

Notice of Intent to Adopt Rules

A copy of the proposed rules may be obtained at <u>https://rules.wyo.gov</u>

Revised June 2020

1. General Informat	t <u>ion</u>		
a. Agency/Board Name*			
b. Agency/Board Address	3	c. City	d. Zip Code
e. Name of Agency Liaiso	n	f. Agency Liaison Telephone	Number
g. Agency Liaison Email /	Address		
h. Date of Public Notice		i. Comment Period End Date	
j. Public Comment URL o	r Email Address:	L	
k. Program			
Amended Program	Name (<i>if applicable</i>):		
	, the agency is indicating it is exempt from certain sections of the	Administrative Procedure Act includir	ng public comment period requirements. Please contact
the agency for details regard 2. Legislative Fnac	<i>timent</i> For purposes of this Section 2, "new" only applies	s to regular non-emergency rules r	promulgated in response to a Wyoming
	previously addressed in whole or in part by prior rulemak		
a. Are these non-emerge	ncy regular rules new as per the above description and th	e definition of "new" in Chapter 1	of the Rules on Rules?
No	'es. If the rules are new, please provide the Legislative C and Years Enacted (e.g. 2015 Session Laws Chapter	•	
3. Rule Type and In	formation For purposes of this Section 3, "New" mean	is an emergency or regular rule the	at has never been previously created.
a. Provide the Chapter N	umber, Title and Proposed Action for Each Chapter. Please	se use the "Additional Rule Information	" form to identify additional rule chapters.
Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:		New Amended Repealed
	Amended Chapter Name (<i>if applicable</i>):		
Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:		New Amended Repealed
	Amended Chapter Name (<i>if applicable</i>):		
Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:		New Amended Repealed
	Amended Chapter Name (<i>if applicable</i>):		
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Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:		New Amended Repealed
	Amended Chapter Name (<i>if applicable</i>):		
Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:		New Amended Repealed
	Amended Chapter Name (<i>if applicable</i>):		



Additional Rule Information

Revised June 2020

Include this page only if needed.

1. General Informa	<u>tion</u>		
a. Agency/Board Name*			
b. Agency/Board Addres	S	c. City	d. Zip Code
e. Name of Agency Liais	on	f. Agency Liaison Telephone Number	
g. Agency Liaison Email	Address		
h. Program			
Amended Program	Name (<i>if applicable</i>):		
2. Rule Type and Ir	nformation, Cont.		
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Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:		New Amended Repealed
	Amended Chapter Name (<i>if applicable</i>):		
Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:		New Amended Repealed
	Amended Chapter Name (<i>if applicable</i>):		
Chapter Number:	Chapter Name:		New Amended Repealed
	Amended Chapter Name (<i>if applicable</i>):		

4. Public Comments and Hearing Information					
a. A public hearing	on the proposed rule	es has been scheduled.	No.	. Yes. Please complete the bo	xes below.
Date:		Time:		City:	Location:
		1 31		s on the rulemaking action?	
By su	bmitting written com	ments to the Agency at the	e physical	al and/or email address listed in Section	1 above.
At the	following URL:				
A public hearing will be held if requested by 25 persons, a government subdivision, or by an association having not less than 25 members. Requests for a public hearing may be submitted: To the Agency at the physical and/or email address listed in Section 1 above. At the following URL:					
Requests for an ag Section 1 above.	ency response must	be made prior to, or with			ing the consideration urged against adoption. ressed to the Agency and Agency Liaison listed in
<u>5. Federal La</u>	w Requireme	<u>nts</u>			
a. These rules are	created/amended/re	pealed to comply with fed	eral law o	or regulatory requirements.	Yes. Please complete the boxes below.
Applicable F	ederal Law or Regula	ation Citation:			
Indicate one (1): The proposed rules meet, but do not exceed, minimum federal requirements. The proposed rules exceed minimum federal requirements.					
	Any person wishin final adoption to:	g to object to the accurac	y of any in	nformation provided by the Agency und	er this item should submit their objections prior to
	. <u>.</u>	e Agency at the physical a	and/or em	nail address listed in Section 1 above.	
At the following URL:					
<u>6. State Stat</u>	utory Require	ments			
a. Indicate one (1):		MEETS minimum substa	intive stati	tutory requirements.	
·	roposed rule change ed the requirements.	EXCEEDS minimum sub	stantive s	statutory requirements. Please attach a	statement explaining the reason that the rules
b. The Agend obtained:	cy has completed a t	akings assessment as rec	quired by V	W.S. 9-5-304. A copy of the assessme	nt used to evaluate the proposed rules may be
	By contacting the Ag	jency at the physical and/	or email a	address listed in Section 1 above.	
	At the following URI	:			

7. Additional APA Provisions	
a. Complete all that apply in regards to uniform rule	S:
These rules are not impacted by the un	form rules identified in the Administrative Procedure Act, W.S. 16-3-103(j).
The following chapters <u>do not</u> differ from	n the uniform rules identified in the Administrative Procedure Act, W.S. 16-3-103(j):
	(Provide chapter numbers)
These chapters differ from the uniform r	ules identified in the Administrative Procedure Act, W.S. 16-3-103(j) (see Statement of Principal Reasons).
	(Provide chapter numbers)
b. Checklist	
· ·	ned to this Notice and, in compliance with Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. v. 24 (Wyo. 1979), includes a brief statement of the substance or terms of the rule and the basis and purpose of the
	y General's Office, the Agency's Attorney General representative concurs that strike and underscore is not ervasive (Chapter 3, <i>Types of Rules Filings</i> , Section 1, Proposed Rules, of the Rules on Rules).
<u>8. Authorization</u>	
a. I certify that the foregoing information is corr	rect.
Printed Name of Authorized Individual	
Title of Authorized Individual	
Date of Authorization	



Wyoming Secretary of State

Edward A. Buchanan Secretary of State Karen L. Wheeler Deputy Secretary of State

Statement of Reasons

The rules for the Registered Offices and Agents Act Program are being updated for several reasons.

1. On April 1, 2021, the Governor signed into law 2021 House Enrolled Act 39 (*hereinafter* "the Act"). The Act, effective July 1, 2021, increases several statutory fees paid to the Secretary of State. While the Act accounts for several statutory fee increases, many of the fees paid to the Secretary of State are assessed through rule. Section 2 of the Act requires the Secretary of State to promulgate any rules necessary to implement the Act.

During the 2021 legislative session at the request of the Joint Appropriation Committee, our Office provided fee increases that would generate revenue and keep Wyoming competitive nationally as it relates to fees paid for business and UCC filings and services. As part of the testimony given during the session, our Office advised that fee increases provided in the statute would be supplemented by those assessed in rule. The Office's proposal to the legislature makes it necessary to promulgate rules to increase fees which are currently assessed though rule to align with those in statute which will become effective on July 1, 2021. Fees being modified via rule are listed below:

• Annual commercial registered agent registration will increase from \$25 to \$50; and

• New fees will be set for filing an appointment of an entity's registered agent, filing an update to existing registered agent information, and filing a resignation of a registered agent from a business entity represented. The fee will be set to \$5 per entity affected by the filed change.

2. In addition, the Office is proposing several amendments meant to address the following areas of regulation:

• <u>The published list of Commercial Registered Agents (CRAs)</u>: the proposed revised listing standards for CRAs will give the secretary of state an additional tool to help business owners. While the current list is helpful, the ultimate goal is to provide a regulated list to ensure that the registered agents included in the public list are not advertising using misleading information and business arrangements;

• <u>Registered agent remedies for fraudulent filings</u>: to address fraudulent filings where a registered agent is listed without their express consent, the Office is proposing an action to allow the removal of the registered agent, at their request, and subsequent action taken by the Office against the business;

• <u>Clarification for CRA chain of agency service</u>: the proposed rule for CRA chain of agency service seeks to cure the unintended loophole of the existing CRA registration requirements. The current rule allows cross representation of CRAs which are often business entities, therefore leaving process servers without a clear individual to serve. The proposed rule will require that entities serving as CRAs have a natural person at the end of the chain; and

• <u>Series LLCs</u>: the proposed rules relating to registered agents who represent series LLCs already exist in the Business Entities Program (Chapter 5: Limited Liability Company – Series), however, it more logically fits into this program of rules.

3. Lastly, the Office proposes to consolidate rules by amending Chapters 1-5 and repealing Chapters 6-8. All relevant information from the repealed chapters will be consolidated into the amended Chapters 1-5.

Herschler Buildling East Suites 100 and 101 122 West 25th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002-0020

Chapter 1 General Provisions

Section 1. Authority and Purpose. The secretary of state is adopting these rules to promote the uniform administration of the Registered Offices and Agents Act, (the Act). The secretary of state is authorized to promulgate rules pursuant to W.S. 17-28-111.

Section 2. Applicability. These rules apply to all registered agents and all business entities required by law to file with the secretary of state.

Section 3. Definitions.

