

Texas Notary Public Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	15

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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- 1. Which statement best describes the offense of failure to authenticate with a certification statement by a notary?**
 - A. Notarizing a document without the signer present**
 - B. Notarizing a document with full identity verification**
 - C. Knowingly notarizes a document and fails to include any required items in the certification**
 - D. Notarizing a document outside the county**

- 2. A notary's attestation is evidenced by which element?**
 - A. Notarial stamp**
 - B. Official seal**
 - C. Certificate of acknowledgment**
 - D. Notarization fee**

- 3. The notary's authority ends on a date indicated by the phrase 'My commission expires.' Which item is this describing?**
 - A. Notary Seal**
 - B. Notary Expiration Date**
 - C. Jurat Line**
 - D. Affidavit Title**

- 4. Which element is typically included in the notary line 'My commission expires'?**
 - A. The notary's name**
 - B. The notary's seal**
 - C. The date of expiration**
 - D. The affiant's identification**

- 5. A Government Notary whose fees and bond are waived, is limited by law to performing notarial services pertaining to the business of the government.**
 - A. True**
 - B. False**
 - C. Not specified**
 - D. Sometimes**

- 6. Which two documents are referenced in the oath to be defended?**
- A. United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Hawaii**
 - B. United States Constitution and the California Constitution**
 - C. Hawaii State Constitution and the United States Constitution**
 - D. United States Bill of Rights and the Hawaii State Constitution**
- 7. Which circuit's designated venue is the County of Hawaii?**
- A. First circuit**
 - B. Second circuit**
 - C. Third circuit**
 - D. Fifth circuit**
- 8. The State Bureau of Conveyances will not record any document that has interlineations, erasures, or other changes unless they are _____ by the notary.**
- A. Certified**
 - B. Acknowledged**
 - C. Notarized**
 - D. Initialed**
- 9. The following is an example of an _____:**
AFFIDAVIT OF KIMO SMITH
- A. Affidavit**
 - B. Notarial Act**
 - C. Declaration**
 - D. Instrument**
- 10. To demand or receive fees for services rendered in matters not pertaining to such government business, which conditions must be satisfied?**
- A. Prior written approval by the Attorney General**
 - B. Paying the prescribed fees**
 - C. All of the above**
 - D. None of the above**

Answers

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1. C
2. B
3. B
4. C
5. A
6. A
7. C
8. D
9. A
10. C

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Explanations

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1. Which statement best describes the offense of failure to authenticate with a certification statement by a notary?
 - A. Notarizing a document without the signer present
 - B. Notarizing a document with full identity verification
 - C. Knowingly notarizes a document and fails to include any required items in the certification**
 - D. Notarizing a document outside the county

The main idea here is that a notary must complete the notarial certificate with all the required elements. When a notary authenticates a document, the certification statement is the official attestation that the signer's identity and the act of signing are properly acknowledged. If the notary knowingly signs or seals a document but leaves out any of the required items in that certification, the document isn't properly authenticated. That misrepresents how the instrument was executed and is a prosecutable offense because it undermines the integrity of the notarial act. So, the option describing knowingly notarizing a document and failing to include any required items in the certification best captures this offense. The other scenarios describe different issues: notarizing without the signer present is a separate violation, notarizing with full identity verification is proper, and notarizing outside the county concerns location, not the completeness of the certification.

2. A notary's attestation is evidenced by which element?
 - A. Notarial stamp
 - B. Official seal**
 - C. Certificate of acknowledgment
 - D. Notarization fee

The main idea is that the notary's attestation is evidenced by the official seal. This seal is the formal mark that verifies the act was performed by a properly commissioned notary and identifies the notary, their jurisdiction, and commission details. The seal accompanies the notary's signature to show the document has been notarized. A certificate of acknowledgment describes what happened, but the actual evidence of attestation on the document is the seal. The notarization fee is unrelated to evidencing the act.

3. The notary's authority ends on a date indicated by the phrase 'My commission expires.' Which item is this describing?

- A. Notary Seal**
- B. Notary Expiration Date**
- C. Jurat Line**
- D. Affidavit Title**

The phrase “My commission expires” points to the date when the notary’s authority ends because a notary’s power comes from a state-issued commission that has a finite term. That specific date is the Notary Expiration Date, which shows when the commission—and thus the authority to notarize—expires. The seal is just the physical stamp used to authenticate documents, the jurat line is where the notary records the oath or affirmation, and the affidavit title is simply the document’s heading. So the expiration date is what determines whether the notary is currently authorized to perform notarizations. If the commission has expired, notarizations aren’t legally permissible until renewal.

