

**From:** NotaryMail NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov   
**Subject:** RE: Attn: Andy (Follow up to a previous request that has only been partially completed so far)  
**Date:** May 6, 2025 at 10:55 AM  
**To:** Christi Grab 



Christi,

In California, the requirement to file an oath of office with the Secretary of State depends on the scope of the official's authority. Pursuant to California Government Code section 1363, officials whose authority is not limited to a particular county must file their oaths with the Secretary of State. This includes statewide officers, members of the State Senate, and members of the State Assembly.

Based on what I was able to find, it is of my belief that the remaining individuals, unless they hold an elected or constitutional role, likely do not file their oaths with the Secretary of State. Many appear to be legislative or administrative staff, for whom the oath of office may be filed with internal HR departments or their appointing authorities.

As such, the only remaining individuals from your list who are required to file their oaths of office with the California Secretary of State are:

State Senators:

- Angelique V. Ashby – District not up for election in 2024
- Catherine Blakespear – District not up for election in 2024
- Brian Dahle – No longer the Senator for the 1<sup>st</sup> District. Seat is now held by wife Megan Dahle.
- Brian W. Jones – District not up for election in 2024
- Mike McGuire – District not up for election in 2024
- Thomas J. Umberg – District not up for election in 2024
- Anna Caballero – District not up for election in 2024
- Maria Elena Durazo – District not up for election in 2024
- Shannon Grove – District not up for election in 2024
- Caroline Menjivar – District not up for election in 2024
- Steve Padilla – District not up for election in 2024
- Susan Rubio – District not up for election in 2024
- Aisha Wahab – District not up for election in 2024

\*Unable to locate oaths for 2025-26 Session for Senators whose district was not part of the 2024 election cycle.

Statewide Officers:

- Eleni Kounalakis (Lieutenant Governor) – \*Unable to locate oath from 2022.

\*Failure to locate an oath of office for an individual does not indicate that the individual is required to file an oath of office pursuant to Government Code section 1363 or that the individual is in violation of the law for failure to file. There is no statutory or regulatory authority prescribing the filing process or penalties for failure to file an oath of office with the Secretary of State pursuant to Government Code section 1363. Therefore, the Secretary of State does not issue certificates of no record for oaths of office.

Let me know if you need anything else.

**Andy F**

Services Analyst

Business Programs Division

California Secretary of State

Email: [NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov](mailto:NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov)

Phone: [REDACTED]



**Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D.**  
California Secretary of State

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**From:** Christi Grab [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 30, 2025 1:31 PM

**To:** NotaryMail <[NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov](mailto:NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Attn: Andy (Follow up to a previous request that has only been partially completed so far)

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Thank you for looking into clarification about who is required to file oaths with the SOS. I was under the impression that the staffers for elected/appointed officials (partisan jobs) were required to have oaths filed and that permanent employees (non-partisan jobs) were not required to have oaths filed. But I could certainly be misunderstanding the statutes.

My understanding is that state senators and assemblyman are required to file oaths for each legislative session, and the rest of the elected officials are only required to file an oath when they are elected/re-elected. What I am seeing is a pattern of elected officials not filing an oath when they are re-elected, and what I am really seeing A LOT of is state senators who don't file oaths for each legislative cycle.

So, for example, it appears Eleni Kounalakis filed an oath when she was elected Lt. Governor the first time, but it appears she did not file an oath at the end of 2022 when she was re-elected. Since she is on a four year term, that means she is currently working unlawfully without an oath on file. So in her case, if there was an oath filed at the end 2022 that was previously missed, then that oath is currently valid.

However, if a state senator was elected at the end of 2022, they needed to file a new oath at the end of 2024 even though their term doesn't expire until the end of 2026. Just picking a name off

end of 2024 even though their term doesn't expire until the end of 2026. Just picking a name on the top of my head, let's take, Kelly Seyarto. I already have a copy of his oath that specifically states that it is only valid for the 2023 - 2024 legislative term. But my guess is that he — and many other state senators — didn't file an oath for the 2025 - 2026 legislative term. Almost none of the state senators that I checked during the last legislative cycle that had not been up for re-election that year had filed oaths with the SOS.

As for old oaths... I already have all the old ones. I only need the current ones.

Thank you again for all the help. I totally understand that I am a pain in the butt. :) But our elected officials and their appointees/staffers need to be held accountable for upholding the law. Working unlawfully without an oath is a felony punishable with 3 years in prison. Oaths are serious business.

Happy hump day!

Christi

On Apr 30, 2025, at 2:34 PM, NotaryMail <[NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov](mailto:NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov)> wrote:

Hi Christi,

I need to leave work early today, but before I go, I wanted to provide you with a quick update as promised.

After thoroughly searching the oaths on file with our office, I've had difficulty locating the majority of the individuals on your list. I began researching each person individually and found that many of them are not required to file their oath with our office, which explains why I haven't been able to locate them.

Additionally, several of the Senators you requested were not part of the 2024 election cycle. As such, they were not required to file an oath in 2024. We do have their oaths from 2022 when they were elected, but those fall outside the date range specified in your request.

Once I complete my research, I will provide a full breakdown of who is or isn't required to file an oath with our office and send over all the oaths we do have for the individuals on your list. I expect to have everything ready for you sometime next week.

I apologize for the delay caused by my absence and will give this my full attention upon my return.

Best,

**Andy F**

Services Analyst

Business Programs Division

California Secretary of State

Email: [NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov](mailto:NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov)

Phone: [REDACTED]

<image001.png>

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**From:** Christi Grab [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Friday, April 25, 2025 3:48 PM

**To:** NotaryMail <[NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov](mailto:NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Attn: Andy (Follow up to a previous request that has only been partially completed so far)

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No worries. I intentionally waited until after most schools were done with spring breaks because I suspected that a lot of people were on vacation and you guys were short staffed in the early part of the month. I appreciate the follow up and look forward to hearing from you on Wednesday.

Christi

On Apr 25, 2025, at 6:16 PM, NotaryMail  
<[NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov](mailto:NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov)> wrote:

Good afternoon, Christi,

Unfortunately, I had to take the last couple of weeks off to tend to some personal matters, so I have not had the opportunity to work on this for you. I am aware that it needs to be done and have it on my to-do list. I will work on this as

to be done and have it on my to-do list. I will work on this as time permits and provide you with an update next Wednesday.

Sorry for the delay my absence caused. Have a great weekend and I will talk to you next week.

Best,  
Andy

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**From:** Christi Grab [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025 3:28 AM  
**To:** NotaryMail <[NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov](mailto:NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Attn: Andy (Follow up to a previous request that has only been partially completed so far)

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Hi Andy,

I hope you had a nice holiday. I am writing to follow up on the rest of the oaths that you were looking for for me. I am hoping that by now, enough time has passed that the SOS has completed the recordings on all the oaths that were required to be filed by the first week in January. Please send the rest over when you have a chance.

Thank you again for all your help.

Regards,

Christi Grab

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Christi Grab [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Attn: Andy  
**Date:** March 28, 2025 at 7:19:36 PM EDT  
**To:** NotaryMail <[NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov](mailto:NotaryMail@sos.ca.gov)>