Notary Guide March 2001

When having your application, birth certificate, passport, or any other documents notarized, please use the following checklist as a guide to ensure proper notarization.

All documents require the following:

- 1. Notary's stamp or seal
- 2. Notary's name
- 3. Notary's signature
- 4. Notary's commission expiration date
- 5. Date of notarization (must be original and dated within the last six (6) months)

Documents which must be certified require the notary to certify that the document is a "true & correct copy of the original." If the notary will not certify the document, you may attest that it is a "true & correct copy of the original" and sign the statement. The notary may then notarize your signature.

The notary may attach an affidavit, or cover sheet, if he/she chooses. Some states require an affidavit be used instead of notarizing the actual document. Affidavits must also meet the above checklist requirements and be attached to the document.

If your document is not in English, it must be translated into English. This translation must also be notarized as outlined above. The translation and the original language document must both be notarized and submitted.

<u>Please submit only photocopies of your documents.</u> <u>DO NOT SUBMIT ORIGINAL</u> DOCUMENTS.

Photocopies of the notarization will **NOT** be accepted.