

## PERSONALIZED NOTARY SEAL GEAR FOR FLEET LEGAL OFFICERS ATTACHED TO NON-RLSO FLEET COMMANDS

### Personalized Gear for Legal Officers (Option A) or Non-Personalized Gear for Legal Officers (Option B) – Commander’s Choice:

Pursuant to OPNAVINST 3120.32 (series), section 3.2.10 Fleet commands that have no JAG or LN are required to appoint a Command Legal Officer (LO). Whether a specific Command’s leadership wants to incur fees for personalized federal notary gear for every LO (**Option A**) when there is frequent LO turnover, or the Command prefers to obtain and secure a fill-in-the-blank federal notary seal to be used by successive LOs (Option B) is a Command decision. **However, Option A is the preferred option because it minimizes the likelihood of unauthorized notary acts and makes validating the authenticity of a contested notary act easier for all concerned.**

**Option A** requires the seal to be destroyed beyond recognition when the LO rotates out of the collateral duty, and a new personalized seal will be required for his or her successor. **Option B** requires the Command to ensure the seal remains secured for incoming LOs. Notary logs (journals) belong to and follow the notary. Thus the command must obtain a new notary log for every new Legal Officer. Notary Logs cannot be shared. Note, the underscore (\_\_\_\_) inserted before the legal name on the personalized seals (See Option A Below) is used by the notary to insert his/her rank, e.g. ENS, LTJG, LT, PO3, PO1 and the LO then handwrites the date of the expected LO rotation on the commission expires line:

**Option B:** Command specific notary seal which will have the name of the specific command imprinted; however, the LO will be required to place his/her signature, then hand-write his/her printed name, rank for example ENS, LTJG, LT, PO3, PO1 , and rotation date on the notarized document.

#### **Option A Required Verbiage:**

\_\_\_\_\_(Legal Name Here), U.S. Navy  
Federal Notary, Under Authority of 10 U.S.C. § 1044a  
Office of the Judge Advocate General of the Navy  
Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Option B Required Verbiage:**

Printed Name: Jane M. Doe  
Rank: ENS, Command Legal Officer, USN  
Command Name: (EOD Mobile Unit 9, Detachment 13)  
Federal Notary Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. § 1044a  
Commission Expires: 08 Aug 2023 (Date of LO Rotation)