Regulatory Updates for Signing Agents

Bill Anderson • Vice President, Government Affairs



Regulators of Signing Agents







MT SECRETARY OF STATE OVERSIGHT

Key New Notary Laws for NSAs

- You must identify signers according to new standards (MCA 1-5-603)
- You may refuse to notarize for certain reasons (MCA 1-5-622)
- You may not withhold access to or retain possession of original documents (MCA 1-5-625[1][f])
- You may not engage in the unauthorized practice of law (MCA 1-5-625[3][a])
- You may have action taken against you as a Notary for violating a federal law (MCA 1-5-621[1][e])





CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU OVERSIGHT

Regulatory Timeline

Gramm-Leach
 Bliley Act (GLBA)

- Refinance boom
- NSAs proliferate

1999

2001

2002

2004

- GLBA Interagency Guidelines
- 9/11
- PATRIOT Act

GLBA regulators conduct audits



Regulatory Timeline

NSA background screenings begin

- Refinance boom
- RESPA/TILA Reform (HUD-1/GFE)

2006

2008

2009

2010

- Economy collapses
- Subprime mortgages
- Foreclosures

- Dodd-Frank Act
- Robo-Signing



Regulatory Timeline

- CFPB opens
- "Know Before You Owe" launched

- Refinances peak
- CFPB integrated disclosures rule

2011

2012

2013

2015

- National Mortgage Settlement
- HARP 2.0
- CFPB Bulletin 03-12

 Integrated disclosure rule implemented



Federal Laws Touching NSAs

Privacy



- Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act & Interagency Guidelines
- Fair and Accurate
 Credit Transactions Act

Lending



- Truth in Lending Act and Regulation Z
- PATRIOT Act

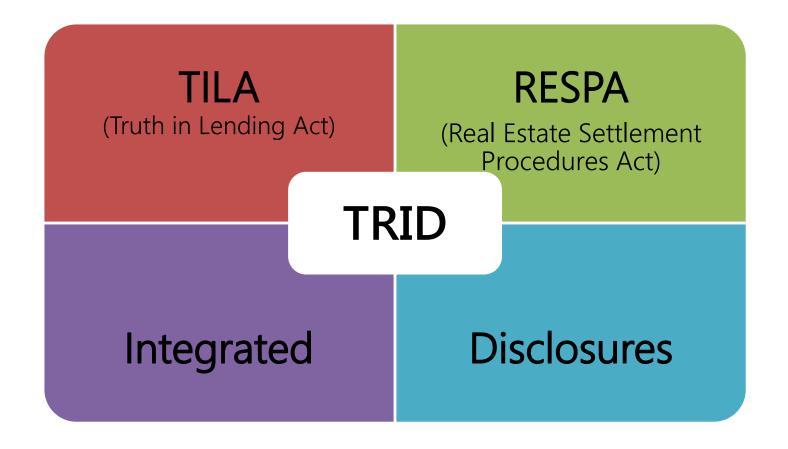
Settlement Services



 Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act



What Is TRID?





What Is TRID?

"Not later than 1 year after the designated transfer date, the Bureau shall propose for public comment rules and model disclosures that combine the disclosures required under the Truth in Lending Act and sections 4 and 5 of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974, into a single, integrated disclosure for mortgage loan transactions covered by those laws, unless the Bureau determines that any proposal issued by the Board of Governors and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development carries out the same purpose." – 12 USC 5532(f)



TRID Disclosures



Yesterday

Today



TRID Disclosures



Yesterday

Today



Loans Covered by TRID

All closed-end consumer mortgage loans secured by real property and purchased primarily for personal, family or household purposes



Loan Types Covered by TRID

- Purchase loans
- 2 Refinance loans
- 3 Construction-only loans
- 4 Loans for vacant land
- 5 Loans secured by 25 or more acres



Loans Not Covered by TRID

- Home-equity lines of credit*
- 2 Reverse mortgages
- Mortgages secured by a mobile home or dwelling not attached to land
- Certain no-interest second mortgages
- Loans made by creditor who makes 5 or less mortgages a year



