Landgate Registrations

customer information bulletin



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PHOTO CARD EQUIVALENT TO A PROOF OF AGE CARD

A Photo Card issued under the Western Australian Photo Card Act 2014 is equivalent to a Proof of Age Card, referred to in the Registrar and Commissioner of Titles Joint Practice: Verification of Identity. For more information about the Photo Card visit the Department of Transport website here.

LAND TRANSACTIONS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA – EXECUTED OUTSIDE OF AUSTRALIA AND THE ROLE OF THE AUSTRALIAN CONSULAR OFFICER

Where a Western Australian land transaction document is required to be witnessed and/or a person transacting in land needs identity documents certified outside Australia, an Australian Consular Officer can perform these functions (fees apply).

The Australian Consular Officer will not sign an 'Identifiers Certificate' or a 'Statement' as to identity. The Australian Consular Officer will not advise the person transacting in land of the documents required to be sighted and certified; this is the responsibility of that person's Australian representative, such as the Conveyancer/Lawyer/Mortgagee.

The role of the Australian Consular Officer is to certify copies of identity documents or other land or property documents specified by an Australian professional responsible for the conduct of the transaction, and witness signing of the relevant land transaction document.

In summary, the Australian Consular Officer will:

- Take reasonable steps to ensure that the person transacting in land is the person entitled to sign the land transaction document presented by sighting and certifying original identity documents;
- Witness the person signing the land transaction document:
- Endorse the land transaction documents as a witness; and
- Not be a party to the transaction.

This is not a change to the Western Australian Registrar and Commissioner of Titles Joint Practice: Verification of Identity. It merely clarifies the role of Australian Consular Officers with respect to verifying the identity of certain persons, and the witnessing of specified land transaction documents.

Jean Villani

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