



**OFFICE OF COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER
& REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

LEE LUNDRIGAN
*County Clerk-Recorder, Registrar of Voters &
Commissioner of Civil Marriage*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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SECURITY BANK NOTE PAPER RESTRICTED

Modesto, CA – August 12, 2015 - Stanislaus County Clerk Recorder Lee Lundrigan is advising the public restrictions are scheduled for implementation beginning Mon., Aug. 17 for the issuance of certified copies of birth, death and marriage certificates from her office. Starting Mon. the public will be directed to obtain their certified copies of birth and death certificates from the county public health department or the California Dept. of Public Health. Certified copies of marriage certificates will continue to be issued by the Stanislaus County Recorder. The restrictions will be in place for a limited time. It is anticipated to take 3 months for the required security bank note paper to be provided by a new source.

National security requires secure identity including birth, death and marriage certificates. These vital records require a safe level of both paper and printer security features to protect them from counterfeiting. Several states, including California, legislatively adopted a printing method known as "Intaglio" as the primary and required sole source of their security. Although a confident method of security, Intaglio printing is only used by a limited number of printing plants in the world.

Recently several Intaglio printers have either closed their operations or elected to eliminate their Intaglio print divisions. In July, without advance warning, NBN/ Sekuworks LLC of Cincinnati, Ohio closed its doors. Sekuworks LLC was the sole supplier of secure bank note paper used by State of California counties to print certified copies of birth, death and marriage certificates under Health & Safety Code section 103526.5(b)(1).

The sensitized specially printed security paper used to certify and print birth, death and marriage certificates in California is rapidly becoming unavailable. A statewide solution has been found for this serious shortage of bank note security paper which includes obtaining paper from outside the United States from Canadian Bank Note Company and seeking to legislatively update California printing requirements.

Birth certificates originate at the hospital where the birth takes place, are sent to county public health which ultimately files them with the office of the county recorder and the State of California. Death certificates originate at the mortuary, are sent to county public health which ultimately files them with the office of the county recorder and the State of California.

Birth and death certificates are maintained at the county public health facility for 2 years before destruction. They are maintained in perpetuity by the county recorder and the State of California.

Marriage certificates originate and are maintained in perpetuity at the office of the county clerk and recorder. They are filed on a quarterly basis with the State of California.

Some California counties have already run out of bank note paper. Stanislaus County has only a limited supply of printed bank note paper on hand and there is concern it will not be sufficient to meet the demand until Canadian Bank Note Company can provide it. In order to support the needs of Stanislaus citizens, the following steps are being taken:

1. Customers will be limited to one copy of a marriage certificate.
2. Birth and death certificates from 2014 or 2015 must be obtained from Stanislaus County Public Health Department.
3. Customers requiring copies of certified birth or death certificates dated prior to 2014 are asked to obtain them from the California Dept. of Public Health.
4. Students attending school in Stanislaus County will be issued a *Verification of Birth* at no charge to enable them to enroll in class.

Contact information for agencies that issue certificates using bank note paper include the following:

Stanislaus County Clerk- Recorder 1021 "I" Street Modesto, CA 95354 (209-525-5269)	Stanislaus County Public Health Department 820 Scenic Drive Modesto, CA 95350 (209-558-8070)	CA. Dept. of Public Health MS 5103 PO Box 997410 Sacramento, CA 95899-7410 (916-445-2684)
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