



# Shout Out

## Notary Public's Role in the Justice System

By Joe Johnson

Notaries Public are usually appointed by an office within the state government where they reside. In Florida it's the Governor's Office. The main duty of a notary is to witness signatures on documents of a legal or financial nature. Some documents require the notary to administer an Oath attesting to the validity of the document & the signer's signature also known as a "Seal".

One of the vital duties of a notary is to positively identify the signer of any documents or legal instruments. My experience as a former NYC Police Officer has taught me how to identify fake identity documents.

The most common fake identity document presented is a driver's license. My knowledge of counterfeit licenses affords me the expertise to thwart frauds and con artists. Since a driver's license is a government issued certificate using it illegally can constitute a felony charge. Actually any official government issued document used in a fraudulent manner would constitute a felony. On more than one occasion I have been called to a location and found the person wanting to have a document signed is not the actual person the document is intended for. Since I can be held civilly and possibly criminally liable for an improper document I have refused service.

As a Private Investigator I accept assignments from insurance companies and law offices to investigate claims of accidents and crimes. My job is to obtain the facts of the case, but NOT to determine innocence or guilt. Every investigation involves interviewing claimants, defendants and witnesses. Usually, at the direction of the attorney or the insurance adjuster, I am tasked to obtain a sworn signed & notarized statement as to the circumstances surrounding the claim or the crime. Down the road these sworn statements can be used as exhibits in a court proceeding. In the past I have had to testify to the validity and authenticity of statements I have taken. If it turns out the person who swore to the statement lied it is a possibility that person could be held civilly and criminally liable under perjury laws.

On one occasion I was called to a local hospital to notarize a Power of Attorney for a man who claimed to be the son of a patient. Upon arriving I was met by a man who claimed his father needed to sign a POA (Power of Attorney) so he could access bank accounts and other financial accounts. I explained to the son I would have to interview and question the father to determine his frame of mind, if he was competent to understand what the document is he was signing.

I explained to the son I would need to do this alone. His response to me over that requirement was what started the hair to stand up on my neck. He insisted that he be present in the hospital room when I questioned his father. I reiterated that was not going to happen. At this point I decided to find out from the hospital social worker what was known about this patient and family situation without violating any HIPPA Laws.

I spoke to the social worker who told me the patient has been in the hospital for 6 months and never once did anyone ever come to see him. In the last few days the man claiming to be his son showed up with legal papers. At this point the social worker told me to go talk to the father and I will learn everything I need to know. I entered the room alone and found a man who looked disheveled and somewhat delusional. After a brief conversation in which I was told the President of The United States was Abraham Lincoln and the date was July 4th 1965, and I was his son, I concluded this man was NOT *Compos Mentis*.

Cont. on page 3. Printed with permission



Joe Johnson, one of Notary2Pro's "Experts" and one of our contributing authors.

# Announcements from Notary2Pro

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## Our Records

So many of you are passing up a great opportunity to have a FREE membership into Our Records because you are not accepting our invitation to join and are not uploading your credentials to their website.

If you are tired of, and nervous about, sending out your credentials to every company that asks for them this will take care of your need to do that again.

Just upload the required credentials (easy as pie), they will be verified and any time a company wants to access those Verified credentials you merely need to go into ourrecords.com and add them to a list of companies you are working with and send them an invitation. They can view or download your credentials and you will be all set to work with them.

Another thing you are missing out is this. When you have signings that require fax backs, most companies will accept scanned and emailed documents instead of faxes. With ourrecords.com you can upload those scanned documents securely (encrypted), and send them to the recipients email address. They will be notified that the scanned documents are secured and available to them to download and/or print. That is IT!

Right now, there is no cost involved since you are a member of Notary2Pro graduates team. If you want to join other company's profiles and be able to send huge and almost unlimited scanned documents, you can sign up for the full extended plan. The cost is \$120 annually except for Notary2Pro graduates and the price is \$99 for the year. WELL WORTH EVERY PENNY!!!!

## Experts

If your goal is to create a successful long term business around your Notary Signing Agent business, we are now offering something to you that is not being done by any other company in this country.

Notary2Pro has added a new dimension to our training! In this, our 8th year of training notaries to become Professional Notary Signing Agents, we have created an "Experts" section to our Graduates website comprised of a fantastic group of experts who have added various income alternatives to their NSA businesses. They are now available to share their knowledge with Notary2Pro graduates. We are providing each of them a National platform on our website to connect with our graduates for the purpose of training and mentoring you to learn how to add new skills and services to your businesses. All we ask from them is that they charge our graduates a very reasonable fee for this training.

