

JURATS

A notarial act in which a Notary certifies having witnessed the signing of a document by a signer who swears or affirms that the document is truthful; also called verification upon oath or affirmation.

Affidavits and Depositions

1. Jurat certificates are executed on documents called “verifications.” A common type of verification is the affidavit.
2. An affidavit is a written statement signed before a Notary or other authorized officer by a person who swears or affirms that the statement is true.
3. A deposition is a signed transcript of the signer’s oral statements taken down for use in a judicial proceeding.

Oaths and Affirmations

1. An oath is a spoken, solemn promise to a Supreme Being that is made before a Notary: *“Do you solemnly swear that the statements in this document are true, so help you God?”*
2. An affirmation is a spoken, solemn promise on one’s personal honor, with no reference to a Supreme Being, that is made before a Notary: *“Do you solemnly affirm that the statements in this document are true?”*
3. New Hampshire Notaries and certain other officers are authorized to administer oaths and affirmations.

Steps to Perform a Jurat

1. The signer personally appears before the Notary.
2. The Notary scans the document to make sure there are no blank spaces.
3. The Notary positively identifies the signer.
4. The Notary administers an oath or affirmation to the signer:
Oath: *“Do you solemnly swear that the statements in this document are true, so help you God?”*
Affirmation: *“Do you affirm that the statements in this document are true?”*
5. The Notary completes certificate wording for a jurat and affixes the official signature and seal.

Jurat

State of New Hampshire

County of _____

Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on (date) by name[s] of person[s] making statement).

(Signature of notarial official)

seal

Title (and Rank)

My commission expires: _____