(a) "Bona fide law enforcement agency" means a law enforcement agency, foreign or domestic, that is investigating a potential criminal violation by a business entity or a registered agent.

(b) "Business address" means the physical street address of the communications contact person.

(c) "Business entity" means a corporation, limited liability company, limited partnership, registered limited liability partnership, limited liability limited partnership, or statutory trust or statutory foundation, whether for profit or nonprofit, or any other business type that is required to register with the secretary of state.

(d) "Business office" means registered office as defined by W.S. 17-28-101(a)(i) and these rules.

(e) "Commercial Registered Agent" or "CRA" means a registered agent which serves for more than ten (10) entities, or a registered agent which serves as a registered agent for an entity which is itself a Commercial Registered Agent.

(f) "Consent form" means a form prescribed by the secretary of state, which is required to be filed with the secretary of state, upon which a business entity verifies that it has elected to file the required records pursuant to W.S. 17-28-107(b).

(g) "Contract creating an agency relationship" -see "written agreement creating an agency relationship."

(h) "Court ordered subpoena" means a validly issued subpoena from a court of competent jurisdiction. A "court ordered subpoena" does not mean a subpoena issued by an attorney, as allowed by court rules.

(i) "Delinquent awaiting administrative dissolution" means the status of a business entity when its registered agent has resigned and no successor has been appointed to represent the business entity.

(j) "Domestic entity" means a business entity formed in Wyoming.

(k) "Each violation" means each instance where the Act is violated by a registered agent per each business entity represented. As applied, if a registered agent represents five (5) entities and violates the Act in the same way for each entity, each violation would equate to five (5) separate violations of the Act.

(I) "Entity" or "entities" means business entity or business entities.

(m) "Foreign" means an entity not formed under Wyoming law.

(n) "Mailing address" means an address where mail is received and it may be separate from the physical street address. The mailing address may be a post office box.

(o) "Natural person" means an individual who is not a business entity, association, or other legal or commercial entity.

(p) "Notice of resignation" means the notice that a registered agent sends to the business entities they represent to inform those entities that they are resigning.

(q) "Physical location" means the physical street location of the registered office, which is not a post office box or a drop box.

(r) "Physical street address" or "street address" means physical street location of the registered office, which is not a post office box or a drop box.

(s) "Place of business" as referenced in W.S. 17-28-101 means any location that has a street address in Wyoming, which is not a post office box or a drop box.

(t) "Principal office" means the principal place of business for the entity, regardless of location, and which may be, but does not need to be, a registered office.

(u) "Record" means any information as defined by W.S. 17-28-107 & 108.

(v) "Registered agent" means an individual or business entity as defined by W.S. 17-28-101(a)(ii). Each registered agent shall have only one name and registered office address on file with the secretary of state.

(w) "Registered office" means an address that may be the same as any of its places of business but shall be located at a street address in Wyoming which shall be a physical

location where the business entity's registered agent, or a natural person who has an agency relationship with the registered agent, can accept service of process as provided in W.S. 17-28-104 and is physically present at that location, which is not a post office box or drop box.

(x) "Sign" or "signature" includes any manual, facsimile, conformed or electronic signature.

(y) "Statement of resignation" means a statement of resignation filed with the secretary of state.

(z) "Thirty days" means thirty (30) calendar days.

(aa) "Thirty-five days" means thirty-five (35) calendar days.

(bb) "Written agreement creating an agency relationship" means any written document that establishes or grants authority to one or more natural persons or to one or more particular positions, such as a receptionist, to accept service of process for the registered agent for the entities served by that registered agent. Such document may be, but is not limited to, a contract, a letter agreement, or a clause within an employment contract. A single document may serve as authorization for each natural person representing the registered agent without listing each natural person individually.

Section 4. Fees.

Annual registration of Commercial Registered Agent	\$50.00
Registered Agent Information Update	\$5.00 per affected entity
Resignation of Registered Agent	\$5.00 per affected entity
Appointment of New Registered Agent & Office	\$5.00

Section 5. Denial of Consent to Appointment.

(a) If the incorporator, organizer, or other person serving in similar capacity of a business entity fails to obtain the registered agent's express consent to appointment and fraudulently asserted the same in the online formation documents for a business entity, then the registered agent may file a Denial of Consent to Appointment at any point after discovering the fraud.

(b) After receiving and validating the Denial of Consent, the secretary of state shall:

(i) Remove the registered agent's name, address, and other contact information from the business entity's information; and

(ii) Notify the business at the last known mailing or email address.

Wyoming Secretary of State Chapter 1 General Provisions CHAPTER 1

Section 1. Authority-<u>and Purpose.</u> The <u>Secretary of State</u>, is adopting these rules to promote the uniform administration of pursuant to W.S. 17-28-111, is authorized to promulgate such rules as are necessary to perform the duties required of him under <u>the</u> <u>Registered Offices and Agents Act</u>, (the Act). The secretary of state is authorized to promulgate rules pursuant to W.S. 17-28-111.101, et seq., 2008.

Section 2. Purpose.

These rules are adopted to promote the uniform administration of the Registered Offices and Agents Act.

Section 2. Applicability. These rules apply to all registered agents and all business entities required by law to file with the secretary of state.

Section 3. Applicability.

These rules apply to all registered agents and all business entities required by law to file with the Secretary of State.

Section 3. Definitions.

(a) "Bona fide law enforcement agency" means a law enforcement agency, foreign or domestic, that is investigating a potential criminal violation by a business entity or a registered agent.

(b) "Business address" means the physical street address of the communications contact person.

(c) "Business entity" means a corporation, limited liability company, limited partnership, registered limited liability partnership, limited liability limited partnership, or statutory trust or statutory foundation, whether for profit or nonprofit, or any other business type that is required to register with the secretary of state.

(d) "Business office" means registered office as defined by W.S. 17-28-101(a)(i) and these rules.

(e) "Commercial Registered Agent" or "CRA" means a registered agent which serves for more than ten (10) entities, or a registered agent which serves as a registered agent for an entity which is itself a Commercial Registered Agent. (f) "Consent form" means a form prescribed by the secretary of state, which is required to be filed with the secretary of state, upon which a business entity verifies that it has elected to file the required records pursuant to W.S. 17-28-107(b).

(g) "Contract creating an agency relationship" -see "written agreement creating an agency relationship."

(h) "Court ordered subpoena" means a validly issued subpoena from a court of competent jurisdiction. A "court ordered subpoena" does not mean a subpoena issued by an attorney, as allowed by court rules.

(i) "Delinquent awaiting administrative dissolution" means the status of a business entity when its registered agent has resigned and no successor has been appointed to represent the business entity.

(j) "Domestic entity" means a business entity formed in Wyoming.

(k) "Each violation" means each instance where the Act is violated by a registered agent per each business entity represented. As applied, if a registered agent represents five (5) entities and violates the Act in the same way for each entity, each violation would equate to five (5) separate violations of the Act.

(I) "Entity" or "entities" means business entity or business entities.

(m) "Foreign" means an entity not formed under Wyoming law.

(n) "Mailing address" means an address where mail is received and it may be separate from the physical street address. The mailing address may be a post office box.

(o) "Natural person" means an individual who is not a business entity, association, or other legal or commercial entity.

(p) "Notice of resignation" means the notice that a registered agent sends to the business entities they represent to inform those entities that they are resigning.

(q) "Physical location" means the physical street location of the registered office, which is not a post office box or a drop box.

(r) "Physical street address" or "street address" means physical street location of the registered office, which is not a post office box or a drop box.

(s) "Place of business" as referenced in W.S. 17-28-101 means any location that has a street address in Wyoming, which is not a post office box or a drop box.

(t) "Principal office" means the principal place of business for the entity, regardless of location, and which may be, but does not need to be, a registered office.

(u) "Record" means any information as defined by W.S. 17-28-107 & 108.

(v) "Registered agent" means an individual or business entity as defined by W.S. 17-28-101(a)(ii). Each registered agent shall have only one name and registered office address on file with the secretary of state.

(w) "Registered office" means an address that may be the same as any of its places of business but shall be located at a street address in Wyoming which shall be a physical location where the business entity's registered agent, or a natural person who has an agency relationship with the registered agent, can accept service of process as provided in W.S. 17-28-104 and is physically present at that location, which is not a post office box or drop box.

(x) "Sign" or "signature" includes any manual, facsimile, conformed or electronic signature.

(y) "Statement of resignation" means a statement of resignation filed with the secretary of state.

(z) "Thirty days" means thirty (30) calendar days.

(aa) "Thirty-five days" means thirty-five (35) calendar days.

(bb) "Written agreement creating an agency relationship" means any written document that establishes or grants authority to one or more natural persons or to one or more particular positions, such as a receptionist, to accept service of process for the registered agent for the entities served by that registered agent. Such document may be, but is not limited to, a contract, a letter agreement, or a clause within an employment contract. A single document may serve as authorization for each natural person representing the registered agent without listing each natural person individually.

Section 4. Definitions.