If you are interested in connecting with one or more of our "Experts" check out the Experts page on your graduate's website. Topics include training in things like: Communication, Process Serving, International Adoptions, Trusts, Vehicle Inspection, Jail/Prison signings, Weddings, Live Scan, Property Inspection and more! Notary2Pro will NOT be profiting from this service. Our goal is to help our students and graduates to create successful businesses which will include a diversity of services.

If you need more information please feel free to contact us at either 916.777.5931 or 916.777.7889 email: notary2pro@gmail.com

## Our Superstars

The list below showcases those Notary2Pro graduates that have completed all three courses including the TRID training.



Charles Brockhouse   Jan Cogdill  
Toni Chamberlain   Vladmir Pejovic



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**Happy Birthday  
to all who are  
celebrating in March**



**Remember to market yourself on a consistent basis.**

**If you assume that you are in the vendor's system then you could potentially miss a call. Suppose their system crashes or someone forgets to enter your information.**

**Always follow up.  
The more you get your name out there the more likely they will use you.**

**Enjoy you job above all!**

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### *CONTACT INFORMATION*

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## A Student's Victory over Cancer by Janice Riter

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*"My mama always said, 'Life was like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get.'"* -Forrest Gump One of my favorite movies is Forrest Gump and I think the quotes from that movie are "Priceless".

I was with my mother celebrating her birthday and we decided to drive to Anna Marie Island, FL and spend a couple of days at the beach relaxing, enjoying wonderful seafood dinners, listening to the waves hitting the beach and watching the beautiful sunsets disappear into the ocean.

On the day we were leaving and heading home mom wanted to have lunch one more time at one of our favorite restaurants and then I received the phone call that changed my life. As I looked at my cell I told mom it's the doctor's office. I had my annual mammogram before I left and wasn't worried because my mammograms had been normal in the past and the only time I did have one small issue it was discovered I have fibro cysts and the radiologist told me to keep my caffeine intake to a minimum and he assured me these would not turn into cancer.

As I answered the phone the office said they had been calling the house and needed to reach me pertaining to my mammogram came back abnormal and they need to schedule the ultrasound.

This was a couple of weeks before Thanksgiving 2015. I told them to set the appointment. Two days before Thanksgiving I am sitting with several women waiting to be called for the test. I finished my test and I was told to wait to get dressed as the Radiologist would look at the films. When the girl came in she told me she needs to take more pictures. After that she told me to get dressed and I will be talking to the doctor. As I sat and looked At the films I kept telling myself it's going to be fine. This was my breast that did not have the fibro cysts. My radiologist was a women and she said she reviewed all my past films and the area of concern was a little smaller then a pea and no one would have ever felt it in a breast exam and I needed a biopsy. I knew I needed to get the appointment as soon as possible.

December 10, 2015 I had my biopsy. My doctor received the report in a couple of days and now I am ready to receive my news. I have a wonderful relationship with him as he has been my mother's doctor for twenty eight years. When he sat down and looked at me and said "Janice if I have to tell any of my patients they have breast cancer I hope I can tell them your report of Stage 1 and the radiologist believe there is nothing in the lymph nodes and its estrogen receptive which is the best report I can tell my patient." My mother had joined us to discuss setting up the operation. Next my doctor is calling the surgeon on his cell who is another doctor we know. December 18<sup>th</sup> met with the surgeon and he advised he would perform a Lumpectomy and check the lymph nodes. The surgery is set for December 23, 2015.

Day of the surgery my minister arrives and has a wonderful prayer with me. My family is with me and my daughter only left my side when they pushed me through the doors to go into the operating room.

When I woke up in the recovery room my mother and daughter were immediately allowed to come in and told me the wonderful news that nothing new was found, my margins looked clear and my lymph nodes were clear. The finale pathology report confirmed what we were told after surgery.

After my follow up appointments with my medical doctor and surgeon they both said they did not believe I would need chemo but I need to see a Radiation Oncologist to discuss the possibility of treatments. I agreed to radiation and I was told to meet with a Medical Oncologist because of my cancer being estrogen receptive I may need to be on a prescription for five years to block estrogen.

I had an appointment with a Medical Oncologist a couple days before starting my radiation treatments. After she sat down in the room with me to discuss my case she advised me she could not make a determination if I should take a prescription because I may need Chemo! I couldn't believe what she told me. I told her she was the first doctor that even mentioned the word Chemo. She wanted to retest my tissue which would take three weeks to get the report back and I would not be able to start radiation until we discussed the report. Sometimes you need to do what is best for you. I knew this was my time.

