

FROM INTAKE TO EXIT: Hospital Notarizations

Done Right



COMPASSIONATE. PROFESSIONAL. PROTECTING WHAT MATTERS.



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OWNER

Coach Me Laura



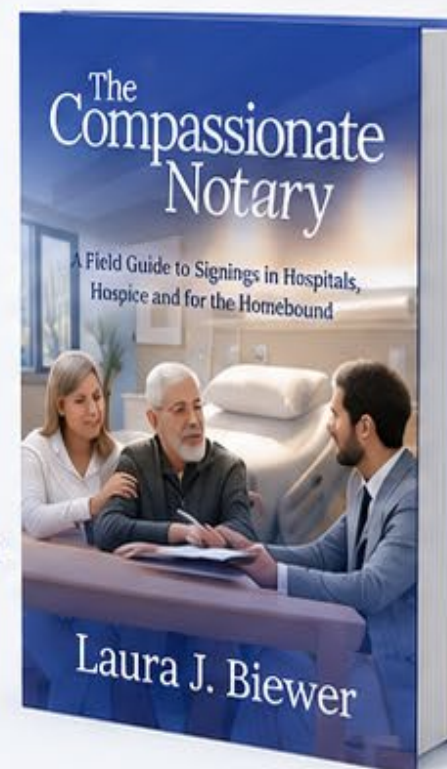
Notary Coach & Educator



Specializing in Bedside, Hospital,
Skilled Nursing & Homebound
Notarizations



Training Notaries to Lead with
Competence, Confidence & Compassion



Bestselling Author

The Compassionate Notary:
A Field Guide to Signings in
Hospitals, Hospice and for
the Homebound



**NATIONAL
NOTARY OF
THE YEAR 2026**

Empowering Notaries. ♥ Serving Others.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE.



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ENVIRONMENTS YOU WILL ENCOUNTER



HOSPITALS



**SKILLED NURSING
FACILITIES**



**HOSPICE
SETTINGS**



**ENVIRONMENT DICTATES
TIMING AND SUCCESS**



WHY HOSPITAL NOTARIZATIONS ARE DIFFERENT



**VULNERABLE
SIGNERS**



**URGENT, HIGH-
IMPACT DOCUMENTS**



**EMOTIONAL
ENVIRONMENTS**



**HIGHER SCRUTINY
AND RISK**

Hospitals require more than a signature—
they require **professionalism, compassion, and precision.**



SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES

Unique Environment. Different Considerations.



**EVERY SIGNATURE
DESERVES CARE.**

Your attention makes
all the difference.



MANY ARE HYBRID

Half rehab / long term care.



PRIVACY IS MORE DIFFICULT

Due to 2–3 beds per room.



**SPECIAL WITNESS CALLED
OMBUDSMAN MAY BE REQUIRED**

for health care directive
(state by state).



**URGENCY TYPICALLY NOT AS
STRONG AS HOSPITAL ACUTE CARE.**

More time for planning and
scheduling.



**MAY HAVE MORE SIGNATURE
AND ID ISSUES**

for long term care situations.



DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENT. DIFFERENT DYNAMICS. SAME COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE.

Know the setting. Protect the signer. Complete the notarization with confidence.

HOSPICE CARE CAN BE HOME OR FACILITY

Compassion. Presence. Purpose. ❤️



CHALLENGES FOR NOTARIES INCLUDE:



COMFORT-FOCUSED CARE

Patients may be in pain, fatigued, or sedated. Care comes first.



NARROW WINDOWS OF ALERTNESS

Timing is everything. Moments of clarity may be brief and unpredictable.



FAMILY OFTEN PRESENT – EMOTIONS HIGH

Loved ones are involved and invested. Expect strong emotions and dynamics.



SENSITIVITY AND APPROACH IS CRITICAL

Your professionalism and compassion create trust in a vulnerable moment.



HIGHER POSSIBILITY OF FAILURE IF NOT VETTED BEFORE YOU ARRIVE.

Always confirm capacity, ID, and document readiness in advance whenever possible.





TIMING CONSIDERATIONS



Book the right amount of time. Expect the unexpected.

1. CHECK IN THROUGH SECURITY

Allow extra time for sign-in, screening, badge and visitor processes.



2. CONSTANT INTERRUPTIONS

Nurses, doctors, lab tests and procedures, or even staff bringing in lunch can interrupt your signing.



3. TESTING AND PROCEDURES

Labs, imaging, vitals, assessments and other procedures may take priority and cause delays.



4. MEDICATION CYCLES MATTER

Schedule around medication delivery times to ensure the signer is as alert and aware as possible.



