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State Law Imposes New Notice for Notarial Acts Effective January 1, 2015

Governor Brown signed Senate Bill (SB) 1050 into law on August 15, 2014. SB 1050 amends Civil Code Sections 1189 and 1195 and Government Code Section 8202 to require a new notice to appear at the top of specified notarial documents. Specifically, a notary public or other officer completing a certificate of acknowledgment, proof of execution or jurat is required to include the following statutory notice that indicates that the certification verifies only the identity of the person who signed the document, and not the truthfulness, accuracy or validity of that document.

A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

The notice must be legible and included at the top of the certification in an enclosed box.

The statute specifies that the boxed notice is an example, for purposes of illustration and not limitation, of the physical format of a boxed notice that will fulfill the requirements of the three statutes listed above.

A sample of the boxed notice set forth in amended Civil Code Section 1189(a)(3) (certificate of acknowledgment) and Section 1195(e) (proof of execution), as well as Government Code Section 8202(d) (jurat), has been included in the text of SB 1050, which can be accessed from the California Legislative website at http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140SB1050.

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