



Remote Court Reporting FAQ **Depositions Via Videoconference**

Q. How can I swear someone in over videoconference if the Florida Notary laws say it is not allowed?

A. Statute 117.231, passed into law on January 1, 2022, allows for Florida notaries and other qualified persons to administer an oath via videoconference even though they are not in the presence of the witness **so long as they can both see and hear the witness** and they are properly identified per Chapter 117.

Q. What if the witness on video conference is located in another state?

A. Statute 117.231 states if the witness is not located in Florida, the witness may consent to being put under oath via audio-video communication technology by a person qualified to administer an oath in the State of Florida.

R. Do I still need to ask to see identification over videoconference?

A. Yes. Florida Notary Law, Chapter 117, states a notary **positively identify the witness**. Whatever you would do in person, the same practice should be done remotely. FCRA recognizes that there is still some controversy over what “positively identifying the witness” means, but we feel best practice is to ask for identification.



Q. What do I put on my title page as the location of the deposition?

A. List the location as “By Videoconference.” Normally, the location of the deposition is where the witness is located, but since the reporter has no way to verify where the witness is, “By Videoconference” is the suggested best practice.

Q. Should I change any of my certificate pages when doing a deposition remotely by videoconference?

A. Your certificate pages should reflect that proceedings were reported remotely and the witness was sworn remotely. You may also opt to attach a copy of the administrative orders, AOSC20-16 and AOSC20-17, to the back of your transcripts.