^{*} Closed-end home equity loans are covered by TRID

TRID Implications

#1	You'll see the Closing Disclosure (CD) for <i>most</i> loans				
	Purchases and refinances will have a CD				
#2	You'll see the TIL and HUD-1 for <i>some</i> loans				
	HELOCs and reverse mortgages won't have a CD				
#3	The CD has non-public personal information in it (name and loan number), so handle it carefully				



TRID Timing

May 2016												
SUN	MON		TUE		WED		TH		FRI		SAT	
1	2		3		4		5		6		7	
	9		10		11		12	9	13	10	14	11
8	9		10		11		12		13		14	
		12		13		14						

- Signing date
- Disclosures due to borrower (mail, eMail or hand delivery)
- Date disclosures must be mailed for scheduled signing date



If There Are Changes...

New Closing Disclosure and 3-Day Waiting Period Required

- When the APR becomes inaccurate
- When the loan product changes, causing the "Product" information required on page 1 to become inaccurate
- When a prepayment penalty is added



Practical Repercussions* for NSAs

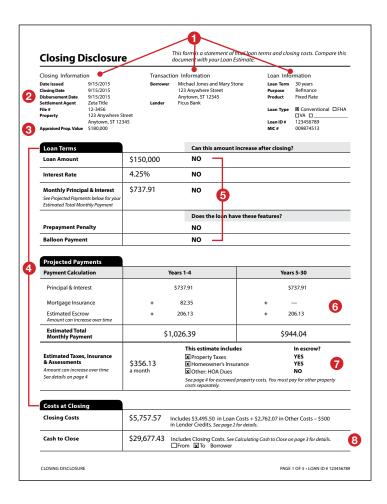
- Documents should not be as late or arrive last minute as in the past
- Companies may schedule NSAs up to a week in advance of the signing date
- Since companies may schedule in advance, they will "cherry pick" the best NSAs
- You must stand out from other NSAs to receive more assignments
- Borrowers should ask fewer questions and signings should take less time



^{*} At least in theory. Based on anecdotal evidence it is unclear if appointments are actually being scheduled earlier, documents are arriving sooner and signings are taking less time.

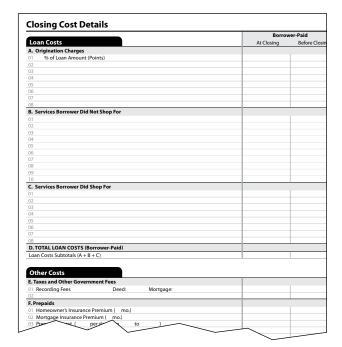
GETTING TO KNOW THE NEW CLOSING DISCLOSURE

OMING IN AUGUST OF THIS YEAR, Notary signing agents will begin to see the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's new Closing Disclosure form in loan document packages. The Closing Disclosure replaces the final Truth in Lending (TIL) Disclosure and HUD-1 Settlement Statement, and must be provided to borrowers three days before consummation or closing of their transaction. Versions of the Closing Disclosure will vary depending upon the type of transaction. Home equity lines of credit and reverse mortgages will continue to use the HUD-1 form. Here is an overview of the new Closing Disclosure.

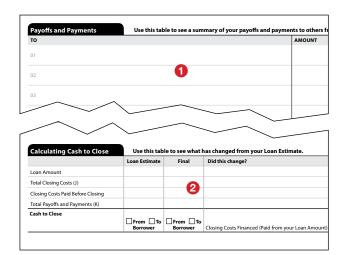


- 1 Every Closing Disclosure has the essential "Closing," "Transaction" and "Loan" details at the top of page 1.
- 2 The Disbursement Date for each loan appears on the Closing Disclosure.
- 3 Refinance loans will read "Appraised Property Value"; purchase transactions, "Sale Price."
- 4 "Loan Terms," "Projected Payments" and "Costs at Closing" present information previously found on the TIL and HUD-1.
- **5** Loan Terms and "Yes" and "No" answers previously found on the HUD-1, page 3.
- **6** Projected payments previously found on the TIL.
- **7** Property taxes and other charges previously found on the HUD-1, page 3.
- 3 Cash to Close previously found on the HUD-1 line 303.

