

Examining the Geography of Notaries

Speaker Biographies

Lori Hamm has been with the Montana Secretary of State's office for 19 years and leads the education, outreach, compliance, and administrative functions of the Notary & Certifications Division. She develops the state's live and online notary education programs and produces the (mostly) biennial statewide notary conferences. Recognized nationally as a trailblazer, Hamm was an advocate for remote notarization early on, and was instrumental in the enactment and implementation of the 2015 and 2019 remote notarization statutes in Montana. She is the 2021 recipient of the National Notary Association's March Fong Eu award, given to an individual who seeks to improve the standards, professionalism, and effectiveness of the Notary Public office in the United States. She serves on the Executive Board of the Notary Public Administrator's Section of the National Association of Secretaries of State and was a delegate to the Hague Conference's Forum on Electronic Apostilles.

Pat Kinsel is the Founder and CEO of Notarize, the first company to offer legal online notarizations and to enable anyone to buy or sell their home, execute their mortgage, buy or sell a car, or complete countless other mission-critical transactions entirely online. Pat founded Notarize in 2015 and pioneered Remote Online Notarization (RON). As the category pioneer and leader, Notarize became the first platform approved by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and countless title underwriters and national banks. Notarize partners with industry leaders, innovators, and transformational companies, including Adobe, Realogy, Lennar, Zillow, ResWare, SoftPro, FedEx Office, TIAA, Transamerica, Stripe, Dropbox and many more, as well as NAR, the largest real estate trade association, and the majority of the nation's top title companies and mortgage lenders. In 2021 and 2022, Notarize was ranked in the top 200 on the Inc. 5000 list of America's Fastest Growing Companies. Pat is a recipient of the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2021 New England Award and was named both a Tech Trendsetter and Vanguard award winner by HousingWire, as well as an MBA Tech All-Star honoree. He lives in Boston and is committed to mentoring and helping the entrepreneurial community.

Noah McDaniel is a research analyst in the Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center at the Urban Institute. His work focuses on community and economic development, with experience in federal small business policy, community development finance, and neighborhood investment flows. His other broad areas of interest include state and local governance, land use, and applied microeconomics. He holds both a bachelor of science degree and a master's degree in city planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Brett Theodos is a senior fellow and director of the Community Economic Development Hub at the Urban Institute. His work focuses on economic and community development, neighborhood change, affordable homeownership, consumer finance, and program evaluation and learning. His research includes evaluations of the Economic Development Administration, New Markets Tax Credit, Small Business Administration loan and investment programs, Opportunity Zones, and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's Choice Neighborhoods, Community Development Block Grant, and Section 108 programs. He is studying how capital flows (or fails to flow) into communities, including the role of mission finance actors like community development financial institutions. He leads projects researching how entrepreneurs can access capital. Theodos has conducted studies of neighborhood change and geographic mobility. He is evaluating several place-based initiatives. He's led studies of affordable homeownership supports, including shared equity models like community land trusts. In the financial capability space, he's led studies of financial coaching, financial curriculum, and rules of thumb for decisionmaking. He's explored the

geography of debt. Theodos is working to grow nonprofit capacity in performance measurement. He directs Measure4Change, which provides technical assistance and facilitates a community of practice for nonprofits and has led randomized controlled trial evaluations of youth workforce and education preparedness programs. Theodos serves on the Board of the Center for Community Progress, the Douglass Community Land Trust, and the Housing Authority of Prince George's County. Theodos received his BA from Northwestern University, MPP from Georgetown University, and PhD in public policy from George Washington University.

Kelly Thomasson serves as the Executive Director of the Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation. Previously, she served as Secretary of the Commonwealth of Virginia from 2016 – 2022, the only person in recent history to be appointed to the position by two governors. As Secretary of the Commonwealth, Kelly was passionate about creating a state government that is open and welcome to everyone. Kelly assisted the Governor in recruiting and appointing over 5,000 qualified, service-minded individuals to serve on Virginia's boards, commissions and councils, proudly appointing the most diverse group of board appointees in Virginia's history. She also led the effort to provide second chances to individuals across the Commonwealth, including the restoration of civil rights to over 300,000 individuals and use of the Governor's clemency powers. In addition to also managing extraditions, service of process, authenticating documents and commissioning Notaries Public, Kelly and her team supported the Governor's Office of Constituent Services and Community Engagement, the Council on Women, the Virginia African American Advisory Board, the Virginia Asian Advisory Board, the Virginia Latino Advisory Board, and the Virginia LGBTQ+ Advisory Board. As secretary, Kelly was honored to serve as the Governor's liaison to Virginia's Indian Tribes and proud of the many historic actions taken to return land and respect to indigenous peoples in Virginia.