

Remote Oath of Office

If the person taking the oath is seen by the person administering the oath, it doesn't matter whether they are face-to-face, or viewing each other virtually.

With regard to signing the oath, the person doing so can sign the oath with the person administering the oath viewing the signing visually. It might make sense for the officeholder to show the signed document to the person administering the oath after the officeholder signs the document.

The officeholder could then mail, fax, or send a pdf copy attached to an email to the person who administered the oath so that the administrator of the oath could complete the part of the form that sets forth their acknowledgment of the oath being signed, the title of the office that authorizes them to administer the oath under IC 33-42-9, and, if applicable, the date that the administrator's commission expires (which would most frequently be used by a notary public).

Once both individuals have completed their signing of the oath and the attestation of the signing, the completed oath can be either mailed, sent by FedEx or other courier, faxed, or emailed to the circuit court clerk (or to the Election Division in the case of a judge), and no law would have been violated by these procedures.

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Best,

Andrew Lang

Deputy General Counsel

Indiana Secretary of State Connie Lawson