For more detail on the Closing Disclosure, see the digital edition of this issue of The National Notary.

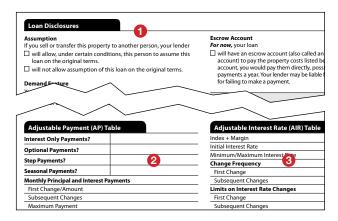


Page 2 of the Closing Disclosure is a complete redesign of the itemization of closing costs for the loan formerly presented on the HUD-1. Closing costs are grouped in new categories with new line numbers. The total of closing costs at the bottom of page 2 is carried forward and appears at the bottom of page 1.

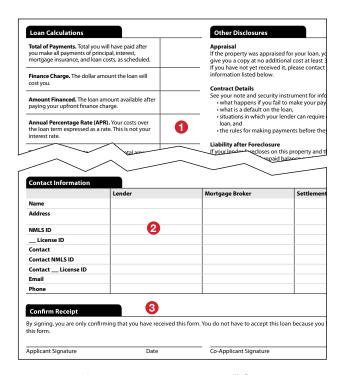


This version of **page 3** is for a transaction without a seller, such as a refinance typically handled by NSAs.

- 1 The "Payoffs and Payments" section itemizes the payoffs of old loans with the proceeds of the loan amount.
- 2 The "Calculating Cash to Close" section allows borrowers to compare figures from the Loan Estimate to see what has changed. The bottom-line amount is carried forward to page 1.



- 1 This version of **page 4** presents disclosures about the loan previously found on the TIL.
- 2 The "Adjustable Payments Table" will appear for certain loans.
- 3 The "Adjustable Interest Rate Table" will appear for loans that have an adjustable interest rate. The table will not appear for fixed-rate loans.



Page 5 sections may not appear on all forms.

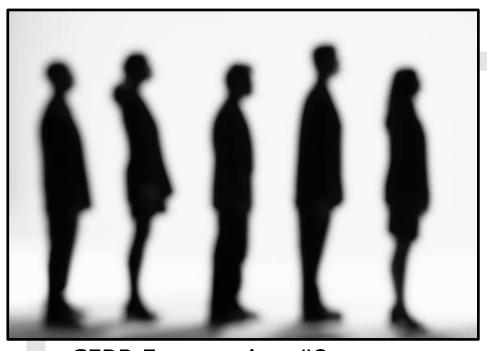
- 1 The "Loan Calculations" has the Annual Percentage Rate (APR) previously found on the TIL and adds a new "Total Interest Percentage."
- 2 The lender's, mortgage and real estate broker's and settlement agent's contact information.
- 3 The "Confirm Receipt" with borrower's signature is optional. If it does not appear, a separate "Loan Acceptance" disclosure must appear. ■



CFPB Expectation #1

Conduct thorough due diligence to verify service provider understands and is capable of complying with federal consumer financial law

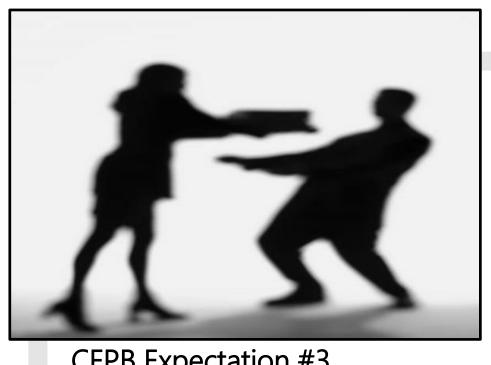




CFPB Expectation #2

Review service provider's policies, procedures, internal controls and training materials to ensure provider trains and oversees agents and employees





CFPB Expectation #3

Create clear expectations in contracts regarding compliance and the enforceable consequences of violating compliancerelated duties





CFPB Expectation #4

Establish internal controls and ongoing monitoring to determine whether service provider is complying with federal consumer financial law





CFPB Expectation #5

Take prompt action to address problems identified through the monitoring process, including termination of the relationship where appropriate





LENDER OVERSIGHT

Top Lender Issues

Protect Non-Public Personal Information

Improve consumer closing experience

Oversee third-party service providers



What is NPPI?

