**Section 176.510 Acquiring the Official Seal and the Electronic Seal**

a) A notary public may purchase an official seal, and an electronic notary public may purchase an electronic seal, only after receiving a commission certificate from the Department under Section 176.550(a), and providing a copy of the commission certificate to the notary public's or electronic notary public's chosen seal vendor.

b) The official seal of a notary public, and the electronic seal of an electronic notary public, is the exclusive property of the notary public or electronic notary public and may not be surrendered to an employer upon termination of employment, regardless of whether the employer paid for the official seal or electronic seal, the bond, or the appointment fees.

(Source: Added at 47 Ill. Reg. 8640, effective June 5, 2023)