(a) "Bona Fide Law Enforcement Agency" means a law enforcement agency, foreign or domestic, that is investigating a potential criminal violation by a business entity or a Registered Agent.

(b)- "Business Address" means the physical street address of the Communications Contact Person. (c) "Business Entity" means a corporation, limited liability company, limited partnership, registered limited liability partnership, limited liability limited partnership, or statutory trust, whether for profit or non profit, or any other business type that is required to register with the Secretary of State.

(d)- "Business Office" means Registered Office and must be a physical location in Wyoming with a street address that is not a post office box or a drop box.

(e)- "Commercial Registered Agent" means a Registered Agent who serves for more than 10 entities, including a Registered Agent which serves as a Registered Agent for the entities served by another Commercial Registered Agent.

(f) "Consent Form" means a form provided by the Secretary of State and required to be filed with the Secretary of State upon which a Business Entity verifies that it has elected to file the required records, pursuant to W.S. 17-28-107(b), with the Secretary of State.

(g)- "Contract Creating An Agency Relationship" see "Written Agreement Creating an Agency Relationship."

(h)- "Court Ordered Subpoena" means a validly issued subpoena from a court of competent jurisdiction. A "Court Ordered Subpoena" does not mean a subpoena issued by an attorney, as allowed by court rules.

(i) — "Delinquent Awaiting Administrative Dissolution" means the status of a Business Entity when its Registered Agent has resigned and no successor was appointed to represent the Business Entity.

(j)- "Designated Agent" means a Natural Person designated in writing and authorized by the Business Entity to act as the Communication Contact Person.

(k)- "Domestic Entity" means a Business Entity formed in Wyoming.

(I)- "Each Violation" means each instance where the Registered Agent Act is violated by a Registered Agent per each Business Entity represented. As applied, if a Registered Agent represents five entities and violates the Act in the same way for each entity, Each Violation would equate to five separate violations of the Act.

(m) "Entity" or "Entities" means Business Entity or Business Entities.

(n) ---- "Foreign" means an entity not formed under Wyoming law.

(o) ----- "Mailing Address" means an address where mail is received and it may be separate from the physical street address. The Mailing Address may be a post office box.

(p) ---- "Natural Person" means an individual who is not a Business Entity, association or other legal or commercial entity.

(q)- "Notice Of Resignation" means the notice that a Registered Agent sends to the Business Entities he represents to inform those Entities that he is resigning.

(r) "Physical Location" means the physical street location of the Registered Office, which is not a post office box or a drop box.

(s) "Physical Street Address" or "Street Address" means physical street location of the Registered Office, which is not a post office box or a drop box.

(t) "Places Of Business" means any location that has a street address in Wyoming, which is not a post office box or a drop box.

(u)- "Principal Office" means the principal place of business for the Entity, regardless of location, and which may be, but does not need to be, a Registered Office.

(v)- "Sign" or "signature" includes any manual, facsimile, conformed or electronic signature.

(w) "Statement Of Resignation" means a statement of resignation filed with the Secretary of State.

(x) "Written Agreement Creating An Agency Relationship" means any written document that establishes or grants authority to one or more Natural Persons or to one or more particular positions, such as receptionist, to accept service of process for the Registered Agent for the entities served by that Registered Agent. Such document may be, but is not limited to, a contract, a letter agreement, or a clause within an employment contract. A single document may serve as authorization for each Natural Person representing the Registered Agent without listing each Natural Person individually.

Section 4. Fees.

Annual registration of Commercial Registered Agent Registered Agent Information Update Resignation of Registered Agent Appointment of New Registered Agent & Office \$50.00 \$5.00 per affected entity \$5.00 per affected entity \$5.00

Section 5.	Fees.	

(a) Annual registration of Commercial Registered Agent \$25

(b) Amendments to Commercial Registered Agent No fee

(c) Resignation of Commercial Registered Agent

No fee

Section 5. Denial of Consent to Appointment.

(a) If the incorporator, organizer, or other person serving in similar capacity of a business entity fails to obtain the registered agent's express consent to appointment and fraudulently asserted the same in the online formation documents for a business entity, then the registered agent may file a Denial of Consent to Appointment at any point after discovering the fraud.

(b) After receiving and validating the Denial of Consent, the secretary of state shall:

(i) Remove the registered agent's name, address, and other contact information from the business entity's information; and

(ii) Notify the business at the last known mailing or email address.

Section 6. Forms.

(a) — The Secretary of State may prescribe forms.

(b) The written consent to appointment by the Registered Agent need not be on a prescribed form, however, the consent:

(i) Must contain the name of the entity represented;

(ii) Must contain a statement by the Registered Agent that it, he or she voluntarily consents to the position;

(iii) Must contain the printed name and title of the person signing; and

(iv) Must be signed and dated by the Registered Agent, who is a Natural Person; if the Registered Agent is a business entity, then it must be signed by an officer, director, partner, manager, or other person authorized to bind the entity on such matters.

Chapter 2 Forms

Section 1. Consent to Appointment by Registered Agent.

(a) The secretary of state may prescribe forms for consent to appointment of a registered agent.

(b) The written Consent to Appointment by the Registered Agent form shall contain:

- (i) The name of the entity represented;
- (ii) A statement by the registered agent that they voluntarily consent to the

position;

(iii) The printed name and title of the person signing;

(iv) A signature and date by the registered agent, who is a natural person; if the registered agent is a business entity, then it must be signed by an officer, director, partner, manager, or other person authorized to bind the entity on such matters; and

(v) A statement by the registered agent which certifies that they are in compliance with W.S. 17-28-101 through 17-28-111.

(c) The written Consent to Appointment by Registered Agent need not be on the secretary of state's form provided all information in this section is included. The form may be rejected if it is not legible or complete.

Section 2. Registered Agent Information Update.

(a) A registered agent may change their legal name and/or registered office by signing and delivering to the secretary of state for filing, a Registered Agent Information Update which shall include the following information:

- (i) The current name of the registered agent;
- (ii) The new name of the registered agent, if applicable;
- (iii) The street address of its current registered office;
- (iv) The street address of the new registered office, if applicable;

(v) A statement that the new registered office complies with the requirements of the Act; and

(vi) A statement that the street address of the registered office and the street address of the business office of its registered agent will be identical.

(b) The form need not be on the secretary of state's form provided all information in this section is included. The form may be rejected if it is not legible or complete.

(c) One signed form shall be filed with the secretary of state.

Section 3. Appointment of New Registered Agent and Office.

(a) A business entity may change its registered agent by signing and delivering to the secretary of state for filing an Appointment of New Registered Agent and Office form along with a written Consent to Appointment by Registered Agent which shall include the following information:

- (i) The name of the business entity;
- (ii) The name of the current registered agent;
- (iii) The street address of its current registered office;
- (iv) The name of the new registered agent;
- (v) The street of the new registered office; and

(vi) The new registered agent's written consent to appointment, as stated in Section 1 of this chapter.

(b) The form need not be on the secretary of state's form provided all information in this section is included. The form may be rejected if it is not legible or complete.

(c) One signed form shall be filed with the secretary of state.

Section 4. Resignations.

(a) Statement of Resignation – No Successor

(i) The Statement of Resignation of a Registered Agent is effective when it is filed with the secretary of state. This Statement of Resignation shall not be filed until:

(A) At least thirty (30) days following the date that the notification of resignation was received by each entity at its address last known to the registered agent;

(B) Thirty-five (35) days following mailing of the notification of resignation to each entity at its address last known to the registered agent; or

(C) The business entity provides notice to the registered agent that their services are terminated. A copy of this notice shall be provided to the secretary of state along with the Statement of Resignation.

(ii) One signed original and one copy of the Statement of Resignation shall be filed with the secretary of state.

(iii) The Statement of Resignation shall:

(A) List each entity from which the registered agent is resigning. The list shall not contain more than twenty-five (25) entities; and

(B) Include the printed or typed name and title of the registered

agent.

(iv) The Statement of Resignation may include a statement that the registered office is also discontinued, if applicable.

(v) The Statement of Resignation may but need not be on the secretary of state's form provided all information contained in this section is included. The Statement of Resignation may be rejected if it is not legible or complete.

(b) Statement of Resignation – Successor Appointed

(i) A registered agent may resign and appoint a new registered agent to take their place. The registered agent that is resigning shall sign, date and file with the secretary of state the original and one copy of a Statement of Resignation of Registered Agent Successor Appointed and Change of Entity's Registered Agent and Office with the following information:

(A) A list of all entities from which the registered agent is resigning;

(B) A statement from each affected entity ratifying and approving the appointment of the new registered agent;

(C) A statement designating the new registered office and new registered agent for each entity affected, if applicable;

(D) A statement from the new registered agent certifying their compliance with the requirements of the Act and acknowledging their appointment to serve as a registered agent for the entities listed;

(E) The Statement of Resignation shall include the printed or typed name and title of both the new registered agent and the current registered agent;

(F) The Statement of Resignation of Registered Agent and Appointment of New Registered Agent and Office may but need not be on the secretary of state's form provided all information contained in this section is included. The form may be rejected if it is not legible or complete.