Non-Public

- Data provided by a customer on a form/application
- Information about a customer's transactions
- Any other information about a customer which is otherwise unavailable to the general public

Personal Information

- Customer's first name or first initial and last name coupled with any of the following:
 - Social Security number
 - Driver's license number
 - State-issued ID number
 - Credit card number, debit card number
 - Other financial account numbers



- We created a self-grading assessment for you to rate yourself on how securely you handle NPPI
- The assessment is an Excel spreadsheet but if you don't use Excel, you can open it in Google Sheets
- The self-assessment has 74 questions in 8 areas
- There is an optional area on credit card handling practices, if that applies to you
- It's free; you can get it at www.NationalNotary.org > Knowledge Center > Signing Agent Resources > Signing Agent Tools



NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

Notary Signing Agent Self Assessment

This Notary Signing Agent Self-Assessment was developed by the National Notary Association to assist you in rating yourself on how securely you handle the non-public personal identifying information (NPPI) of consumers in mortgage loan document packages. It is comprised of questions in nine specific areas:

- · Document Acceptance
- Document Handling
- · Signing Appointments
- · Document Delivery
- · Notary Journals
- Communications
- Computers and Networks
- Mobile Devices
- · Credit Cards

To take the Self-Assessment, click on each of the tabs at the bottom of this spreadsheet. After each question, click in the Response column to activate a drop-down list. Select "Yes" or No" as appropriate. A running score for each section is provided at the bottom of the tab. Your final overall score is recorded at the bottom of the MD tab. Since many NSAs do not handle credit cards as a method of payment for Notary services, this section is scored separately and will not count toward your final score.

Scoring is rated according to the following scale:

- · STRONG: You're doing a good job and are doing many things right! (90-100%)
- · PRETTY GOOD: You're doing OK, but your processes aren't as strong as they could be (80-89%)
- · SO-SO: Improvement is needed (70-79%)
- · OFF THE MARK: You better fix your processes (60-69%)
- · AT RISK: Immediately action is needed (59% and under)

The Action tab is where you can document any responses, action plans or remediation efforts you will implement to improve your security procedures.

Taking this Self-Assessment is completely voluntary. It may be used as a tool for personal professional development or as a means to document and share your security practices with your contracting companies.

NOTICE: This self-assessment is designed to assist Notaries and Notary signing agents in evaluating their professional security and information-handling procedures according to generally-accepted computer and information security best practices. You should consult a professional security consultant to draw definitive conclusions on your procedures. In offering this self-assessment, the NNA does not represent or warrant that it is an expert in computer and information security; nor that adminising a particular score ensures or does not ensure the security by our cleants' information; nor that adminising a particular score ensures or does not ensure the security by our cleants' information; nor that adminising a particular score you will qualify or be disquirilled for, or receive or not receive, on offer to provide Notary or signing agents services.

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NATIONAL NOTARY ASSOCIATION

DOCUMENT ACCEPTANCE (DA)

Do you follow best practices to protect the personal information of consumers when you receive documents?

Number	Self-Assessment Question	Response
DA 01	Are you personally present to receive any physical shipment of documents from a shipping carrier?	Yes
	If you are not personally present to receive a physical shipment from a shipping carrier, do you have a reasonably secure means of receiving document packages?	Yes
DA 03	Do you make sure that the seals on document packages that you accept from a shipping carrier are not broken upon receipt?	Yes
	Do you promptly report to your contracting company any incident in which the seal on a document package accepted from a shipping carrier is broken upon receipt?	Yes
DA 05	Do you avoid downloading e-docs on any computer or laptop other than your own?	Yes
DA 06	Do you avoid saving e-docs on your computer?	No
DA 07	Do you prevent others from downloading and printing loan documents for you?	Yes
DA 08	Do you access documents directly from a secure email link or website?	Yes

Click
"Response"
cell arrow
to select
"Yes/No"

NOTICE: This self-assessment is designed to assist Notaries and Notary signing agents in evaluating their professional security and information-handling procedures according to generally-accepted computer and information security least practices. You should consult a professional security consultant to draw definitive conclusions on your procedures, in offering this self-assessment, the NNA does not represent or warrant that it is an expert in computer and information security; nor that a conclusing a particular score ensures or does not ensure the security of your clients' information; nor that by achieving a particular score you will qualify or be disqualified for, or receive or not receive, an offer to profession knotary or signing agent services.

