

Obtaining a Translation Certificate

[California Government Code §27293:](#)

(a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), if an instrument, paper, or notice intended for record is executed or certified in whole or in part in a language other than English, the recorder shall not accept the instrument, paper, or notice for record.

(2) (A) A translation in English of an instrument, paper, or notice executed or certified in whole or in part in a language other than English may be presented to the county clerk for verification that the translation was performed by a certified or registered court interpreter, as described in Section 68561, or by an accredited translator registered with the American Translators Association. The translation shall be accompanied by a notarized declaration by the interpreter or translator that the translation is true and accurate, and includes the certification, qualification, or registration of the interpreter or translator. The clerk shall consult an Internet Web site maintained by the Judicial Council or the American Translators Association in verifying the certification, qualification, or registration of the interpreter or translator.

(B) Upon verification that the translation was performed by an interpreter or translator described in subparagraph (A), and that the translation is accompanied by a notarized declaration as required pursuant to subparagraph (A), the clerk shall duly make certification of that verification under seal of the county, attach the certification to the translation, and attach the certified translation to the original instrument, paper, or notice.

(C) For this verification and certification, a fee of ten dollars (\$10) shall be paid to the county clerk for each document submitted for certification. The attached original instrument, paper, or notice and certified translation may be presented to the recorder, and, upon payment of the usual fees, the recorder shall accept and permanently file the instrument, paper, or notice and record the certified translation. The recording of the certified translation gives notice and is of the same effect as the recording of an original instrument, paper, or notice. Certified copies of the recorded translation may be recorded in other counties, with the same effect as the recording of the original translation, provided, however, that in those counties where a photostatic or photographic method of recording is employed, the whole instrument, paper, or notice including the foreign language and the translation, may be recorded, and the original instrument, paper, or notice returned to the party leaving it for record or upon his or her order.

(b) The provisions of subdivision (a) do not apply to any instrument, paper, or notice offered for record that contains provisions in English and a translation of the English provisions in a language other than English, provided that the English provisions and the translation thereof are specifically set forth in state or federal law.

(c) The county clerk is not required to issue a translation certificate if he or she is unable to confirm the certification, registration, or accreditation of the translator, as required in subdivision (a).

Authorization

California Government Code §27293 authorizes the County Clerk to issue a Translation Certificate upon verification of the English translation of a foreign language document that must be recorded was performed by a certified or registered court interpreter or an accredited translator registered with the American Translators Association.

Locate an Interpreter/Translator

To locate a certified or registered court interpreter or an accredited translator please consult the websites listed below:

- California Courts for certified/registered court interpreter:
<https://www.courts.ca.gov/35273.htm>
- American Translators Association website for accredited translator:
https://www.atanet.org/onlinedirectories/search_advanced.php

Contact an Interpreter/Translator

When contacting the certified or registered interpreter or accredited translator registered with the American Translators Association to have your foreign document translated into English pursuant to California Government Code §27293, be sure to ask for the following:

- An original English Translation from the original foreign document
- A declaration by the interpreter or translator that the translation is true and accurate, and includes the certification, qualification or registration of the interpreter or translator (see sample attached)
- The signature of the interpreter or translator on the declaration must be acknowledged by a notary public-electronic/digital signatures are not allowed.

Requesting the Translation Certificate from the County Clerk

Submit the following documents to the County Clerk for issuance of the Translation Certificate:

- The original foreign document
- The original English translation of the foreign document
- Original declaration of the interpreter or translator with their signature acknowledged by a notary public
- \$10.00 fee per certificate requested

Sending the Document for Recording

The County Clerk will issue a Translation Certificate once the translator/interpreter has been verified.

Send the Recording with the appropriate recording fee to the County Recorder:

- Original document for recording
- Original foreign document that was translated
- Original English Translation of the Foreign Document
- Original declaration of the interpreter/translator with their signature acknowledged by a notary public
- Original Translation Certificate issued by the County Clerk

Please contact our office at 707-565-3800 with any questions about this process.

DECLARATION AND CERTIFICATION

I, _____, declare that I am a
(Insert Name of Person Translating)

(Check one)

- CERTIFIED/REGISTERED COURT INTERPRETER as described in GC 68561
 AN ACCREDITED TRANSLATOR REGISTERED WITH THE AMERICAN TRANSLATORS ASSOCIATION

I am certified/registered to interpret and translate from the _____

language to the _____ language.

My Certification/Registration Number(s) is/are: _____.

I further declare that I have translated the attached document from the
_____ language to the ENGLISH language.

I declare to the best of my abilities and belief, that this is a true and accurate translation of the
_____ language text of _____.
(Insert title of document)

Specific Description of the Document

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

This declaration signed this _____ day of _____, _____ in
_____, California.

Print Name of Certified/Registered Court Interpreter or Accredited Translator registered with the American Translators Association

Signature of Certified/Registered Court Interpreter or Accredited Translator registered with the American Translators Association

NOTE: The signature of the Certified/Registered Court Interpreter or Accredited Translator registered with the American Translators Association must be acknowledged by a notary public.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

A Notary Public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

State of California)
County of _____)

On _____ before me, _____
(insert name and title of the officer)

personally appeared _____
who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Signature _____

(Seal)