PLAN AHEAD. BUILD IN BUFFER TIME.

Booking adequate time helps you protect the patient, the document, and yourself.



BOTTOM LINE: Rushing increases risk. Give yourself the time you need to do it right.



VET THE CALLER. PROTECT YOURSELF.



Not all the details are shared up front. Ask the right questions.



1

Is the signer alert and aware, and can speak directly to the notary?

The signer must be able to understand and communicate without someone speaking for them.



2

Can they sign unassisted?

(If not, opportunity to discuss accommodations.)

Determine if they can hold the pen and sign their name or mark on their own.



3

Do they have the appropriate ID?

If not, alternative solutions may be available, such as a credible witness. Know your state's options.



4

Is the document prepared, completed and ready for signing?

All required fields should be completed except the signature and date.



Don't assume. Don't be surprised.

Incomplete information can lead to scheduling problems, ethical dilemmas, or a wasted trip.



Ask early. Ask fully.

It protects your time, your reputation, and the signer.



GOOD INFORMATION UP FRONT = GOOD OUTCOME FOR EVERYONE.

Thorough vetting helps you provide accurate quotes, plan appropriately, and ensure the signer is a candidate for notarization.





NOT A PLACE TO PRACTICE



This Is Specialized Work. The Stakes Are High.

HIGH STAKES. REAL IMPACT.

- ✓ Complex decisions
- ✓ Vulnerable signers
- ✓ Emotions run high
- ✓ Long-term consequences
- ✓ No room for error



YOUR ROLE
MATTERS.
PROTECT THE
PATIENT.
PROTECT
YOURSELF.



CAPACITY CAN FLUCTUATE

Timing is everything.
Clarity may be brief
and unpredictable.



FAMILY OFTEN PRESENT – EMOTIONS HIGH

Loved ones are involved
and invested. Expect
strong emotions and
dynamics.



SENSITIVITY AND APPROACH IS CRITICAL

Your professionalism and
compassion create trust
in a vulnerable moment.



DOCUMENT YOUR OBSERVATIONS

Note patient's demeanor
and awareness in
your journal.



THIS IS SPECIALIZED WORK

Patients may be medicated,
immobile, or under duress—
requiring extra care to confirm
willingness and awareness.



THE STAKES ARE LONG-LASTING

Decisions made today
can impact legal rights
and beneficiaries for
years to come.



THIS IS NOT JUST ABOUT SIGNATURES. IT'S ABOUT PEOPLE.

Be prepared. Be thorough. Because your signature helps protect more than just a document—it protects lives.





ASSESS THE SIGNER, REGARDLESS OF WHAT THE CALLER SAYS.



You are the notary. You make the call.

4 QUESTIONS I ASK TO VERIFY ALERTNESS AND AWARENESS:



1

Can they tell me
WHO THEY ARE?



2

Can they tell me
WHERE THEY ARE?



3

Can they tell me
WHAT THEY ARE SIGNING?



4

Can they tell me
DO THEY WANT TO SIGN IT?



**WHEN FAMILY OR FRIENDS ARE IN THE ROOM,
I ALSO ASK:**

*What is the relationship of the other
person to the signer?*



YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. THEIR PROTECTION.

Ask the questions. Make the assessment. Protect everyone.



*Compassionate.
Professional.
Protective.*

RED FLAGS

Slow down when awareness, communication, or willingness become questionable.



1. SIGNER IS CONFUSED

Signer cannot communicate with the notary directly or appears confused about the interaction.



2. FAMILY ANSWERS FOR THE SIGNER

Signer looks to family members for answers or family attempts to dominate communication.



3. SLURRED SPEECH

Slurred or impaired speech not explained by known medical condition.

Example: Stroke-related speech differences may not indicate lack of awareness.



4. CANNOT FULLY AWAKEN

Signer drifts in and out of sleep or cannot remain alert during interaction.



5. UNABLE TO HOLD PEN OR ENGAGE

Blank stare, inability to focus, or inability to physically engage with the process.



When red flags appear, slow down, reassess, and protect the integrity of the notarization.





COMMON DOCUMENTS IN FACILITY WORK



POWER OF ATTORNEY



Gives someone the legal authority to act on behalf of the signer.



ADVANCE HEALTH CARE DIRECTIVE OR LIVING WILL



Provides instructions for medical care when the signer cannot speak for themselves.



LAST WILLS AND TRUSTS



Ensures wishes are carried out and assets are distributed according to plan.



VEHICLE TOW YARD RELEASES



Authorizes the release of a vehicle from a tow yard.