SECTION RANKING > 88% PRETTY GOOD

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Each section tabulates its own score



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SIGNING APPOINTMENTS (SA)

Do you follow best practices to protect the personal information of consumers when at loan signing appointments?

Number	Self-Assessment Question	Response
SA 01	Do you avoid bringing the documents from a previous or future appointment into the location of your current appointment?	Yes
SA 02	Do you take reasonable steps to ensure you do not leave documents unattended during the signing?	Yes
SA 03	Do you positively identify all signers before allowing them to view the documents to ensure they are the individuals authorized to view the documents?	Yes
SA 04	Do you take reasonable steps to ensure that you do not allow anyone other than the borrowers (or authorized signers) to view the documents?	Yes
SA 05	Do you seal the return package containing the signed documents and any stipulations or attachments in the presence of the borrowers at the signing table?	Yes
SA 06	When it is not possible to seal the return package in front of the borrowers*, do you place all documents, stipulations and attachments in envelope or sleeve within an attaché or messenger bag in the presence of the borrower?	Yes
SA 07	Do you place any stipulationst to be returned with the signed documents in a special envelope, marking it clearly and securely attaching it to the documents before placing it in the shipping envelope?	Yes
SA 08	If the signing appointment does not proceed to completion, do you take all copies of the documents with you when you leave the appointment?	Yes

NOTICE: This self-assessment is designed to assist Notaries and Notary signing agents in evaluating their professional security and information-handling procedures according to generally-accepted computer and information security best practices. You should consult a professional security consultant to draw definitive conclusions on your procedures. In offering this self-assessment, the NNA does not represent or warrant that it is an expert in computer and information security; nor that achieving a particular score ensures or does not ensure the security of your clients' information; nor that by achieving a particular score you will qualify or be disqualified for, or receive or not receive, an offer to provide Notary or signing agent services.

SECTION RANKING > 100% STRONG

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Notes



^{*} For example, when you must fax back certain documents after the appointment

[†] For example, a check for closing costs, Form W-2 or 1040, insurance declarations, financial statements, etc.

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MOBILE DEVICES (MD)

Do you follow best practices to protect the personal information of consumers by securing your mobile phone and tablets?

Number	Self-Assessment Question	Response
MD 01	Have you set a PIN [*] or use a biometric (e.g. "Touch ID") to access your phone?	Yes
MD 02	If you use a PIN to secure your mobile device, do you change the PIN every 3 months?	No
	Do you ensure that any pictures of ID cards or documents taken on your mobile device are immediately deleted at the conclusion of an assignment?	No
MD 04	Does your mobile device have software to locate your phone if it is lost or stolen, and have you enabled this feature?	No
MD 05	Do you promptly apply system firmware and operating system updates to your device(s) when they become available?	No
MD 06	Do you download and install apps and programs only from official app storest?	Yes
	Does your mobile device's operating system have software to remotely lock and wipe the contents of the phone if your phone is lost or stolen, and have you enabled this feature?	Yes
MD 08	Do you permanently wipe data prior to disposal, recycling or selling a mobile device?	No

NOTICE: This self-assessment is designed to assist Notaries and Notary signing agents in evaluating their professional security and information-handling procedures according to generally-accepted computer and information security best practices. You should consult a professional security consultant to draw definitive conclusions on your procedures. In offering this self-assessment, the NNA does not represent or warrant that it is an expert in computer and information security; not that achieving a particular score ensures or does not ensure the security of your clients' information; nor that by achieving a particular score you will qualify or be disqualified for, or receive or not receive, an offer to provide Notary or signing agent services.