*Cont. on page 7*

## Notary Public's Role in the Justice System cont.

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I met with the son outside the room in the hallway and informed him I would not notarize the documents because his father was not, in my opinion, able to understand what he was doing. This did not sit well with the son who stated the papers were drawn up by the family attorney and he wanted them signed by his father. I informed him to have the attorney come to the hospital and notarize the documents, or contact the State of Florida Elder Affairs and have a guardian assigned to see to his affairs. This was not what he wanted to hear and stormed off.

I went back to the hospital social worker and updated her. I suggested she call the hospital administrator to notify the appropriate authority as to what had transpired. Some weeks later I was

called by the social worker who told me the man was not his son but a distant relative looking to gain control over the man's bank accounts. After all that I was not paid for my time...LOL

Joseph P. Johnson is the Director of Special Operations at CHARLES B READ INVESTIGATIONS. Currently a licensed State of Florida Private Investigator & Armed Security Officer & Commissioned State of **Florida Notary Public**.

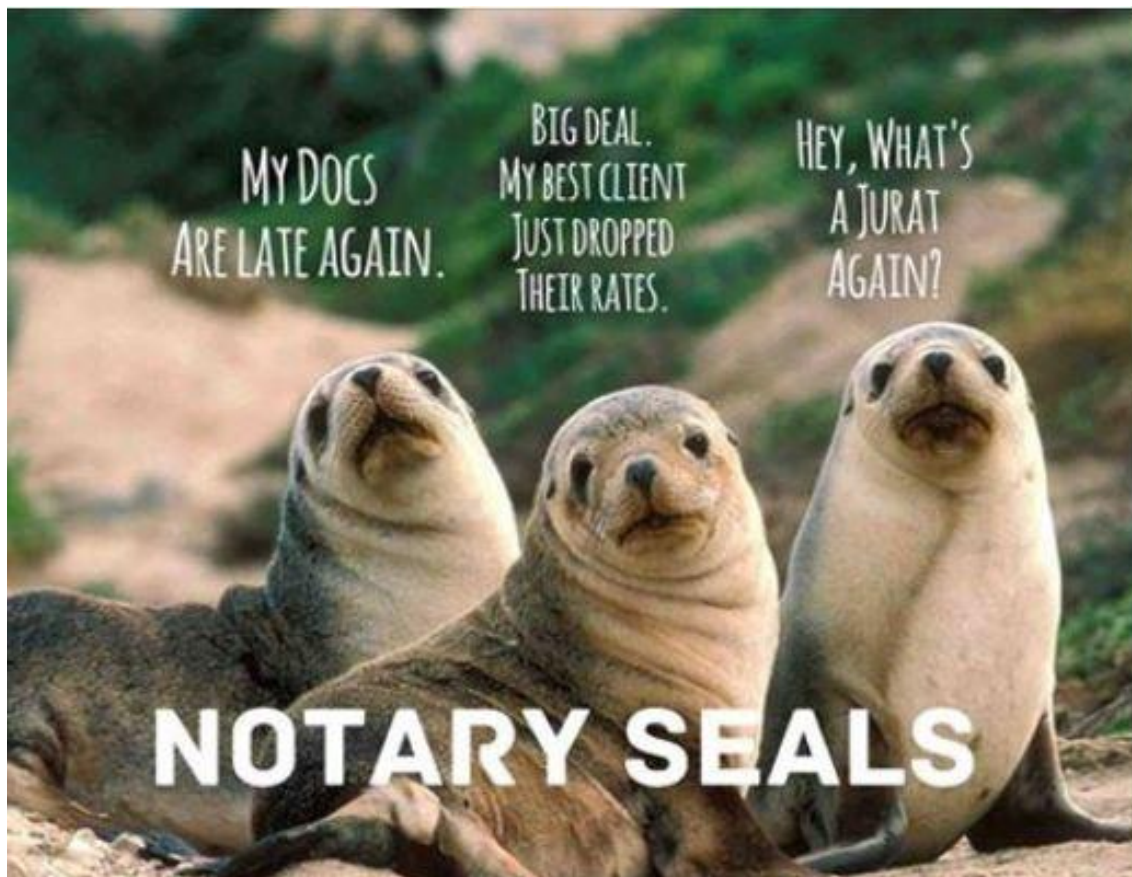
Joe is a Retired New York City South Bronx Police Officer (NYPD), former N.Y.S. Supreme Court Investigator & former N.Y.S. Private Investigator. Joe worked as a Security & Compliance Agent for Broward County Aviation at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport.

