## **Emergency Rules**

## Title 15—ELECTED OFFICIALS Division 30—Secretary of State Chapter 70—Safe at Home: Address Confidentiality Program

## **EMERGENCY AMENDMENT**

**15 CSR 30-70.020 Application Assistant Training, Registration, and Renewal**. The secretary of state is amending sections (2), (4), and (5).

*PURPOSE:* This rule is being amended to update its contents to align with statutory changes to the Safe at Home laws in 2018.

EMERGENCY STATEMENT: The secretary of state determined that this emergency amendment is necessary to preserve a compelling governmental interest.

This emergency amendment is necessary to address statutory sections enacted in HB 1461 (2018), specifically sections 589.660 to 589.681, RSMo, which become law on August 28, 2018, and amend components of the Safe at Home program. Since 2007, the Safe at Home: Address Confidentiality Program has helped victims of domestic violence, rape, sexual assault, human trafficking, stalking, or other crimes who fear for their safety, as well as the safety of individuals residing in the same household as the victim, by authorizing the use of designated addresses for such victims, their minor children, and individuals residing with them. These services keep survivors' confidential addresses out of the hands of their assailants.

The secretary of state needs this emergency amendment to ensure that the rules associated with Safe at Home are active shortly after HB 1461 becomes law on August 28, 2018. This emergency rule describes the manner and process for application and registration to the program by application assistants, which will allow the secretary of state to continue operating Safe at Home effectively.

The secretary of state finds there is a compelling governmental interest, which requires this emergency action. The scope of this emergency amendment is limited to the circumstances creating the emergency and complies with the protections extended in the **Missouri** and **United States Constitutions**. The secretary of state believes this emergency amendment is fair to all interested persons and parties under the circumstances. This emergency amendment was filed August 23, 2018, becomes effective September 2, 2018, and expires February 28, 2019.

(2) The application assistant may only be registered when the prospective application assistant—

(A) Is [a service provider or works] an employee or volunteer with a qualified agency and can [demonstrate] confirm to the secretary relevant qualifications to work with victims of domestic [abuse] violence, rape, sexual assault, human trafficking, [or] stalking, or other crimes;

(C) Completes an [application for prospective application assistants on a form] application assistant agreement form provided by the secretary[, which includes, but is not limited to, the applicant's name, service provider or agency, address of service provider or agency, telephone number of service provider or agency, supervisor's name, and relevant qualifications]. The application assistant [application] agreement form, 2018, incorporated herein by reference, is published by the Missouri Secretary of State, PO Box 1767, Jefferson City, MO 65102-1767. This form does not include any amendments or additions. The form is available at the secretary of state's office or may be obtained by email to safeathome@sos.mo.gov or by mailing a written request to Safe at Home, PO Box 1409, Jefferson City, MO 65102-1409;

(4) The application assistant shall agree not to discriminate against

any client, or potential program participant[, because of race, creed, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, or mental, physical, or sensory disability] pursuant to Missouri law.

(5) The application assistant performing under this contract is not deemed to be an employee of the secretary or an agent of the secretary in any manner whatsoever. The application assistant will not hold *[herself/himself]* **oneself** out as, nor claim to be an officer or employee of the secretary or of the state of Missouri simply *[because she/he is a]* by holding the title of program application assistant and will not make any claim, demand, or application to or for any right or privilege applicable to an officer or employee of the secretary or of the state of Missouri.

AUTHORITY: section 589.681, RSMo 2016. Emergency rule filed Aug. 17, 2007, effective Aug. 28, 2007, expired Feb. 28, 2008. Original rule filed Aug. 17, 2007, effective Feb. 29, 2008. Emergency amendment filed Sept. 9, 2016, effective Sept. 19, 2016, expired March 17, 2017. Amended: Filed Sept. 9, 2016, effective March 30, 2017. Emergency amendment filed Aug. 23, 2018, effective Sept. 2, 2018, expires Feb 28, 2019. An emergency amendment and a proposed amendment covering this same material will be published in the October 1, 2018, issue of the Missouri Register.