CERTIFICATE OF PROOF OF EXECUTION BY A SUBSCRIBING WITNESS

The officer completes this certificate after the subscribing witness appears and testifies under oath. The officer decides whether a proof can be taken and may use the officer's own certificate instead.

1. CERTIFICATE

State of _____ County of _____

On _____, before me, _____ (name and title of officer), personally appeared _____ (subscribing witness), [ ] known to me personally [ ] proved to me on the oath of _____, a credible witness, [ ] proved to me through satisfactory evidence of identity, to be the person whose name is subscribed to the attached instrument as a subscribing witness.

Being duly sworn by me, the witness stated that the witness resides at _____; that the witness knows _____ (signer) to be the person described in and whose name is subscribed as a party to the attached instrument, titled _____, dated _____; that the witness was present and [ ] saw the signer sign the instrument [ ] heard the signer acknowledge having signed the instrument; and that the witness, at the request of the signer, signed the witness's own name to the instrument as a subscribing witness.

Witness my hand and official seal, if any.

Signature of officer: _____ Name and title of office: _____ My commission expires (if any): _____ (Seal)

2. DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED DOCUMENT (OPTIONAL)

Title or type of document: _____ Document date: _____ Number of pages: _____

Signer (principal): _____ Capacity in which the signer signed: _____ Date the signer signed: _____

Subscribing witness: _____ Witness's residence: _____ How the witness knows the signer: _____

NOTE

Not every state allows a proof by a subscribing witness, and some limit it. California sets its own certificate wording with a boxed notice and does not allow this proof for most real property instruments or powers of attorney (Civil Code section 1195). New York sets a form for instruments about New York real property (Real Property Law section 309-a(2)). New Jersey requires the witness to swear that the witness saw the signer sign (N.J.S.A. 46:14-2.1(b)). Our guided builder prints the wording for the states it supports.

This general template is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Requirements vary by state and locality; review current law and attach any disclosures or addenda your situation requires before signing. For a guided state-specific document, visit lawvault.org.