

**AFFIRMATION/OATH EXPLAINED**

Pursuant to Rule 51(3),(4), for all purposes for which an oath is required by law, a person may instead of taking an oath, make a solemn affirmation such as in the format of an affidavit.

In that there are many samples of affidavits in this manual, we ask that you check the index under the affidavit heading you are seeking.

**AFFIRMATION (AFFIDAVIT) EXPLAINED**

See Affidavits Explained (General) pages 14-14B.

**OATHS EXPLAINED**

In a court of law an oath is required before one gives testimony or evidence. In many instances the standard oath may be unacceptable to the person giving evidence for any number of reasons, i.e. his/her religion prohibits it; one wishes to substitute a declaration for an oath; an interpreter has to substitute for the person who may not understand or speak English; a certain nationality or race of people may desire to use

their own oath or substitute in keeping with the religion, belief and custom of their country, etc.

Also, there is an oath for civil court matters and one for criminal court actions. There is an oath for the stenographer, interpreter and/or translator. For this reason we felt it important enough to list some of these oaths for your information, which we have done as follows:

**OATHS****CIVIL ACTION**

The evidence you shall give to the court touching the matter in question shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, SO HELP YOU GOD.

**AFFIRMATION OR OATH**

I solemnly promise, affirm and declare that the evidence given by me to the court or as the case may be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

**DECLARATION ACCORDING TO BELIEF**

You do solemnly, sincerely and truly affirm and declare that the taking of an oath is according to your religious belief, unlawful and you do also solemnly, sincerely and truly declare that the evidence to be given by you shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

**CRIMINAL OATH**

The evidence you shall give to the court between our Sovereign Lady the Queen and (you) the prisoner at the bar shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, So Help You God. (THE WORD "YOU" IS ADDED WHEN THE ACCUSED IS GIVEN THE OATH).

**INTERPRETER'S OATH**

You shall well and truly interpret the evidence between the court and the parties in question from the English language to the \_\_\_\_\_ language and from the \_\_\_\_\_ language to the English language according to the best of your skill and understanding, So Help You God.

**INTERPRETER'S OATH (CRIMINAL)**

You shall well and truly interpret the evidence between the court and the prisoner at the bar from the English language to the \_\_\_\_\_ language and from the \_\_\_\_\_ language to the English language according to the best of your skill and understanding, So Help You God.