(ii) The current registered agent's appointment shall be terminated upon the filing of the required form, and the new registered agent, and new registered office if applicable, shall become effective on the date the form was filed.

Wyoming Secretary of State Chapter 2 <u>Forms</u> Change of Registered Office or Agent

CHAPTER 2

Section 1. Authority.

The Secretary of State, pursuant to W.S. 17-28-111, is authorized to promulgate such rules as are necessary to perform the duties required of him under the Registered Offices and Agents Act, W.S. 17-28-101, et seq., 2008.

Section 1. Consent to Appointment by Registered Agent.

(a) The secretary of state may prescribe forms for consent to appointment of a registered agent.

(b) The written Consent to Appointment by the Registered Agent form shall contain:

(i) The name of the entity represented;

(ii) A statement by the registered agent that they voluntarily consent to the

position;

(iii) The printed name and title of the person signing;

(iv) <u>A signature and date by the registered agent, who is a natural person; if</u> the registered agent is a business entity, then it must be signed by an officer, director, partner, manager, or other person authorized to bind the entity on such matters; and

(v) <u>A statement by the registered agent which certifies that they are in</u> compliance with W.S. 17-28-101 through 17-28-111.

(c) The written Consent to Appointment by Registered Agent need not be on the secretary of state's form provided all information in this section is included. The form may be rejected if it is not legible or complete.

Section 2. Purpose.

These rules are adopted to promote the uniform administration of the Registered Offices and Agents Act.

Section 2. Registered Agent Information Update.

(a) <u>A registered agent may change their legal name and/or registered office by</u> signing and delivering to the secretary of state for filing, a Registered Agent Information Update which shall include the following information:

- (i) The current name of the registered agent;
- (ii) The new name of the registered agent, if applicable;
- (iii) The street address of its current registered office;
- (iv) The street address of the new registered office, if applicable;

(v) <u>A statement that the new registered office complies with the</u> requirements of the Act; and

(vi) <u>A statement that the street address of the registered office and the street</u> address of the business office of its registered agent will be identical.

(b) The form need not be on the secretary of state's form provided all information in this section is included. The form may be rejected if it is not legible or complete.

(c) One signed form shall be filed with the secretary of state.

Section 3. Applicability.

These rules apply to all registered agents and all business entities required by law to file with the Secretary of State.

Section 3. Appointment of New Registered Agent and Office.

(a) <u>A business entity may change its registered agent by signing and delivering to</u> the secretary of state for filing an Appointment of New Registered Agent and Office form along with a written Consent to Appointment by Registered Agent which shall include the following information:

- (i) The name of the business entity;
- (ii) The name of the current registered agent;
- (iii) The street address of its current registered office;
- (iv) The name of the new registered agent;

(v) The street of the new registered office; and

(vi) The new registered agent's written consent to appointment, as stated in Section 1 of this chapter.

(b) The form need not be on the secretary of state's form provided all information in this section is included. The form may be rejected if it is not legible or complete.

(c) One signed form shall be filed with the secretary of state.

Section 4. Change of Registered Office.

(a) - A business entity may change its registered office by signing and delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a Statement of Change that includes the following information:

(i) The name of the business entity;

(ii) The name of its current registered agent;

(iii) The street address of its current registered office;

(iv) The street address of the new registered office;

(v) — A statement that the new registered office complies with the requirements of The Act; and

(vi)- A statement that the street address of the registered office and the street address of the business office of its registered agent will be identical.

(b)— The Statement of Change need not be on the Secretary of State's form provided all information in this section is included. The Statement of Change may be rejected if it is not legible or complete.

(c) The Statement of Change must contain the printed name of the Registered Agent and be manually signed and dated by the Registered Agent. If the Registered Agent is not an individual, then the Statement of Change must contain the printed name and title of the person signing and be manually signed by an officer, director, partner, manager or other authorized person who can bind the entity in such matters.

(d)- One signed original and one copy of the Statement of Change shall be filed with the Secretary of State.

Section 4. Resignations.

(a) <u>Statement of Resignation – No Successor</u>

(i) The Statement of Resignation of a Registered Agent is effective when it is filed with the secretary of state. This Statement of Resignation shall not be filed until:

(A) <u>At least thirty (30) days following the date that the notification of</u> resignation was received by each entity at its address last known to the registered agent;

(B) Thirty-five (35) days following mailing of the notification of resignation to each entity at its address last known to the registered agent; or

(C) <u>The business entity provides notice to the registered agent that</u> their services are terminated. A copy of this notice shall be provided to the secretary of state along with the Statement of Resignation.

(ii) One signed original and one copy of the Statement of Resignation shall be filed with the secretary of state.

(iii) The Statement of Resignation shall:

(A) List each entity from which the registered agent is resigning. The list shall not contain more than twenty-five (25) entities; and

(B) Include the printed or typed name and title of the registered

<u>agent.</u>

(iv) The Statement of Resignation may include a statement that the registered office is also discontinued, if applicable.

(v) The Statement of Resignation may but need not be on the secretary of state's form provided all information contained in this section is included. The Statement of Resignation may be rejected if it is not legible or complete.

(b) Statement of Resignation – Successor Appointed

(i) <u>A registered agent may resign and appoint a new registered agent to take</u> their place. The registered agent that is resigning shall sign, date and file with the secretary of state the original and one copy of a Statement of Resignation of Registered Agent Successor Appointed and Change of Entity's Registered Agent and Office with the following information:

(A) <u>A list of all entities from which the registered agent is resigning;</u>

(B) <u>A statement from each affected entity ratifying and approving the</u> appointment of the new registered agent;

(C) <u>A statement designating the new registered office and new</u> registered agent for each entity affected, if applicable;

(D) <u>A statement from the new registered agent certifying their</u> compliance with the requirements of the Act and acknowledging their appointment to serve as <u>a registered agent for the entities listed;</u>

(E) The Statement of Resignation shall include the printed or typed name and title of both the new registered agent and the current registered agent;

(F) The Statement of Resignation of Registered Agent and Appointment of New Registered Agent and Office may but need not be on the secretary of state's form provided all information contained in this section is included. The form may be rejected if it is not legible or complete.

(ii) The current registered agent's appointment shall be terminated upon the filing of the required form, and the new registered agent, and new registered office if applicable, shall become effective on the date the form was filed.

Section 5. Change of Registered Agent.

(a)- A business entity may change its registered agent by signing and delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a Statement of Change that includes the following information:

(i) The name of the business entity;

(ii) The street address of its current registered office;

(iii)- The name of its registered agent;

(iv) The name of the new registered agent;

(v)- The new registered agent'swrittenconsent to the appointment, executed either on the Statement of Change or attached to it; and

(vi) A statement that the new registered agent complies with the requirements of The Act.

(b)— The Statement of Change need not be on the Secretary of State's form provided all information in this section is included. The Statement of Change may be rejected if it is not legible or complete.

(c)— The Statement of Change must contain the printed name of the new Registered Agent and be manually signed and dated by the new Registered Agent. If the new Registered Agent is not an individual, then the Statement of Change and the Consent to Appointment, if attached as a separate document, must contain the printed name and title of the person signing and be manually signed by an officer, director, partner, manager or other authorized person who can bind the entity in such matters.

(d)- One signed original and one copy of the Statement of Change shall be filed with the Secretary of State.

Chapter 3 Registered Agent Requirements

Section 1. Duties.

(a) A registered agent shall:

(i) Comply with the Registered Offices and Agents Act, W.S. 17-28-101 et seq. (the Act);

(ii) Maintain a registered office that is a physical location at a street address and not a post office box or a drop box;

(iii) Be physically present at the registered office during business hours, or shall have a natural person, who has an agency relationship with the registered agent and who is authorized to accept service of process on behalf of the entities served by the registered agent, physically present at the registered office;

(iv) Keep a copy of the written agreement creating an agency relationship between the registered agent and the natural person who is authorized to accept service of process on behalf of the business entities represented by the registered agent;

(v) Keep a copy of the name, address and phone number of the communications contact person, as required by W.S. 17-28-104(d), unless the registered agent and entity agree that such information be filed with the secretary of state, and they comply with W.S. 17-28-107(b); and

(vi) Register as a Commercial Registered Agent if the agent serves as a registered agent for more than ten (10) entities, including a registered agent which serves as a registered agent for the entities served by another Commercial Registered agent.

(vii) In the event of an emergency which prevents a natural person from being physically present at the registered office, a sign shall be posted in a prominent location providing a phone number where a natural person can be reached who can immediately complete all duties required by a registered agent.

Section 2. Record Keeping.

(a) The registered agent shall maintain records at the registered office as provided by W.S. 17-28-107(a)(v); or

(b) If the registered agent and entity agree, the entity shall file the information required by W.S. 17-28-107(a)(v) (A) and (B) with the secretary of state.

