

To: All Texas Policy Issuing Agents of WFG National Title Insurance Company From: WFG Underwriting Department Date: August 25, 2021 Bulletin No.: TX 2021-03 Subject: Expiration of the Temporary Permitted Use of Remote Ink-Signed Notarizations ("RIN")

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, on April 27, 2020, Governor Abbott temporarily suspended Section 121.006(c)(1) of the Texas Civil Practices & Remedies Code requiring the physical appearance before a notary public to acknowledge real estate instruments, such as deeds and deeds of trust. This suspension permitted the use of two-way audio-video communication for the notary public to observe and communicate with the signatory from a remote location, while still acknowledging a "wet signature" and affixing the notary seal at a later time (known as "Remote Ink-Signed Notarizations" or "RIN").

The Governor's suspension of Section 121.006(c)(1) of the Texas Civil Practices & Remedies Code relating to the acknowledgement of real estate instruments will terminate effective 12:01 a.m. on September 1, 2021. The Secretary of State's notice of the termination is available <u>HERE</u>.

Beginning **Monday, August 30, 2021**, WFG will no longer insure transactions acknowledged via the RIN process.

This does not affect the use of Remote Online Notarization ("RON"). All normal RON guidelines are still in effect and apply to RON transactions. See Bulletins TX 2018-06 and TX 2020-02 for our guidelines regarding RON.

Please contact a WFG Texas Underwriter with any questions.

NOTE: The information contained in this Bulletin is intended solely for the use of employees of WFG National Title Insurance Company, its title insurance agents and approved attorneys. Disclosure to any other person is expressly prohibited unless approved in writing by the WFG National Title Insurance Company's Underwriting Department.

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