4. Which element is typically included in the notary line 'My commission expires'?

- A. The notary's name**
- B. The notary's seal**
- C. The date of expiration**
- D. The affiant's identification**

The line “My commission expires” is meant to show the end date of the notary’s authority. Notarizations must be performed by someone who is currently commissioned, so including the expiration date clarifies how long that authority lasts and helps determine whether the notarization is valid at the time it’s used. The notary’s name appears elsewhere on the certificate, and the seal is a separate authentication mark—not part of the expiration line itself. The affiant’s identification is part of verifying identity, not a detail added to the expiration statement. For these reasons, the date of expiration is the element that fits directly after that line.

5. A Government Notary whose fees and bond are waived, is limited by law to performing notarial services pertaining to the business of the government.

A. True

B. False

C. Not specified

D. Sometimes

A government notary is a special type of notary whose role is to support official government business. Because their fees are waived and the bond is not required, their authority is intentionally focused on documents and actions that relate to government work. This means they can perform standard notarial acts like acknowledgments and jurats, but only when those acts involve government transactions or activities. They aren't authorized to notarize private matters outside the government context. So the statement that they are limited by law to performing notarial services pertaining to the government's business is the correct interpretation.

6. Which two documents are referenced in the oath to be defended?

A. United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Hawaii

B. United States Constitution and the California Constitution

C. Hawaii State Constitution and the United States Constitution

D. United States Bill of Rights and the Hawaii State Constitution

Public officials swear to uphold both levels of law: the national framework and the state framework. The oath references defending the United States Constitution alongside the Constitution of the State of Hawaii. The U.S. Constitution provides the fundamental rules for the entire country, while Hawaii's Constitution sets forth the powers and rights specific to Hawaii. The U.S. Bill of Rights is part of the U.S. Constitution, not a separate document to defend, so listing it on its own isn't how this oath is framed. Choosing a different state's constitution would not fit because the oath applies to Hawaii. So the two documents are the United States Constitution and Hawaii's Constitution.

7. Which circuit's designated venue is the County of Hawaii?

A. First circuit

B. Second circuit

C. Third circuit

D. Fifth circuit

Circuits are geographic groupings of federal courts, and Hawaii is part of the Ninth Circuit. The designated venue for cases arising in Hawaii would fall under the Ninth Circuit's appellate authority. The options listed don't include the Ninth Circuit, and among them the Third Circuit covers states like New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and the Virgin Islands, while the First, Second, and Fifth circuits cover other regions. So the County of Hawaii belongs to the Ninth Circuit, not any of the circuits shown.

8. The State Bureau of Conveyances will not record any document that has interlineations, erasures, or other changes unless they are _____ by the notary.

- A. Certified**
- B. Acknowledged**
- C. Notarized**
- D. Initialed**

When a document has changes such as interlineations or erasures, the notary must initial the alterations to show they reviewed and approved them before recording. This creates a clear trail that the modifications were acknowledged by the notary and were present at the time of notarization, which helps protect against later claims of unauthorized changes and maintains the document's integrity for recording. Other actions don't serve this specific safeguard: certifying or notarizing the document doesn't by itself indicate that the changes were reviewed, and simply acknowledging a signature relates to the signer's appearance rather than the edits themselves. Initialing directly near the changes provides the needed evidence that the alterations were authorized and observed by the notary.

9. The following is an example of an _____:
AFFIDAVIT OF KIMO SMITH

- A. Affidavit**
- B. Notarial Act**
- C. Declaration**
- D. Instrument**

An affidavit is a written statement of facts sworn to or affirmed under oath. The document titled "AFFIDAVIT OF KIMO SMITH" is exactly that kind of document—a statement of facts that Kimo Smith swears are true. When a notary is involved, the notary's job is to administer the oath and witness the signature, often adding a jurat that confirms the oath was given. The other terms are broader or refer to the notary's action rather than the document type itself, so this specific example best fits an affidavit.

10. To demand or receive fees for services rendered in matters not pertaining to such government business, which conditions must be satisfied?

- A. Prior written approval by the Attorney General**
- B. Paying the prescribed fees**
- C. All of the above**
- D. None of the above**

To charge for services in private matters (not related to government business), two conditions must be met: you must obtain prior written approval from the Attorney General, and you must pay the prescribed fees. The Attorney General's written approval provides necessary oversight for private-fee charging, while the prescribed fees show the official amount you may collect. With both requirements satisfied, you're authorized to demand or receive fees for those private services. If either condition isn't met, attempting to charge would not be proper.

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://texasnotarypublic.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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