Section 3. Communications Contact Person.

(a) Every entity shall provide to its registered agent or the secretary of state as provided in W.S. 17-28-107(b), the following information:

(i) The name of a natural person who is:

(A) An officer authorized to receive communications from the registered agent;

(B) A director authorized to receive communications from the

registered agent; or

(C) An employee authorized to receive communications from the registered agent.

(D) The designated communications contact for the entity shall not be the entity's registered agent or an employee of the entity's registered agent unless the registered agent is the entity's officer, director, limited liability company member or manager, managing partner or trustee.

- (ii) The business address of the natural person; and
- (iii) The phone number of the natural person.

(b) A natural person shall be the designated communications contact person for the entity.

(c) The information required in subsection (a) shall be kept current within 60 days of any change.

Section 4. Production of Records.

- (a) A record shall:
 - (i) Contain all information required by law and these rules;
 - (ii) Be written or, if electronic, be able to be immediately printed;
 - (iii) Be in English, as appropriate; and
 - (iv) Be legible.
- (b) All records that are required to be kept by the registered agent shall be:

(i) Maintained in paper format at the physical office; or

(ii) Maintained in electronic format if they can be either printed or downloaded onto a recordable device, or other medium approved by the secretary of state, upon request;

(iii) Available via remote access if the registered agent can produce the records in a time frame and format consistent with the time frames associated with (i) and (ii) above.

(c) The secretary of state or their representatives shall have access to records as provided by W.S. 17-28-107(a)(v). The secretary of state has the discretion to allow a registered agent time to produce records, depending upon individual circumstances.

(d) The secretary of state or their representatives may examine these records and compel their production as provided by W.S. 17-28-108.

Section 5. Service.

(a) Service of process shall be accepted by the registered agent on behalf of an entity for which the registered agent is appointed.

(b) If the registered agent is an entity, then a natural person having an agency relationship with the registered agent shall accept service of process.

(c) If an entity does not have a registered agent or the registered agent cannot with reasonable diligence be served, the entity may be served at its principal office by registered or certified mail as provided in W.S. 17-28-104.

(d) If an entity does not have a registered agent, the secretary of state may accept service of process for the entity and shall forward it to the entity at its principal office by registered or certified mail as provided in W.S. 17-28-104.

Section 6. Resignation.

(a) Notification of resignation

(i) To resign, a registered agent must first notify each affected entity in writing, whether by mail to the address mandated by the affected entity's governing statute or by email, thirty (30) days prior to filing a Statement of Resignation with the secretary of state.

(ii) The notification shall be addressed to any officer or other authorized person of the entity, other than the registered agent.

(iii) The notification may include a statement that the registered office is also discontinued, if applicable.

(iv) Following receipt of the notification of resignation from the registered agent, the entity has thirty (30) days to provide the secretary of state with an Appointment of New Registered Agent and Office form, in compliance with W.S. 17-28-102(a).

(b) If the entity has not appointed a new registered agent during the thirty (30) day notification period, upon receipt of a Statement of Resignation by a Registered Agent, the secretary of state shall classify the entity as delinquent awaiting administrative dissolution, revocation or forfeiture, as appropriate.

(c) When a Statement of Resignation is filed and there has been no successor appointed and the entity has not appointed a new registered agent, service of process shall be upon the secretary of state until a new appointment is made or until the entity is administratively dissolved, revoked or forfeited, as appropriate.

Section 7. Series LLC.

(a) For any LLC with series created under W. S. 17-29-211, a single registered agent shall be appointed for the LLC and all series.

(b) No LLC series created under W.S. 17-29-211 or any other subdivision of a business entity shall serve as a registered agent.

(c) For any LLC with one or more designated series, a registered agent shall maintain the following information:

(i) A list of all of the LLC's series;

(ii) The names and addresses of each of the series' members, directors, officers, limited liability company managers, managing partners or persons serving in a similar capacity; and

(iii) The name, physical address and business telephone number of a natural person for each series who is authorized to receive communications from the registered agent.

Wyoming Secretary of State Chapter 3 Registered Agent Requirements Resignation of Registered Agent CHAPTER 3

Section 1. Authority.

The Secretary of State, pursuant to W.S. 17-28-111, is authorized to promulgate such rules as are necessary to perform the duties required of him under the Registered Offices and Agents Act, W.S. 17-28-101, et seq., 2008.

Section 1. Duties.

(a) A registered agent shall:

(i) Comply with the Registered Offices and Agents Act, W.S. 17-28-101 et seq. (the Act);

(ii) Maintain a registered office that is a physical location at a street address and not a post office box or a drop box;

(iii) Be physically present at the registered office during business hours, or shall have a natural person, who has an agency relationship with the registered agent and who is authorized to accept service of process on behalf of the entities served by the registered agent, physically present at the registered office;

(iv) Keep a copy of the written agreement creating an agency relationship between the registered agent and the natural person who is authorized to accept service of process on behalf of the business entities represented by the registered agent;

(v) Keep a copy of the name, address and phone number of the communications contact person, as required by W.S. 17-28-104(d), unless the registered agent and entity agree that such information be filed with the secretary of state, and they comply with W.S. 17-28-107(b); and

(vi) Register as a Commercial Registered Agent if the agent serves as a registered agent for more than ten (10) entities, including a registered agent which serves as a registered agent for the entities served by another Commercial Registered agent.

(vii) In the event of an emergency which prevents a natural person from being physically present at the registered office, a sign shall be posted in a prominent location providing a phone number where a natural person can be reached who can immediately complete all duties required by a registered agent.

Section 2. Purpose.

These rules are adopted to promote the uniform administration of the Registered Offices and Agents Act.

Section 2. Record Keeping.

(a) The registered agent shall maintain records at the registered office as provided by W.S. 17-28-107(a)(v); or

(b) If the registered agent and entity agree, the entity shall file the information required by W.S. 17-28-107(a)(v) (A) and (B) with the secretary of state.

Section 3. Applicability.

These rules apply to all registered agents and all business entities required by law to file with the Secretary of State.

Section 3. Communications Contact Person.

(a) Every entity shall provide to its registered agent or the secretary of state as provided in W.S. 17-28-107(b), the following information:

- (i) The name of a natural person who is:
 - (A) <u>An officer authorized to receive communications from the</u>

registered agent;

(B) <u>A director authorized to receive communications from the</u>

registered agent; or

(C) An employee authorized to receive communications from the

<u>registered agent.</u>

(D) The designated communications contact for the entity shall not be the entity's registered agent or an employee of the entity's registered agent unless the registered agent is the entity's officer, director, limited liability company member or manager, managing partner or trustee.

- (ii) The business address of the natural person; and
- (iii) The phone number of the natural person.

(b) <u>A natural person shall be the designated communications contact person for the entity.</u>

(c) <u>The information required in subsection (a) shall be kept current within 60 days of</u> <u>any change.</u>

Section 4. Statement of Resignation – No Successor Appointed.

(a) Notification of Resignation.

(i) To resign, a registered agent must first notify each affected entity in writing 30 days prior to filing a Statement of Resignation with the Secretary of State.

(ii) The Notification of Resignation shall be sent to the entity's address last known to the registered agent.

(iii) The Notification shall be addressed to any officer or other authorized person of the entity, other than the registered agent.

(iv) The Notification may include a statement that the registered office is also discontinued, if applicable.

(v) Following receipt of the Notification of Resignation from the Registered Agent, the entity has 30 days to provide the Secretary of State with a Statement of Change, in compliance with W.S. 17-28-102(a).

(b) Statement of Resignation.

(i) The Statement of Resignation of a Registered Agent is effective when it is filed with the Secretary of State. This Statement of Resignation shall not be filed until at least 30 days following the date that the Notification of Resignation was received by each entity at its address last known to the registered agent or 35 days following mailing of the Notification of Resignation to each entity at its address last known to the registered agent.

(ii) One signed original and one copy of the Statement of Resignation shall be filed with the Secretary of State.

(iii) The Statement of Resignation shall list each entity from which the Registered Agent is resigning.

(iv) The Statement of Resignation may include a statement that the registered office is also discontinued, if applicable.

(v) The State of Resignation shall include the printed or typed name and title of the Registered Agent.

(vi) The Statement of Resignation may but need not be on the Secretary of State's form provided all information contained in this section is included. The Statement of Resignation may be rejected if it is not legible or complete.

(c) Status of Entity Following Resignation of Registered Agent.

If the entity has not appointed a new Registered Agent during the 30-day Notification Period, upon receipt of a Statement of Resignation by a Registered Agent, the Secretary of State shall classify the entity as delinquent awaiting administrative dissolution, revocation or forfeiture, as appropriate.

Section 4. Production of Records.

- (a) <u>A record shall:</u>
 - (i) <u>Contain all information required by law and these rules;</u>
 - (ii) <u>Be written or, if electronic, be able to be immediately printed;</u>
 - (iii) Be in English, as appropriate; and
 - (iv) Be legible.

