

**THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF KANSAS**

Before Commissioners: Susan K. Duffy, Chair
Shari Feist Albrecht
Dwight D. Keen

In the Matter of Addressing the COVID-19)
pandemic in the State of Kansas.) Docket No. 20-GIMX-393-MIS

ORDER TEMPORARILY WAIVING NOTARY REQUIREMENT

This matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission). Having reviewed the public record, the Commission makes the following findings:

1. On March 12, 2020, Governor Kelly issued an emergency declaration for the State of Kansas in response to COVID-19, declaring:

I hereby suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business, or the order or rules and regulations of any state agency which implements such statute, if strict compliance with the provisions of such statutes, order or rule and regulation would prevent, hinder, or delay in any way necessary action in coping with the disaster as set forth in KSA 48-925(c)(1).

2. On March 28, 2020, Governor Kelly issued Executive Order 20-16, instituting a temporary, statewide stay-home order, effective from March 30, 2020 to at least April 19, 2020.

3. K.A.R. 82-1-219(g) requires all pleadings to the Commission to be verified by the party or by the party's attorney, upon oath before any person authorized by law to administer oaths.

4. K.A.R. 82-1-219(g) also authorizes the Commission to waive the written verification requirement at its discretion.

5. On April 9, 2020, Governor Kelly issued Executive Order 20-20, relieving notaries and witnesses of certain responsibilities in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, Executive Order 20-20 suspends the requirement that a person must appear before a commissioned

Notary Public during the duration of the State of Disaster Emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

6. To be consistent with Executive Order 20-20, the Commission exercises its authority under K.A.R. 82-1-219(g) and waives the requirement that all pleadings, including regulatory documents providing for notary acknowledgments, to the Commission to be verified by the party or by the party's attorney, upon oath before any person authorized by law to administer oaths during the duration of the State of Disaster Emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

A. Pursuant to K.A.R. 82-1-219(g), the Commission waives the requirement that all pleadings, including regulatory documents providing for notary acknowledgments, to the Commission to be verified by the party or by the party's attorney, upon oath before any person authorized by law to administer oaths during the duration of the State of Disaster Emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

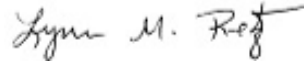
B. This Order is being served by electronic means, posted on the Commission's website, www.kcc.ks.gov, and the Kansas Public Square website, publicsquare.ks.gov. Based on the Governor's State of Emergency Proclamation, the Commission believes these methods of service are appropriate under these unprecedented circumstances.

C. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and parties to enter further orders as it deems necessary.

BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Duffy, Chair; Albrecht, Commissioner; Keen, Commissioner

Dated: 04/21/2020



Lynn M. Retz
Executive Director

BGF