Joe is also a Technical Consultant for the entertainment business and news media outlets on Police & Court procedures. Joe was the creator and Executive Producer of "Speeders Fight Back" TV show for TruTV Cable Network.

Joe has created, directed and produced a documentary titled Every 58 Hours. It's based on the alarming fact that on the average of every 58 hours somewhere in the United States a Law Enforcement Officer dies in the line of duty. The trailer can be seen on YouTube at these links.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F\\_aERYgCOEKA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F_aERYgCOEKA)

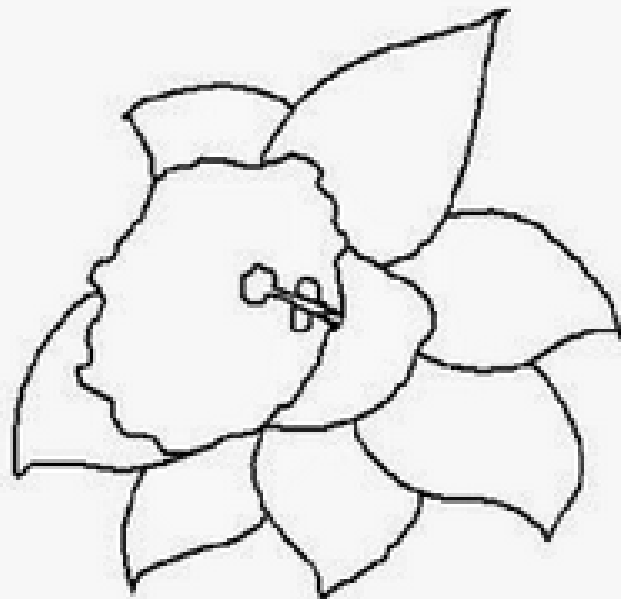
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q\\_BJlJl5g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q_BJlJl5g)



# Spring Word Search

O M G Q R A I N B O W S T H G  
E N I H S N U S F Z Y P E S Y  
J D A L V B N J C K S O K A S  
G N I T L E M I P V T R C L P  
E M I T G N I R P S O D A P R  
G A D A F F O D I L O N J S O  
G N L S E I Y W Z H B I M E U  
R R I L P H Q A E T R A T C T  
Z E O N E I I I L M E R A J E  
F G W W E R L H T R B Z Y J E  
H E D O T D B U Y A B H F L G  
U U Q V L H R M T W U M D R I  
S E E D S F K A U O R D E J R  
O R N D M C T Z G V U E A N F  
Q F I Z W Y E Z Y P N A F Z P

daffodil  
flower  
gardening  
green  
growth  
jacket  
melting  
puddle  
rainbow



raindrops  
rubberboots  
seeds  
splash  
springtime  
sprout  
sunshine  
tulips  
umbrella

## A Student's Victory Over Cancer Cont.

I needed to ask questions. After a long discussion I told her to send the report of this visit to my medical doctor and I Am Getting a Second Opinion! I finished my 42 radiation treatments two days after Easter 2016. On May 4, 2016 I went to the Cancer Treatment Centers of America in Georgia.

It was the best decision I made for my life. My new Medical Oncologist could not believe chemo was discussed. After reviewing my pathology report and entering my information from the pathology report into a computer program from Europe I had another in-depth report about my cancer.

After he reviewed that report he said he would not recommend or put me on one of the estrogen blocking prescriptions because of the side effects and I learned from the new report I had the cancer that is slow growing and I also had precancerous cells along with Stage 1 cancer cells in the tissue.

He was in agreement with the radiation treatments. Going for a second opinion saved my body from going through unnecessary treatments. When you hear the word Cancer it can be very devastating and every person handles the situation differently. I know lots of women are not going to have a wonderful cancer report as I did and I often ask myself that question. Why? If my story helps you understand one woman's journey with breast cancer I hope it will be; please don't be afraid to ask

**To seek more information or to make a donation visit the American Cancer Society**

**on their website at: [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)**

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## Subscriptions

The subscription service is something we offer **only to our students and graduates**. A lot of our students want to have access to everything in the website so they can always refer to the classes and information to refresh their memory or find new information in our library. If you are a student who was unable to complete the courses and get your certification, this will help you.

We used to offer extensions, but it meant one large payment for a few months' access. With this new subscription, there is an automatic payment of \$30 each quarter or a one time payment of \$100. You will have access for one full year to everything on the Notary2Pro website. There is no worry about whether your time has expired but you will need to renew each year if you choose to do so.

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**We are proud of our Veteran's.  
To say thank you we are giving all Military; active or retired a huge  
discount on our courses.**

**You must call to sign up at either  
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