



Ohio Revised Code

Section 147.51 Notarial acts.

Effective: April 3, 2025

Legislation: House Bill 315 - 135th General Assembly

(A) A notary public, or any other individual with similar authority under this section, is authorized to perform the following notarial acts:

- (1) Administer oaths or affirmations required or authorized by law;
- (2) Take and certify acknowledgments of deeds, mortgages, liens, powers of attorney, and other instruments of writing;
- (3) Take and certify depositions. In taking depositions, a notary public shall have the power that is by law vested in judges of county courts to compel the attendance of witnesses and punish them for refusing to testify. Sheriffs and constables are required to serve and return all process issued by notaries public in the taking of depositions.

(B) Notarial acts may be performed outside this state for use in this state with the same effect as if performed by a notary public of this state by the following persons authorized pursuant to the laws and regulations of other governments, in addition to any other persons authorized by the laws and regulations of this state:

- (1) A notary public authorized to perform notarial acts in the place in which the act is performed;
- (2) A judge, clerk, or deputy clerk of any court of record in the place in which the notarial act is performed;
- (3) An officer of the foreign service of the United States, a consular agent, or any other person authorized by regulation of the United States department of state to perform notarial acts in the place in which the act is performed;
- (4) A commissioned officer in active service with the armed forces of the United States and any



other person authorized by regulation of the armed forces to perform notarial acts if the notarial act is performed for one of the following or for a dependent of one of the following:

- (a) A member of the merchant marines of the United States;
 - (b) A member of the armed forces of the United States;
 - (c) Any other person serving with or accompanying the armed forces of the United States.
- (5) Any other person authorized to perform notarial acts in the place in which the act is performed.