SEALED WITH A CERTIFICATE

When a notary public performs a notarial act for a tangible record, such as administering an affidavit, the act is not complete until the notary public executes a certificate.

A **certificate** is customarily located at the lower portion of a document and contains specific details about the notarial act that was performed, such as:

1. The Venue

According to the law, a notary public must "identify the county and State in which the notarial act is performed."

2. Notarial Wording

Every certificate must contain language that details the type of notarial act that was performed.

3. Date

The date of the notarization.

4. Signer(s) / Affiant(s)

The name of the individual(s) who have appeared before the notarial officer.

5. Official Signature

The notary public must sign their name "exactly and only as it appears on the commission."

6. Stamp

According to the law,"an official stamp shall be affixed to the certificate near the notary public's signature in a form capable of photographic reproduction."

7. Title of Notarial Officer

The law states that a certificate must "contain the title of office of the notarial officer."

8. Commission Expiration Date

"The certificate must indicate the date of expiration of the notarial officer's commission."



