

Committee Opinion  
October 15, 1984

LEGAL ETHICS OPINION 618

NOTARY/ATTORNEY – NOTARIZING  
AFFIDAVITS OR SWORN PLEADINGS.

It is improper for an attorney who is qualified as a notary public in Virginia to notarize affidavits or sworn pleadings for a client of the attorney/notary. DR:5-101(B), DR:5-102(A) and LE Op. 382 contain certain prohibitions against accepting or continuing representation when an attorney may become a witness. While there are exceptions to that prohibition, an abundance of caution requires that counsel should not subject himself to the possibility of being called as a witness in regard to an affidavit or sworn pleading notarized by him acting in his capacity as an authorized notary public in Virginia.

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**Editor's Note.** – L E Op. No. 618 is modified by L E Op. No. 742.