SECTION RANKING > 38% AT RISK

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OVERALL RANKING, TABS 1 THROUGH 8 >

72% SO-SO

Notes

- * Personal Information Number, usually 4 digits in length
- † For example, Google Play, Apple App Store, etc.



Licensure

Trust accounts

Handling NPPI

Liability/fidelity insurance

Consumer complaints

Consumer financial law

Pricing, production, delivery

Notary commission

Current BGS

Handling NPPI

Insurance (some companies)

Consumer complaints





Signing Professionals Workgroup

Compliance

Help SPW members meet state and federal compliance obligations

Standards

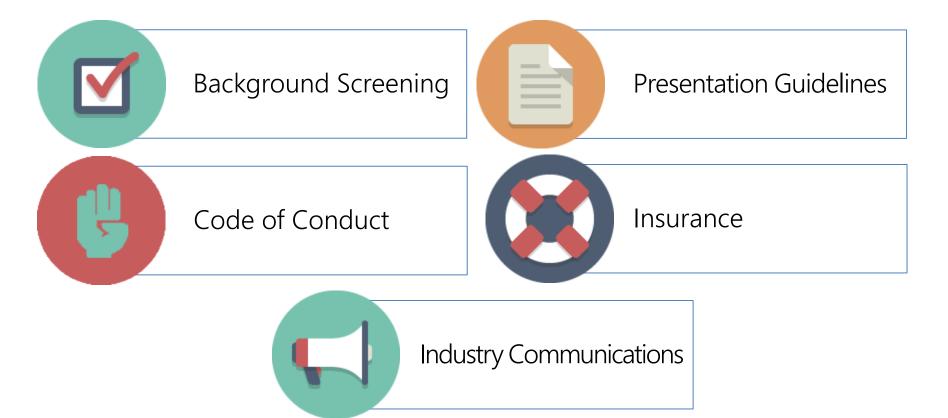
Create uniform standards for NSAs

Experience

Improve the customer experience at the signing table



SPW Standing Committees





Standards-Setting Process

Transparent

 All companies using NSAs may join and participate in the SPW; published SPW standards are publicly available

Collaborative

• The best minds in the mortgage services industry work together on a common goal; NSAs benefit from *consistent* standards

Voluntary

• Each company decides to use and enforce (or not use and enforce) SPW standards



SPW Standards

Background Screening Standard*

Notary Signing Agent Code of Conduct*

Presentation Guidelines Standard*

Errors and
Omissions Insurance
Standard

Examination Standard

*Published standards available for download at www.signingprofessionalsworkgroup.org



Database Search*	Tabulation
Social Security Number Trace	None
County Criminal Court Search	Per scoring grid
Motor Vehicle Records (Except PA+WA; NY Provides Statewide Search)	Per scoring grid
National Sex Offender	Automatic disqualification
Nationwide Criminal Database	Per scoring grid
Federal District Court Search	Per scoring grid
USA PATRIOT Act, Including Terrorist Watch List	Automatic disqualification
United Nations Named Terrorist List	
OFAC Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons	
Bank of England Sanctions	
Department of Defense Trade Controls (DTC) Debarred Parties	
U.S. Bureau of Industry and Security Unverified Entity List	
U.S. Bureau of Industry and Security Denied Entity List	
U.S. Bureau of Industry and Security Denied Persons List	
World Bank List of Debarred Firms	

^{* 10-}Year Search of Criminal Records (Limited to 7 Years in CA, CO, KS, MA, MD, MT, NH, NM, NV, NY and WA) © 2016 National Notary Association



Issue	Pts	Issue	Pts
Arson	25	Crimes against children	25
Misdemeanor assault	15	Criminal mischief	15
Felony assault	25	Criminal sexual conduct	25
Misdemeanor battery	15	Cruelty to animals	15
Felony battery	15	Damage to property	10
Breaking & entering	25	Disorderly conduct	5
Burglary	25	Disturbing the peace	5
Child neglect	20	Domestic violence	25
Child unattended in vehicle	10	Driving w/out license; suspended; revoked	15
Conspiracy	25	Drug abuse	15
Contempt of court	10	Drug possession (felony)	20
Counterfeiting	25	Drug possession (misdemeanor)	15
Credit card fraud	25	Drug sale/distribution	25



