

**Topic:** Font Problems

**Question By:** Kathy Sachs

**Jurisdiction:** Kansas

**Date:** 20 January 2012

Jurisdiction	Question
	I am increasingly having problems with paper filings that use a font that makes it difficult to differentiate between a capital letter "L" and a capital letter "I". Is this a common problem in other jurisdictions?
Alabama	
Alaska	
Arizona	
Arkansas	
California	
Colorado	
Connecticut	
Delaware	
District of Columbia	
Florida	
Georgia	
Hawaii	
Idaho	
Illinois	
Indiana	
Iowa	
Kansas	
Kentucky	
Louisiana	Louisiana's filing offices have not had an issue to date, with the font.
Maine	
Maryland	
Massachusetts	
Michigan	The UCC Michigan office has not seen anything in the ALGERIAN font, but occasionally discovers records that are misinterpreted during in-house data entry. Our Filing Officer Statement verbiage is very similar to your example. Like Nevada, we are not aware of any court judgments. In the event that there are any in future, we will comply with the court of competent jurisdiction's decision.

<b>Minnesota</b>	
<b>Mississippi</b>	
<b>Missouri</b>	
<b>Montana</b>	
<b>Nebraska</b>	
<b>Nevada</b>	<p>I think your approach is correct. This generally occurs with a capitol I, lower case L (l), and sometimes a one (1), depending on the font. For example the word 'Will.' Is this "WLLL", "WILL", "WIII (iii) "WIII" (111) and so on. Generally, we do the best we can in deciphering the customers intent and in some cases may reject if we are unable to make the determination. If we do err in our decision, we will take the customers word and will file a filing officer statement. We follow similar logic in our business entity filing. It is extremely rare that such an occurrence is brought to our attention. Like you said, if it becomes an issue, a judge can determine what was or was not correct. To date, I have not been made aware of something like this going to a judge in Nevada.</p>
<b>New Hampshire</b>	
<b>New Jersey</b>	
<b>New Mexico</b>	
<b>New York</b>	
<b>North Carolina</b>	
<b>North Dakota</b>	
<b>Ohio</b>	
<b>Oklahoma</b>	
<b>Oregon</b>	
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	
<b>Rhode Island</b>	
<b>South Carolina</b>	
<b>South Dakota</b>	
<b>Tennessee</b>	
<b>Texas</b>	
<b>Utah</b>	
<b>Vermont</b>	
<b>Virginia</b>	
<b>Washington</b>	
<b>West Virginia</b>	
<b>Wisconsin</b>	
<b>Wyoming</b>	

## **Additional Comments:**

**Mon 01/23/2012 12:49 PM**

Here are a couple of popular mono-spaced fonts used by programmers to better distinguish the problem characters you talked about plus “O” and “0” which is a biggie. You probably don’t want to go as far as require any particular font, but perhaps IACA could suggest some fonts that are preferable. Something to think about.

Font – Inconsolata Examples

Font – Consolas Examples

**Wally Boggus**

**CAPITOL SERVICES**

Capitol Services, Inc.

800 Brazos, Suite 400

Austin, TX 78701

800.345.4647

Fax 800.432.3622

[www.capitolservices.com](http://www.capitolservices.com)

**Mon 01/23/2012 1:17 PM**

Does the IACA website use one of these fonts on our fillable forms?

KATHY SACHS

**Mon 01/23/2012 1:48 PM**

Looks like the font used in the IACA fillable forms is Times Roman bold. Also, notice that the bottoms of the lowercase letters in 1a. and the uppercase Q in 2. are getting cutoff a little... you might want to fix that.

**Wally Boggus**

## Full Text of Original Email:

Fri 01/20/2012 5:18 PM

I am increasingly having problems with paper filings that use a font that makes it difficult to differentiate between a capital letter "L" and a capital letter "I". Is this a common problem in other jurisdictions?

Initially, we were spending time trying to compare other words in the filing to determine whether we were "right" or the customer was "right". I'm beginning to think it's not worth the time to determine who made the error and to just file a Filing Officer Statement that doesn't purport who made the error. That way the customer won't be charged and it would be up to a judge to later determine whether it was a filing officer error or a filing error.

Below is the proposed language. Does anyone have a better / different advice?

The font used in this form makes it difficult to differentiate between a:

capital letter "L"

a capital letter "I"

The filing was entered as an "L".

The customer states it was actually an "I".

The filing has been updated to include both spellings.

**KATHY SACHS** | Deputy Assistant Secretary of State  
Administrative and Electronic Government Services

Kansas Secretary of State | 785-296-3828 P | 785-368-8028 F | [www.sos.ks.gov](http://www.sos.ks.gov)

Memorial Hall, 1st Floor | 120 S.W. 10th Avenue | Topeka, KS 66612-1594