



Internal Services Agency  
Clerk/Recorder Department

Terry Schutten, County Executive  
Mark Norris, Agency Administrator

Craig A. Kramer  
County Clerk/Recorder

## County of Sacramento

October 25, 2007

To: Interested Parties

Subject: **CHANGES TO NOTARY CERTIFICATES AND IDENTIFICATION OF SIGNERS  
ASSEMBLY BILL 886 (CHAPTER 399) – EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2008**

On October 10, 2007, Assembly Bill 886 (Chapter 399) was signed into law effective January 1, 2008. A complete copy of the bill can be obtained online at: [www.leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.html](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.html). **All certificates of acknowledgment and jurats prepared after January 1, 2008, must meet the statutory provisions of AB 886 (see attached examples).**

This bill repeals the law allowing a Notary to identify a document signer based upon personal knowledge for acknowledgments and jurats. The Notary must use “satisfactory evidence” (a state-approved ID that satisfies Civil Code section 1185 or one or two credible witnesses) to positively identify a signer and credible witnesses.

The bill also removes the words “personally known to me” from the statutory acknowledgment and jurat certificates and adds the words “**I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct**” to the statutory “all-purpose” acknowledgment certificate. Note: Verbatim use of the statutory certificate of acknowledgment (for all acknowledgments filed within California) and jurat (for all jurats irrespective of where filed) is required.

Any documents presented for recording which fail to meet the statutory requirements of AB 886 will be rejected. Documents with certificates of acknowledgment and jurats prepared prior to January 1, 2008, will be accepted for recording as long as they meet existing statutory requirements at the time of preparation. The new language applies to all acknowledgments including requests for certified copies of birth and death records.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact me at (916) 874-6382 or Donna Allred, Chief Deputy Clerk/Recorder, at (916) 874-7855.

Sincerely,

/s/

**Craig A. Kramer**  
County Clerk/Recorder

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**AB 886 (Chapter 399) Notary Certificate Requirements**  
**Effective January 1, 2008**

**California All-Purpose Acknowledgment**

*Civil Code section 1189(a)(1) amended to provide that any certificate of acknowledgment taken within the State of California shall be in the following form:*

State of California	)
	) SS
County of _____	)
<p>On _____ before me, <i>(here insert the name and title of the officer)</i>, personally appeared _____ who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.</p> <p>I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.</p> <p>Witness my hand and official seal.</p> <p>_____ [Seal] (Signature)</p>	

**California Jurat**

*Government Code section 8202(b) amended to provide that any affidavit subscribed and sworn to before a notary in the State of California shall have attached a jurat in the following form:*

State of California	)
	) SS
County of _____	)
<p>Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on the ____ day of _____ 20__, by _____ proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) who appeared before me.</p> <p>_____ [Seal] (Signature)</p>	