



**For Immediate Release:**

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## **Secretary of State Issues Guidance on Temporary Online Notary Services**

**CHEYENNE, WY** – Due to public health concerns regarding [COVID-19](#) and the declared state of emergency, the Wyoming Secretary of State's Office is offering guidance regarding temporary remote online notarization. Remote online notarization is not a requirement, but is now an option open to Wyoming notaries. This guidance is in effect immediately. The Secretary of State's Office will re-evaluate this guidance on or before July 1, 2020, or when the Governor lifts the present state of emergency.

"Today, my office is implementing guidance on remote online notarization. This is a temporary but essential option for notaries and our business clients during this state of emergency," said Secretary Buchanan. "This guidance is needed to address the economic necessity of notarization and is designed to minimize the economic consequences of the coronavirus while safeguarding the health and safety of Wyoming residents."

Many states already expressly permit remote online notarization when practiced by notaries who are trained to understand the security and technological issues associated with remote online notarization. Under present circumstances, the Secretary's Office has determined that the same Wyoming law which requires that a person seeking to have a signature or act notarized be in the presence of the notary also permits a notary to be present through a remote online notarization. Remote online notarization systems include both a live audio and a video connection.

Traditional notarization, completed in the physical presence of parties, must continue to abide by current notary statutes.

For more information, visit: <http://soswy.state.wy.us/Services/NotariesOverview.aspx>.

Or contact Wyoming's Notary Officer at the Wyoming Secretary of State's Compliance Division: (307) 777-7370, [notaries@wyo.gov](mailto:notaries@wyo.gov).

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