

To: All Massachusetts Policy Issuing Agents of WFG National Title Insurance Company

From: WFG Underwriting Department

Date: June 21, 2021 Bulletin No: MA 2021-02

Subject: UPDATE – Virtual Notarization Extended to December 15, 2021

Governor Baker has extended the use of virtual notarization under Chapter 71 of the Acts of 2020 until December 15, 2021.

An Act Providing for Virtual Notarization to Address the Challenges Related to COVID-19 (the "Act") provided that virtual notarization done in accordance with the requirements of the Act would be allowed until three (3) business days after the termination of Governor Baker's March 10, 2020 declaration of a state of emergency (Executive Order No. 591). Governor Baker terminated the state of emergency and rescinded COVID-19 Executive Orders (COVID-19 Order No. 69), effective June 15, 2021, meaning the use of virtual notarization would cease on June 18, 2021.

On June 16, 2021, the Governor signed into law <u>Senate Bill 2475</u>. Under Section 7 of that bill, Section 8 of the Act was amended to end the use of virtual notarization on December 15, 2021.

All Agents are reminded that any use of virtual notarization in Massachusetts must comply with the Act and with WFG Underwriting Bulletin MA 2020-05.

As always, WFG is here for you and we appreciate you being an Agent.

If you have any questions, please contact:

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The Agent may be held responsible for any loss sustained as a result of the failure to follow the standards set forth above.