

Commissioner of Oaths Responsibilities

Effective July 2025

Oaths.co.za | Powered by Beantech (Pty) Ltd

Legal Foundation

All Commissioners of Oaths on Oaths.co.za operate under the authority of:

- Justices of the Peace and Commissioners of Oaths Act, 1963
- GN R1258 of 1972 – Regulation 10
- Electronic Communications and Transactions Act, 2002
(Sections 11–15, 18 – legal validity of electronic records, signatures, and trust services)

What Our Commissioners Are Authorised to Do

Commissioners registered with Oaths.co.za are authorised to:

- Certify true copies of original South African documents:
 - Smart ID Cards
 - Driver's Licences
 - Passports
 - Proof of Address (PDF only)
- Operate entirely within the Oaths.co.za digital platform
- Certify only what is legally permitted
- No affidavits, affirmations, or declarations are allowed. These fall outside the legal scope of Regulation 6 and require in-person witnessing.

What Qualifies a Commissioner of Oaths for Oaths.co.za

To be accepted as an Approved Commissioner of Oaths on Oaths.co.za, a candidate must:

- Be duly appointed in terms of South African law
- Be in good standing with a recognised professional body, such as:
 - SAIPA (Professional Accountant (SA))
 - SAICA (CA(SA))
 - IRBA (Registered Auditor)
 - Legal Practice Council (Attorney or Advocate)
 - Or any other regulator recognised by Oaths.co.za
- Not charge any fee for the act of certification, in accordance with Regulation 6 of GN R1258 of 1972

How Oaths.co.za Vets Its Commissioners

Every Commissioner on the platform undergoes strict vetting and onboarding, including:

- Face-to-face onboarding at Beantech offices or a digitally recorded verification session
- Mandatory submission of:
 - South African Smart ID Card
 - Proof of current professional membership
 - Valid SARS Tax Compliance Status
 - Recent Proof of Address
- Upon approval, each Commissioner receives a unique platform token to perform secure digital certifications

What the Oaths.co.za Platform Does

The platform handles all technical, forensic, and compliance operations on behalf of the Commissioner:

- Biometric identity & liveness checks (video or camera-based)
- Forensic validation of document authenticity
- Automated system compliance controls
- 2048-bit encrypted digital signatures (Adobe Pro trusted)
- Blockchain hash & unique QR code generation per certification
- PEP, PIP, and sanctions screening for every session
- Tamper-proof audit trail — digitally signed, timestamped, and stored securely

Note: Commissioners cannot upload any documents, and can only proceed with signing once the system verifies that all legal, biometric, and compliance checks are fully greenlit.

A Professional Obligation to Integrity

Every Commissioner on Oaths.co.za is a registered professional — whether a Professional Accountant (SA), Chartered Accountant, Attorney, Auditor, or equivalent — and is bound by the code of conduct and ethical rules of their professional body (e.g., SAIPA, SAICA, IRBA, Legal Practice Council).

In addition to full compliance with South African law, our Commissioners are expected to uphold the highest standards of integrity, honesty, and independence — not only as legal officers, but as trusted stewards of your personal documentation.

This is our Pledge to you:

That every action taken on Oaths.co.za is governed by an ethical code of conduct of the highest standard, supported by real professionals, and secured by cutting-edge verification technology.

We hold ourselves to the same values our users commit to when they join our platform:

That every certified copy is issued truthfully, reviewed with care, and delivered in the public interest — with trust at the centre of every step.