

Sample Authentication Document⁴⁵

Certifications of documents being sent to a country that is not a member of the Hague Convention are called Authentications, and require additional certification from the U.S. State Department.

State of South Carolina
Office of the Secretary of State
The Honorable Mark Hammond

To Whom these Presents Come, Greetings:

KNOW YE, THAT [REDACTED]

whose official signature appears to the Instrument of writing hereto annexed, was, at the time of affixing the same thereto, duly appointed by the Governor, sworn and commissioned Notary Public on May 22, 2019 with term to expire on May 22, 2029, in and for the State of South Carolina, as appears from the records of this Department; that his/her attestation is in due form and that full faith and credit are due to his/her official acts.

WITNESS MY HAND and the Great Seal of the State, at Columbia, this Thursday, September 26, 2019

Mark Hammond
Mark Hammond, Secretary of State

(This Certificate only certifies the signature, the capacity of the signer and the seal or stamp it bears. It does not certify the content of the document for which it was issued. This certificate is not valid if it is removed or altered in anyway whatsoever.)
Document No. 259124

⁴⁵ S.C. House of Representatives, House Legislative Oversight Committee, “Agency Presentation – Notaries, boards and commissions, authentications, and apostilles (December 5, 2019),” under “Committee Postings and Reports,” under “House Legislative Oversight Committee,” under “Secretary of State, Office of the,” and under “Meetings,” <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/CommitteeInfo/HouseLegislativeOversightCommittee/AgencyWebpages/SecretaryofState/SoS%20Presentation%20-%20Notaries,%20Boards%20and%20Commissions.pdf> (accessed January 21, 2020), slide 22 and 24. Hereinafter “Notaries Presentation.”