In accordance with international law, as provided for by the Hague Convention of Oct, 5, 1961, regarding the abolition of legalizations, ratified both by Italy and the United States of America, it is possible to validate a personally written document, for use in Italy, by having the signature authenticated by a US Public Notary, **without the need to go to the Consulate in person.**

For this purpose, once the document issued in Italian has been signed in front of a Public Notary of your choice, an Apostille must be attached to the document by the Secretary of State, of the State in which the Notary is registered. Therefore, the notarized document must be sent to the specific office of the Secretary of State, whose contacts are available on our web site. Once he/she has attached of the Apostille, the document will be returned by mail to the applicant.

It is recommended to give advance notice to the Notary or lawyer in Italy who is going to receive the document, that you want to make use of this specific procedure which is not widely known, yet perfectly legal. You can also inform the Notary/lawyer that the Notary Office of this Consulate is available, also via e-mail, to confirm the adherence of the above-mentioned procedure to the principles of the Hague Convention.