(b) All records that are required to be kept by the registered agent shall be:

(i) Maintained in paper format at the physical office; or

(ii) Maintained in electronic format if they can be either printed or downloaded onto a recordable device, or other medium approved by the secretary of state, upon request;

(iii) Available via remote access if the registered agent can produce the records in a time frame and format consistent with the time frames associated with (i) and (ii) above.

(c) The secretary of state or their representatives shall have access to records as provided by W.S. 17-28-107(a)(v). The secretary of state has the discretion to allow a registered agent time to produce records, depending upon individual circumstances.

(d) The secretary of state or their representatives may examine these records and compel their production as provided by W.S. 17-28-108.

Section 5. Statement of Resignation – Successor Appointed.

(a) A Registered Agent may resign and appoint a new Registered Agent to take his place. The Registered Agent that is resigning must sign, date and file with the Secretary of State the original and one copy of a Statement of Resignation and Change with the following information:

(i) A list of all entities from which the registered agent is resigning.

(ii) A statement from each affected entity ratifying and approving the appointment of the new registered agent.

(iii) A statement designating the new registered office and new registered agent for each entity affected, if applicable.

(iv) A statement from the new Registered Agent certifying his compliance with the requirements of the Registered Agent Act, W.S. 17-28-101 et seq., and acknowledging his appointment to serve as a Registered Agent for the entities listed.

(v) The State of Resignation shall include the printed or typed name and title of both the new Registered Agent and the current Registered Agent.

(vi) The Statement of Resignation and Change may but need not be on the Secretary of State's form provided all information contained in this section is included. The Statement of Resignation and Change may be rejected if it is not legible or complete.

(b) The current Registered Agent's appointment shall be terminated upon the filing of the Statement of Resignation and Change, and the new Registered Agent, and new registered office if applicable, shall become effective on the date the Statement of Resignation and Change was filed.

Section 5. Service.

(a) Service of process shall be accepted by the registered agent on behalf of an entity for which the registered agent is appointed.

(b) If the registered agent is an entity, then a natural person having an agency relationship with the registered agent shall accept service of process.

(c) If an entity does not have a registered agent or the registered agent cannot with reasonable diligence be served, the entity may be served at its principal office by registered or certified mail as provided in W.S. 17-28-104.

(d) If an entity does not have a registered agent, the secretary of state may accept service of process for the entity and shall forward it to the entity at its principal office by registered or certified mail as provided in W.S. 17-28-104.

Section 6. Service of Process – No Successor Appointed.

When a Statement of Resignation is filed and there has been no successor appointed and the entity has not appointed a new Registered Agent, service of process shall be upon the Secretary of State until a new appointment is made or until the entity is administratively dissolved, revoked or forfeited, as appropriate.

Section 6. Resignation.

(a) Notification of resignation

(i) <u>To resign, a registered agent must first notify each affected entity in</u> writing, whether by mail to the address mandated by the affected entity's governing statute or by email, thirty (30) days prior to filing a Statement of Resignation with the secretary of state.

(ii) <u>The notification shall be addressed to any officer or other authorized</u> person of the entity, other than the registered agent.

(iii) The notification may include a statement that the registered office is also discontinued, if applicable.

(iv) Following receipt of the notification of resignation from the registered agent, the entity has thirty (30) days to provide the secretary of state with an Appointment of New Registered Agent and Office form, in compliance with W.S. 17-28-102(a).

(b) If the entity has not appointed a new registered agent during the thirty (30) day notification period, upon receipt of a Statement of Resignation by a Registered Agent, the secretary of state shall classify the entity as delinquent awaiting administrative dissolution, revocation or forfeiture, as appropriate.

(c) When a Statement of Resignation is filed and there has been no successor appointed and the entity has not appointed a new registered agent, service of process shall be upon the secretary of state until a new appointment is made or until the entity is administratively dissolved, revoked or forfeited, as appropriate.

Section 7. Failure to Register.

(a) A Commercial Registered Agent registration shall expire on December 31 of each year.

(b) A Commercial Registered Agent may reregister for the following year between October 1 through December 31 of the current year.

(c) On January 1 of each year, the Secretary of State shall begin dissolution, revocation or forfeiture proceedings, as appropriate, against all entities of a Commercial Registered Agent whose registration has expired and who has failed to register as a Commercial Registered Agent by December 31 of the previous year.

(c) In order to stop the dissolution process, the business entity must file a Statement of Change of Registered Agent with the Secretary of State, in accordance with statutes and Chapter 2 Rules. The business entity may choose a different Registered Agent or the same Registered Agent as it had previously if that Registered Agent again becomes qualified.

(d) The Registered Agent shall remain responsible for all of the requirements under the Act and these Rules for all entities represented until he either resigns according to the Act and these Rules or he registers.

Section 7. Series LLC.

(a) For any LLC with series created under W. S. 17-29-211, a single registered agent shall be appointed for the LLC and all series.

(b) No LLC series created under W.S. 17-29-211 or any other subdivision of a business entity shall serve as a registered agent.

(c) For any LLC with one or more designated series, a registered agent shall maintain the following information:

(i) <u>A list of all of the LLC's series;</u>

(ii) <u>The names and addresses of each of the series' members, directors,</u> <u>officers, limited liability company managers, managing partners or persons serving in a similar</u> <u>capacity; and</u>

(iii) The name, physical address and business telephone number of a natural person for each series who is authorized to receive communications from the registered agent.

Chapter 4 Commercial Registered Agents

Section 1. Applicability. This chapter applies to only Commercial Registered Agents (CRAs) required by law to file with the secretary of state.

Section 2. Registration Requirements.

(a) A registered agent that represents more than ten (10) entities shall annually register with the secretary of state as a CRA.

(i) A registered agent representing an entity that is itself registered as a Commercial Registered Agent must also register as a CRA.

(ii) In any chain of agency service for an entity or entities serving as a Commercial Registered Agent as described above, there must be a qualified natural person serving as a Commercial Registered Agent at the end of the chain.

(b) A registered agent shall file an application with the secretary of state that is sworn under penalty of perjury and which contains the following information:

(i) Legal name of applicant;

(ii) Applicant's physical street address of its registered office where service on the entities represented by the applicant may be made. The physical street address may not be a post office box or drop box;

(iii) An optional mailing address may be included on the application in addition to the physical street address;

(iv) Whether the applicant has ever been convicted of a felony;

(v) In the case of a registered agent that is an entity, whether any of the officers, directors, members, partners or persons serving in a similar capacity have ever been convicted of a felony;

(vi) The name, physical street address and phone number of the person who has authority to act on behalf of the Commercial Registered Agent;

(vii) If the applicant is a natural person, a statement that the applicant is 18 years or older;

(viii) Registered office information, including:
- (A) Physical street address of office;
- (B) Phone number of office;
- (C) Normal business hours of office; and

(D) Name of natural person who is authorized or the position that is authorized to accept service on behalf of the Commercial Registered Agent.

(ix) At the agent's election, a request to appear on the published list of Commercial Registered Agents pursuant to these rules and certification of compliance with the requirements thereof.

(c) Registration shall be valid for not more than one year and shall expire on December 31 of each year.

Section 3. Failure to Register.

(a) Failing to register annually as a Commercial Registered Agent does not constitute resignation.

(b) A Commercial Registered Agent may reregister for the following year from October 1 through December 31 of the current year.

(c) On January 1 of each year, the secretary of state shall begin dissolution, revocation or forfeiture proceedings, as appropriate, against all entities represented by a Commercial Registered Agent whose registration has expired and who has failed to register as a Commercial Registered Agent by December 31 of the previous year.

(d) In order to stop the dissolution process, the business entity must file an Appointment of New Registered Agent and Office form with the secretary of state, in accordance with the Registered Offices and Agents Act (the Act) and rules. The business entity may choose a different registered agent or the same registered agent as it had previously if that registered agent again becomes qualified.

(e) The registered agent shall remain responsible for all of the requirements under the Act and these rules for all entities represented until they either resign according to the Act and these rules or they register.

Section 4. Public List.

(a) Pursuant to W.S. 17-28-106(d), the secretary of state may publish a list of Commercial Registered Agents, as it sees fit for the benefit of the public. The list may be in any order and format the secretary of state deems necessary and fair.

(b) For a Commercial Registered Agent to be eligible to appear on the public list, the agent shall:

(i) Be fully compliant with the Registered Offices and Agents Act;

(ii) If the agent is a business entity, be in good standing with the secretary of state;

(iii) Not be sanctioned within or outside of Wyoming, if the agent purports to be licensed or a registered professional;

(iv) Not engage in misleading, deceptive, or harmful advertising or business practices;

(v) Not market shell, shelf or aged-shelf companies;

(vi) Not market business formation with promises of anonymity, secrecy, hidden owners, or substantially similar claims;

(vii) Not have any bona fide complaints against the agent from customers for a period of two (2) years, as determined by the secretary of state; and

(viii) Comply with secretary of state audits and requests for information necessary to ascertain compliance with qualifications to appear in the published Commercial Registered Agent list.

