

## What If There Is No Room For The Notary Stamp or Notary Seal?

One of the most important steps in the notarization of any document is the placing of the [Notary stamp](#) or [Notary seal](#). This step, along with the notary's signature, is the culmination of all the preliminary steps in notarizing, such as identity checking, document scanning and making record book entries. The [notary stamp](#) contains all the identifying information of the notary public - name, commission state and county, notary commission number, commission expiration date. It is essential and mandatory that all of this information be placed neatly and legibly on every document that the notary executes.

There are occasions when the notary will observe that there is not enough room for the placement of the [notary stamp](#). The notary stamp impression must not overlap the notary's signature or any other text in the notarized document or notary certificate. Many agencies will reject a notarized document where the notary stamp obliterates other essential writing on the document. When there is not ample room for the full notary stamp to fit on the document to be notarized, the notary should attach a loose notary certificate to the document. A loose notary certificate is a sheet of paper containing notary verbiage - it may contain the language for an acknowledgment or a jurat which are the most common forms of notarization. (There are also certificates for less common verbiage, such as an attestation clause or copy certification.)

The notary should draw one line through the existing notary certificate which does not contain adequate space for the notary stamp, place his or her initials on it and write the words, "see attached." The notary will then proceed to complete the loose certificate just as the original would have been completed. It is prudent to add the title and date of the document, the number of pages in the document and the names of any witnesses who signed in addition to the signer. This page should be stapled securely to the notarized document - preferably in the upper left corner - to prevent separation or detachment. The document may then be handed over to the signer as complete. Loose certificates should be part of the everyday supplies carried by the practicing notary.