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- (a) In taking an acknowledgment, the notarial officer must determine, either from personal knowledge or from satisfactory evidence, that the person appearing before the officer and making the acknowledgment is the person whose true signature is on the instrument or electronic record.
- (b) In taking a verification upon oath or affirmation, the notarial officer must determine, either from personal knowledge or from satisfactory evidence, that the person appearing before the officer and making the verification is the person whose true signature is made in the presence of the officer on the statement verified.
- (c) In witnessing or attesting a signature the notarial officer must determine, either from personal knowledge or from satisfactory evidence, that the signature is that of the person appearing before the officer and named therein. When witnessing or attesting a signature, the officer must be present when the signature is made.
- (d) In certifying or attesting a copy of a document, electronic record, or other item, the notarial officer must determine that the proffered copy is a full, true, and accurate transcription or reproduction of that which was copied.

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- (e) In making or noting a protest of a negotiable instrument or electronic record the notarial officer must determine the matters set forth in section 336.3–505.
- (f) A notarial officer has satisfactory evidence that a person is the person whose true signature is on a document or electronic record if that person (i) is personally known to the notarial officer, (ii) is identified upon the oath or affirmation of a credible witness personally known to the notarial officer, or (iii) is identified on the basis of identification documents.

History: 2007 c 148 art 2 s 64

358.50 EFFECT OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

An acknowledgment made in a representative capacity for and on behalf of a corporation, partnership, limited liability company, trust, or other entity and certified substantially in the form prescribed in this chapter is prima facie evidence that the instrument or electronic record was executed and delivered with proper authority.

History: 2007 c 148 art 2 s 65

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