

## WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §57-5-9

### **§57-5-9. Administration of oaths or taking of affidavits; authentication of affidavit made in another state or country; oaths and affidavits of persons in military service.**

Any judge of this state may administer any oath that is or may be lawful for any person to take, including oaths of office, and also may swear any person to an affidavit, and administer an oath to any person in any proceeding.

Any oath or affidavit required by law, which is not of such a nature that it must be made otherwise or elsewhere may, unless otherwise provided, be administered by, or made before, a county commissioner, notary public, or by the clerk of any court, or, in case of a survey directed by a court in a case therein pending, by or before the surveyor directed to execute said order of survey.

An affidavit may also be made before any officer of another state or country authorized by its laws to administer an oath, and shall be deemed duly authenticated if it be subscribed by the officer, with his or her official seal annexed, and if he or she have none, the genuineness of his or her signature, and his or her authority to administer an oath, shall be authenticated by some officer of the same state or country under his or her official seal.

Any oath or affidavit required of a person in the military service of the United States (including the Women's Army Corps, Women's Appointed Volunteers for Emergency Service, Army Nurse Corps, Spars, Women's Reserve or similar women's auxiliary unit officially connected with the military service of the United States), may be administered by or made before any commissioned officer of any branch of the military service of the United States, or any auxiliary unit officially connected with the military service. Such oath may be taken or affidavit made at any place either within or outside the United States of America, or any territory, possession or dependency thereof. The jurat to the oath and certificate to the affidavit need not state the place where the same is taken and shall require no seal to be affixed thereto. The certificate of the officer before whom the oath is taken or affidavit is made must state his or her rank, branch of military service, and identification number, and the certificate may be substantially in form and effect as follows:

#### IN THE MILITARY SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES:

I, ....., being duly sworn on oath (affirmation), do swear (affirm) that I am a member of the military service of the United States (or of ....., an auxiliary to the military forces of the United States); that \*\*\*, etc.

.....

Taken, subscribed and sworn to before me, ....., a commissioned officer in the ..... service of the United States, by ....., a member of the military service of the

United States (or of ....., an auxiliary to the military forces of the United States), this  
the ..... day of ....., 20.....

.....

(Signature of officer)

.....

(Rank) (Identification Number)

Any oath or affidavit heretofore taken or made by any person in the military service in  
substantial compliance with this section shall be valid.