EVERY DOCUMENT. EVERY SIGNATURE. EVERY DETAIL MATTERS.

*Your professionalism
makes a difference.*





WITNESS CONSIDERATIONS



Plan ahead. Confirm early. Avoid delays.



1. WITNESSES MUST MEET DOCUMENT/LEGAL STANDARDS

18 years or older, no conflict of interest, and at least 1 not related to the signer.



2. FACILITY STAFF OFTEN CANNOT SERVE

Many facilities have policies that prohibit their staff from witnessing.



3. CONFIRM REQUIREMENTS IN ADVANCE

Ask who the signer plans to use as witnesses so they can prepare and be available.



4. SOMETIMES THE NOTARY CAN BE A WITNESS

Check state laws and the document requirements to ensure it's allowed.



**THE RIGHT WITNESSES TODAY
PREVENT PROBLEMS TOMORROW.**

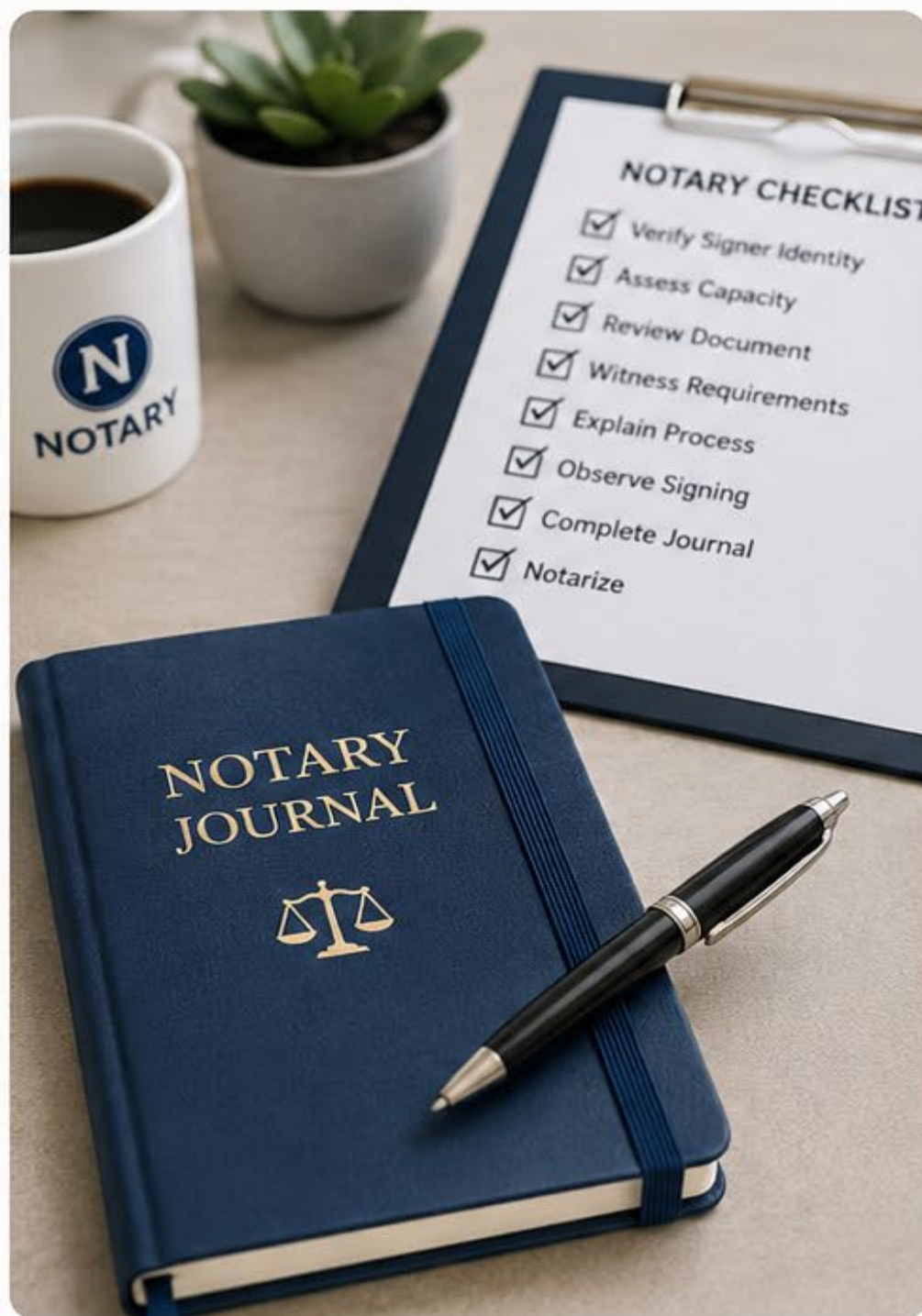
*Clarify early. Confirm eligibility.
Protect the signer and yourself.*



PROTECTING YOURSELF:



Consistent Process. Smart Choices. Strong Protection.



