

TITLE TIP: NOTARIZING DOCUMENTS OUTSIDE OF THE UNITED STATES

In international law a treaty, a pact, or an agreement between nations is called a “Convention.” The Hague Convention on legalization of foreign public documents has made it as simple as going to a notary in the Foreign Country for document notarization and then having a competent authority (see website below) attach an apostille to the document, which basically approves the notary.

Prior to the Hague Convention you were required to go to the American Consulate in that country and have the American Consulate notarize the document. If you went to a regular notary you would then take the document to the American Consulate for authentication.

Documents which have the special Hague Legalization Certificate (Apostille) are acceptable in all Countries where the treaty is enforced without any further authentication. The Apostille is a pre-printed form prescribed by the Convention.

For information as to participating Countries, Persons of Authority and further information regarding the Hague Convention, please refer to the following website:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel.html>

Questions? Please contact your California Title Company sales representative for further assistance.

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