Wyoming Secretary of State Service of Process CHAPTER 4 Chapter 4 Commercial Registered Agents

Section 1. Authority.

The Secretary of State, pursuant to W.S. 17-28-111, is authorized to promulgate such rules as are necessary to perform the duties required of him under the Registered Offices and Agents Act, W.S. 17-28-101, et seq., 2008.

Section 1. Applicability. This chapter applies to only Commercial Registered Agents (CRAs) required by law to file with the secretary of state.

Section 2. Purpose.

These rules are adopted to promote the uniform administration of the Registered Offices and Agents Act.

Section 2. Registration Requirements.

(a) <u>A registered agent that represents more than ten (10) entities shall annually</u> register with the secretary of state as a CRA.

(i) <u>A registered agent representing an entity that is itself registered as a</u> <u>Commercial Registered Agent must also register as a CRA.</u>

(ii) In any chain of agency service for an entity or entities serving as a Commercial Registered Agent as described above, there must be a qualified natural person serving as a Commercial Registered Agent at the end of the chain.

(b) <u>A registered agent shall file an application with the secretary of state that is</u> sworn under penalty of perjury and which contains the following information:

(i) Legal name of applicant;

(ii) Applicant's physical street address of its registered office where service on the entities represented by the applicant may be made. The physical street address may not be a post office box or drop box; (iii) <u>An optional mailing address may be included on the application in</u> addition to the physical street address;

(iv) Whether the applicant has ever been convicted of a felony;

(v) In the case of a registered agent that is an entity, whether any of the officers, directors, members, partners or persons serving in a similar capacity have ever been convicted of a felony;

(vi) <u>The name, physical street address and phone number of the person who</u> has authority to act on behalf of the Commercial Registered Agent;

(vii) If the applicant is a natural person, a statement that the applicant is 18 years or older;

- (viii) Registered office information, including:
 - (A) Physical street address of office;
 - (B) Phone number of office;
 - (C) Normal business hours of office; and

(D) Name of natural person who is authorized or the position that is authorized to accept service on behalf of the Commercial Registered Agent.

(ix) <u>At the agent's election, a request to appear on the published list of</u> <u>Commercial Registered Agents pursuant to these rules and certification of compliance with the</u> <u>requirements thereof.</u>

(c) Registration shall be valid for not more than one year and shall expire on December 31 of each year.

Section 3. Applicability.

These rules apply to all registered agents and all business entities required by law to file with the Secretary of State.

Section 3. Failure to Register.

(a) Failing to register annually as a Commercial Registered Agent does not constitute resignation.

(b) <u>A Commercial Registered Agent may reregister for the following year from</u> October 1 through December 31 of the current year.

(c) On January 1 of each year, the secretary of state shall begin dissolution, revocation or forfeiture proceedings, as appropriate, against all entities represented by a Commercial Registered Agent whose registration has expired and who has failed to register as a Commercial Registered Agent by December 31 of the previous year.

(d) In order to stop the dissolution process, the business entity must file an Appointment of New Registered Agent and Office form with the secretary of state, in accordance with the Registered Offices and Agents Act (the Act) and rules. The business entity may choose a different registered agent or the same registered agent as it had previously if that registered agent again becomes qualified.

(e) The registered agent shall remain responsible for all of the requirements under the Act and these rules for all entities represented until they either resign according to the Act and these rules or they register.

Section 4. Service.

(a) Service of process shall be accepted on behalf of an entity for which the Registered Agent is appointed.

(b) If the Registered Agent is an entity, then a natural person having an agency relationship with the Registered Agent shall accept service of process.

(c) If an entity does not have a Registered Agent or the Registered Agent cannot with reasonable diligence be served, the entity may be served at its principal office by registered or certified mail as provided in W.S. 17 28 104.

(d) If an entity does not have a Registered Agent, the Secretary of State may accept service of process for the entity and shall forward it to the entity at its principal office by registered or certified mail as provided in W.S. 17 28 104.

Section 4. Public List.

(a) Pursuant to W.S. 17-28-106(d), the secretary of state may publish a list of Commercial Registered Agents, as it sees fit for the benefit of the public. The list may be in any order and format the secretary of state deems necessary and fair.

(b) For a Commercial Registered Agent to be eligible to appear on the public list, the agent shall:

(i) Be fully compliant with the Registered Offices and Agents Act;

(ii) If the agent is a business entity, be in good standing with the secretary of

<u>state;</u>

(iii) Not be sanctioned within or outside of Wyoming, if the agent purports to be licensed or a registered professional;

(iv) Not engage in misleading, deceptive, or harmful advertising or business practices;

(v) Not market shell, shelf or aged-shelf companies;

(vi) Not market business formation with promises of anonymity, secrecy, hidden owners, or substantially similar claims;

(vii) Not have any bona fide complaints against the agent from customers for a period of two (2) years, as determined by the secretary of state; and

(viii) Comply with secretary of state audits and requests for information necessary to ascertain compliance with qualifications to appear in the published Commercial Registered Agent list.

Section 5. Communications Contact Person.

(a) Every entity shall provide to its Registered Agent or the Secretary of State as provided in W.S. 17-28-107(b), the following information:

(i) The name of a natural person who is:

(A) An officer authorized to receive communications from the

Registered Agent;

(B) A director authorized to receive communications from the Registered Agent;

(C) An employee authorized to receive communications from the Registered Agent; or

(D) Designated agent authorized to receive communications from the Registered Agent; and

(ii) The business address of the natural person; and

(iii) The phone number of the natural person.

(b) A natural person shall be the designated communications contact person for the entity.

(c) The information required in subsection (a) shall be kept current within 60 days of any change.

Chapter 5 Actions Against Registered Agents

Section 1. Penalties.

(a) The secretary of state may impose up to a \$500 civil penalty for each violation of the Registered Offices and Agents Act (the Act), pursuant to the grounds cited in W.S. 17-28-109.

(b) The secretary of state may deny or revoke any registration of a Commercial Registered Agent, pursuant to the grounds cited in W.S. 17-28-109.

(c) The secretary of state may require enhanced record keeping of any registered agent, pursuant to the grounds cited in W.S. 17-28-109(d). The secretary of state may refuse to accept filings for business entities served by a registered agent pursuant to the grounds cited in W.S. 17- 28-109.

(d) If the secretary of state determines that a registered agent has not complied with the duties required in W.S. 17-28-101 and these rules, the following actions may be taken by the Secretary of State's Office:

(i) The registered agent will be notified through the email they provided at the time of registration of their failure to comply; and

(ii) The registered agent will be provided fifteen (15) days to rectify their deficiency;

(iii) If the registered agent fails to rectify their deficiency in the time presented, they will be removed as the registered agent for any businesses they represent at which time the business(es) will be considered delinquent.

(iv) The registered agent will be administratively actioned and ineligible to represent further entities until compliance is achieved.

Section 2. Contested Case Hearing Incorporation by Reference.

(a) The hearing officer shall preside over the formal contested case hearing which shall be conducted pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and the Office of Administrative Hearings rules concerning contested case proceedings which are incorporated by reference.

(b) For the rule incorporated by reference in these rules:

(i) Reference is Chapter 2 – Contested Case Proceedings adopted by the Office of Administrative Hearings and effective on July 20, 2017, found at: https://rules.wyo.gov/Search.aspx?RefNum=270.0001.2.07202017;

(ii) The secretary of state has determined that incorporation of the full text in these rules would be inefficient given the nature of the rules;

(iii) The incorporation by reference does not include any later amendments or editions of the incorporated matter beyond the applicable date identified in this section; and

(iv) The incorporated rule is maintained at the Secretary of State's Office and is available for public inspection and copying at no cost.

Wyoming Secretary of State Chapter 5 Actions Against Registered Agents Registration Requirements CHAPTER 5

Section 1. Authority.

The Secretary of State, pursuant to W.S. 17-28-111, is authorized to promulgate such rules as are necessary to perform the duties required of him under the Registered Offices and Agents Act, W.S. 17-28-101, et seq., 2008.

Section 1. Penalties.

(a) The secretary of state may impose up to a \$500 civil penalty for each violation of the Registered Offices and Agents Act (the Act), pursuant to the grounds cited in W.S. 17-28-109.

(b) The secretary of state may deny or revoke any registration of a Commercial Registered Agent, pursuant to the grounds cited in W.S. 17-28-109.

(c) The secretary of state may require enhanced record keeping of any registered agent, pursuant to the grounds cited in W.S. 17-28-109(d). The secretary of state may refuse to accept filings for business entities served by a registered agent pursuant to the grounds cited in W.S. 17-28-109.