Issue	Pts	Issue	Pts
Embezzlement	25	Littering	8
Extortion	25	Manslaughter	25
Failure to appear	5	Manufacturing controlled substance	25
Failure to comply	5	False statements (gov't official, under oath)	25
False police report	10	Money laundering	25
Forgery	25	Murder	25
Fraud	25	Obscenity	5
Harassment	10	Obstructing justice	10
Inattention to driving	8	Possession of drug paraphernalia	10
Indecent exposure	20	Possession of open container	10
Kidnapping	25	Possession or use of stolen property	25
Larceny	25	Prostitution	25
License falsification	25	Providing alcohol to minor	12



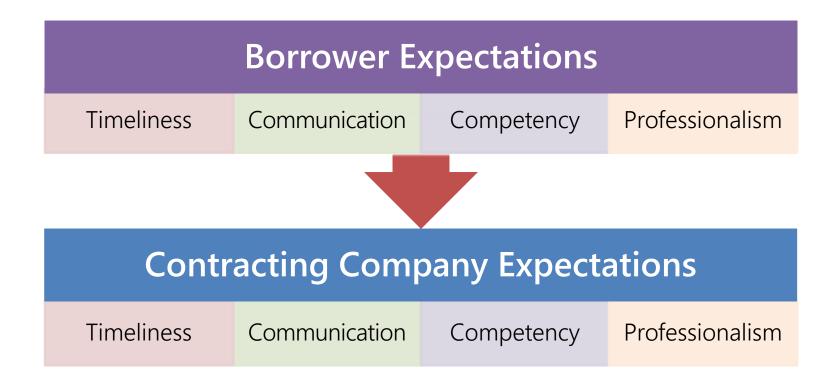
Issue	Pts	Issue	Pts
Public intoxication	10	Trespassing	10
Purchase or sale of a security	25	Unlawful drinking (as a minor)	10
Rape	25	Vandalism	10
Reckless endangerment	15	Violation of protection order	10
Resist arrest	15	Warrant for arrest	25
Resist peace officer	15	Weapons	20
Robbery	25	Driving left of center	3
Sexual abuse/sexual battery	10	Driving on wrong side of road	4
Tax evasion	15	Driving wrong way on one-way street	4
Terrorist threats	25	Driving too fast for conditions	3
Theft	25	DUI or driving with open container	20
Theft by check	25	Failure to follow instructions of peace officer	4
Toll evasion	15	Failure to keep in the proper lane	2



Issue	Pts	Issue	Pts
Failure to maintain control of vehicle	5	Leaving scene of accident (property damage)	20
Failure to obey stop sign	3	Non-moving violation	2
Failure to obey traffic light	4	Passenger safety violation	2
Failure to signal intent to pass	3	Passing stopped school bus	12
Failure to yield right-of-way	3	Passing violations	3
Failure to yield to emergency vehicle	3	Reckless driving	10
Following too closely	4	Speeding in school zone	8
Hazardous driving	4	Speeding 1-5 mph over speed zone	2
Hit and run (property damage)	20	Speeding 6-15 mph over speed zone	3
Improper backing	2	Speeding 16-25 mph over speed zone	5
Improper lane change	2	Speeding 26-35 mph over speed zone	8
Improper signal or no signal	2	Speeding 36-45 mph over speed zone	12
Improper turning	2	Speeding 46 mph over speed zone	15



Customer Closing Experience





Resources (Links)

- **III** NSA NPPI Self-Assessment
- SPW Background Screening Standard
- Notary Signing Agent Code of Conduct
- SPW Signing Presentation Guidelines
- Closing Disclosure



Contact

Bill Anderson

Vice President, Government Affairs banderson@nationalnotary.org 818.739.4064