1. CLEAR COMMUNICATION IN WRITING OR TEXT

Confirm key details, requirements, and instructions in writing. It prevents misunderstandings and creates a record.



2. STAY IN YOUR LANE AND OUT OF UPL

Provide notarial services only. Do not give legal advice or explain the legal effects of documents.



3. YOUR JOURNAL IS YOUR MEMORY

Document everything. It protects you by providing contemporaneous evidence of what took place.



4. SOMETIMES THE ANSWER IS NO

It's okay to say no. If something doesn't feel right or the signer isn't a candidate, it's better to walk away.



5. ERROR & OMISSIONS INSURANCE IS A MUST

Even the most careful notaries can face claims. Insurance protects your business and your future.



6. CONSISTENT PROCESS EVERY TIME

Follow your checklist. Use the same thorough process for every appointment, every signer, every time.



YOUR PROCESS IS YOUR PROTECTION.
Prepare. Verify. Document. Notarize. Protect.

*When you follow a consistent process,
you protect your signer—and yourself.*



PRICING THE VALUE

Hospital and facility signings involve more than travel time.



TIME EXPENDED



PARKING & WALKING

Time and distance from parking lot to entrance and room.



SECURITY CHECK-IN

Sign-in procedures and possible ID verification requirements.



NAVIGATING HALLWAYS & ELEVATORS

Locating the correct building, floor, and room.



WAITING FOR STAFF OR SIGNER

Care teams, family members, or others may cause unavoidable delays.



MEDICATION/TESTING INTERRUPTIONS

Medications, treatments, or tests can interrupt or reschedule the signing.



MULTIPLE ROOM TRANSFERS

Signers may be moved or require relocation during your visit.



Facility signings require additional time before the notarization even begins.



ADDITIONAL REVENUE OPPORTUNITIES



WITNESS COORDINATION

Locating and coordinating qualified, compliant witnesses as needed.



PRINTING

Printing documents on-site to ensure accuracy and timeliness.



SCANNING & RETURN SERVICE

Securely scanning completed documents and returning as required.



COURIER / DROP-OFF SERVICE

Delivering documents to recipients or facilities as requested.



SPECIALIZED BEDSIDE EXPERTISE

Your knowledge, judgment, and professionalism in complex environments.

- 
- ☒ Professional
 - ☒ Prepared
 - ☒ Reliable
 - ☒ Trusted



You are not pricing a signature.
You are pricing time, expertise, adaptability, and professional judgment.

OUTSIDE NOTARY WITH INSIDER KNOWLEDGE



Why attorneys and legal professionals rely on experienced bedside notaries

1 COVERAGE GAPS HAPPEN



- ✓ Staff notary unavailable
- ✓ Vacation or illness
- ✓ Commission expiration
- ✓ Staffing transitions



An experienced outside notary keeps workflow moving.

2 THE SIGNER CANNOT COME TO THE OFFICE



- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Skilled nursing facilities
- ✓ Hospice care
- ✓ Rehabilitation centers
- ✓ Homebound signers



Specialized mobile service brings the notarization to the signer.

3 PROTECT ATTORNEY TIME & CAPACITY



- ✓ Focus on legal work
- ✓ Preserve billable time
- ✓ Increase office efficiency
- ✓ Delegate bedside logistics



Using a qualified bedside notary creates operational efficiency.



Not all mobile notaries understand medical environments.
Choose professionals trained in bedside signings, accommodations, and signer assessment.





THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT



Your work makes a difference when it matters most.



FREE WEEKLY COACHING CALL

Laura's Inner Circle:

SATURDAYS 8:00 AM PST

🌐 www.coachmelaura.com



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🌐 www.coachmelaura.com/intakeform



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The Compassionate Notary



*A Field Guide for
Hospital, Hospice &
Homebound Signings*



YOU SHOW UP. YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Keep going. Keep learning. Keep making an impact.

Thank You! 



QUESTIONS?



I'm here to help!



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INSTAGRAM
www.instagram.com/lauraatyourservice



LINKEDIN
www.linkedin.com/in/laurajbiewer

Thank you
for the compassionate
service you provide
every day.



YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Thank you for the work you do
when it matters most.