(d) If the secretary of state determines that a registered agent has not complied with the duties required in W.S. 17-28-101 and these rules, the following actions may be taken by the Secretary of State's Office:

(i) <u>The registered agent will be notified through the email they provided at</u> the time of registration of their failure to comply; and

(ii) The registered agent will be provided fifteen (15) days to rectify their deficiency;

(iii) If the registered agent fails to rectify their deficiency in the time presented, they will be removed as the registered agent for any businesses they represent at which time the business(es) will be considered delinquent.

(iv) The registered agent will be administratively actioned and ineligible to represent further entities until compliance is achieved.

Section 2. Purpose.

These rules are adopted to promote the uniform administration of the Registered Offices and Agents Act.

Section 2. Contested Case Hearing Incorporation by Reference.

(a) The hearing officer shall preside over the formal contested case hearing which shall be conducted pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and the Office of Administrative Hearings rules concerning contested case proceedings which are incorporated by reference.

(b) For the rule incorporated by reference in these rules:

(i) <u>Reference is Chapter 2 – Contested Case Proceedings adopted by the</u> Office of Administrative Hearings and effective on July 20, 2017, found at: <u>https://rules.wyo.gov/Search.aspx?RefNum=270.0001.2.07202017;</u>

(ii) The secretary of state has determined that incorporation of the full text in these rules would be inefficient given the nature of the rules;

(iii) The incorporation by reference does not include any later amendments or editions of the incorporated matter beyond the applicable date identified in this section; and

(iv) The incorporated rule is maintained at the Secretary of State's Office and is available for public inspection and copying at no cost.

Section 3. Applicability.

These rules apply to all Commercial Registered Agents required by law to file with the Secretary of State.

Section 4. Registration Requirements.

(a)— A Registered Agent that represents more than ten entities shall annually register with the Secretary of State as a Commercial Registered Agent.

(i)- If a Registered Agent serves as a Registered Agent for an entity or entities that also serve(s) as a Registered Agent for more than 10 entities, then that Registered Agent must register as a Commercial Registered Agent.

(b)— A Registered Agent shall file an application with the Secretary of State that is sworn under penalty of perjury and which contains the following information:

(v)- Legal name of applicant;

<u>{vi}</u> Applicant's physical street address of its Registered Office where service on the entities represented by the applicant may be made. The physical street address may not be a post office box or drop box.

<u>(vii)</u> An optional mailing address may be included on the application in addition to the physical street address.

(viii) Whether the applicant has ever been convicted of a felony.

<u>(ix)</u> In the case of a Registered Agent that is an entity, whether any of the officers, directors, members, partners or persons serving in a similar capacity have ever been convicted of a felony.

(<u>x)</u>— The name, physical street address and phone number of the person who has authority to act on behalf of the Commercial Registered Agent.

(xi)_ If the applicant is a natural person, a statement that the applicant is 18 years or older.

(xii) Registered Office information, including:

(A) Physical Street address of office;

(B) Phone number of office;

(C)- Normal business hours of office;

(D)— Name of natural person who is authorized or the position that is authorized to accept service on behalf of the Commercial Registered Agent; and

(E) Whether the Registered Agent wants the information contained in the application form listed on the Secretary of State's website.

(c) Registration shall be valid for not more than one year and shall expire on December 31 of each year. Failing to register annually as a Commercial Registered Agent does not constitute resignation. The Commercial Registered Agent shall remain responsible for all requirements of the Act and these Rules for each entity served until the Commercial Registered Agent either resigns according to the Act and these Rules or registers.

Chapter 6 Duties of Registered Agent

Repealed.

Wyoming Secretary of State Duties of Registered Agent

CHAPTER 6

Repealed.

Section 1. Authority.

The Secretary of State, pursuant to W.S. 17-28-111, is authorized to promulgate such rules as are necessary to perform the duties required of him under the Registered Offices and Agents Act, W.S. 17-28-101, *et seq.*, 2008.

Section 2. Purpose.

These rules are adopted to promote the uniform administration of the Registered Offices and Agents Act.

Section 3. Applicability.

These rules apply to all registered agents and all business entitiesrequired by law to file with the Secretary of State.

Section 4. Duties.

(a) A Registered Agent shall:

(i) Comply with the Registered Agent Act.

(ii) Maintain a Registered Office that is a physical location at a street address and not a post office box or a drop box;

(iii) Be physically present at the Registered Office, or shall have a natural person, who has an agency relationship with the Registered Agent and who is authorized to accept service of process on behalf of the entities served by the Registered Agent, physically present at the Registered Office.

(iv) Keep a copy of the written agreement creating an agency relationship between the Registered Agent and the natural person who is authorized to accept service of process on behalf of the business entities represented by the Registered Agent;

(v) Keep a copy of the name, address and phone number of the Communications Contact Person, as required by W.S. 17-28-104(d), unless the Registered Agent and entity agree that such information may be filed with the Secretary of State, and they comply with W.S. 17-28-107(b); and

(vi) Register as a Commercial Registered Agent if the Agent serves as a Registered Agent for more than 10 entities, including a Registered Agent which serves as a Registered Agent for the entities served by another Commercial Registered Agent.

Section 5. Record Keeping.

(a) The Registered Agent shall maintain records at the Registered Office as provided by W.S. 17-28-107(a)(v); or

(b) If the Registered Agent and entity agree, the entity shall file the information required by W.S. 17-28-107(a)(v) (A) and (B) with the Secretary of State.

Chapter 7 Production of Records

Repealed.

Wyoming Secretary of State Production of Records

CHAPTER 7

Repealed.

Section 1. Authority.

The Secretary of State, pursuant to W.S. 17-28-111, is authorized to promulgate such rules as are necessary to perform the duties required of him under the Registered Offices and Agents Act, W.S. 17-28-101, *et seq.*, 2008.

Section 2. Purpose.

These rules are adopted to promote the uniform administration of the Registered Offices and Agents Act.

Section 3. Applicability.

These rules apply to all registered agents and all business entities required by law to file with the Secretary of State.

Section 4. Production of Records.

(a) A record shall:

(i) Contain all information required by law and these Rules;

(ii) Be written or, if electronic, be able to be immediately printed;

(iii) Be in English, as appropriate;

(iv) Be legible.

(b) All records that are required to be kept by the Registered Agentmust be:

(i) Maintained in paper format at the physical office; or

(ii) Maintained in electronic format if they can be either printed or downloaded onto a recordable device, such as a CD or DVD, upon request.

(iii) Available via remote access if the Registered Agent can produce the records in a time frame and format consistent with the time frames associated with (i) and (ii) above.

(c) The Secretary of State or his representatives shall have access to records as provided by W.S. § 17-28-107(a)(v). The Secretary of State has the discretion to allow a Registered Agent time to produce records, depending upon individual circumstances.

(d) The Secretary of State or his representative may examine these records and compel their production as provided by W.S. 17-28-108.

Chapter 8 Actions Against Registered Agents

Repealed.

Wyoming Secretary of State Actions Against Registered Agents

CHAPTER 8

Repealed.

Section 1. Authority.

The Secretary of State, pursuant to W.S. 17-28-111, is authorized to promulgate such rules as are necessary to perform the duties required of him under the Registered Offices and Agents Act, W.S. 17-28-101, et seq., 2008.

Section 2. Purpose.

These rules are adopted to promote the uniform administration of the Registered Offices and Agents Act.

Section 3. Applicability.

These rules apply to all registered agents and all business entitiesrequired by law to file with the Secretary of State.

Section 4. Penalties.

(a) The Secretary of State may impose up to a \$500 civil penalty for each violation of the Registered Agent Act, pursuant to the grounds cited in W.S. 17-28-109.

(b) The Secretary of State may deny or revoke any registration of a Commercial Registered Agent, pursuant to the grounds cited in W.S. 17-28-109.

(c) The Secretary of State may require enhanced record keeping of any Registered Agent, pursuant to the grounds cited in W.S. 17-28-109. (d) The Secretary of State may refuse to accept filings for business entities served by a Registered Agent pursuant to the grounds cited in W.S. 17-28-109.

Section 5. Contested Case Hearing.

(a) The hearing officer shall preside over the formal contested case hearing which shall be conducted pursuant to the WAPA and the Office of Administrative Hearings rules concerning contested case proceedings incorporated by reference in Chapter [8]. Section 6. Incorporation by Reference.

(a) For any code, standard, rule or regulation incorporated by reference in these rules:

(i) The Secretary of State has determined that incorporation of the full text in these rules would be cumbersome or inefficient given the length or nature of the rules;

(ii) The incorporation by reference does not include any later amendments or editions of the incorporated matter beyond the applicable date identified in subsection (b) of this section; and

(iii) The incorporated code, standard, rule, or regulation is maintained at the Secretary of State and is available for public inspection and copying at cost at the same location.

(b) Each rule incorporated by reference in these rules is further identified as follows:

(i) Reference in [Chapter 8, Section 5] is Chapter 2 - Uniform Rules for Contested Case Practice and Procedure adopted by the Office of Administrative Hearings and effective on October 17, 2014, found at: http://soswy.state.wy.us/Rules/RULES/9644.pdf.