

Established 1982

THE PAPER CHASE

The Official Newsletter of the
Florida Association of Professional Process Servers

4th Quarter Edition
October 2017

27th Annual Conference March 9-11, 2018

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**Join us for our
Roaring 20's
Conference!
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Networking**

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Education, and Networking for over 30 years**



2018 FAPPS Convention

~~Before you read this...make sure you review the dictionary provided~~

“Don’t take any wooden nickels” start planning now to attend the 2018 FAPPS convention at the Marriott Orlando located in Lake Mary from March 9-11, 2018 where we will be “Putting on the Ritz”. Make sure you get ready for Friday Night’s “Whoopee” of Poker and Bingo.

Start planning your “Joe Brooks” outfit you don’t want to be a “Rag-a-muffin” or a “Pill” for the Saturday night’s “Swanky Dicks & Dolls” party.

I’m looking forward to seeing you all there at this year’s “Nifty” convention!

~Amy Boyd, Annual Conference Activities Coordinator

Dictionary of Flapperspeak:

Don’t take any wooden nickels – don’t do anything stupid

Putting on the Ritz – doing something high style

Whoopee - fun

Joe Brooks – someone who is fashionably dressed

Rag-a-muffin – a disheveled individual

Pill – a teacher or an unlikable person

Swanky - Ritzy

Dick – Private investigator

Doll – Attractive woman

Nifty – Great, Excellent



2017-2018 Association Guide

Board of Directors

Margie Zawacki, President

Sarasota
(941) 954-0169
email: margiez@hctjudge.com

Bob Musser, Vice President

Winter Park
(407) 679-1539
email: BobM@dbsinfo.com

Joe Osborne, Jr., Secretary

Tampa
(813) 282-0074
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Allen Bryant, Treasurer

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email: Allen@aallen.com

Mike Compton, Director

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email: Mike@processamerica.com

Bonnie Moore, Director

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email: bonnie@processxpress.com

Lance Randall, Director

Hollywood
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email: Lance@lri.us

Sean Segel, Director

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(813) 251-9197
email: tampaempire@gmail.com

Chris Yeoman, Director

Pembroke Pines, FL
(954) 270-4597
email: chris.yeoman@aol.com

Administration & Membership: Diana Wardwell

Email: administrator@fapps.org
P.O. Box 72
Melbourne, FL 32902 -0072
(321) 952-0820 (877) 38-FAPPS Tollfree

Committees

Annual Conference Activities

Coordinator: Amy Boyd, boydsprostatus@gmail.com
Members: Brooke LaPlant, Melanny Echeverri

Arbitration & Grievance (A&G)

Chair: Sean Segel, tampaempire@gmail.com
Members: Janet Deal, Allen Bryant, Diana Wardwell

Elections

Chair: Bob Musser, BobM@dbsinfo.com
Member: Diana Wardwell

FAPPS Distinguished Service Award (FDSA)

Chair: Bob Musser, BobM@dbsinfo.com
Members: Mike Compton, Lance Randall, Diana Wardwell, Margie Zawacki

Formal Education (AFPS)

Chair: Allen Bryant, allen@aallen.com
Members: Russ Aloï, Diana Wardwell

Legislation

Chair: Mike Compton, mike@processamerica.com
Members: Russ Aloï, Allen Bryant, Diana Wardwell, Michael Nolan, Janet Deal, Lance Randall, Chris Yeoman
Lobbyist: Jose Diaz

Member Benefits

Chair: Bonnie Moore, bonnie@processxpress.com
Members: Desy Garcia, Jean Glemaud, Jr., Regina Moore, Chris Yeoman

Parliamentarian

Bob Musser, BobM@dbsinfo.com

Process Server Appointment (PSAC)

Chair: Melody Bulso, AFPS melody.bulso@provest.us
Members: Michael Compton, Ryan Gleason, Tammy Laughlin, AFPS, Lance Randall

Promotion & Growth (P&G)

Chair: Tammy Laughlin, tammy@weservejustice.com
Members: Frank Carreras, Beau Charlet, Bonnie Moore

Secure Data Exchange and eSOP

Chair: Bob Musser, BobM@dbsinfo.com

Technology

Chair: John Shelley, john@caffeinencode.biz
Member: Chris Compton

Violence Against Process Servers (VAPS)

Chair: Chris Yeoman, chris.yeoman@aol.com
Member: Bonnie Moore, Becky Gaston, Frank Carreras, Kenny Nail, Lance Randall

Website

Chair: Diana Wardwell, administrator@fapps.org
Member: Chris Tilley
Webmaster: Bob Musser, bobm@dbsinfo.com

Newsletter Submissions: Submissions to the Paper Chase are highly encouraged. The preferred method of submission is electronic via email to administrator@fapps.org in Microsoft Word—though plain text format is fine. Articles will be edited for style, grammar, and length, if necessary. Spelling will be checked but it would be a good idea if the author checked this prior to submission. Advertisements must be camera ready. Electronic submissions are strongly encouraged. All of the relevant information regarding advertisement submissions—including sizes available, ad rates, and deadlines are on the advertising form.

The Fine Print: The Paper Chase is published quarterly by the Florida Association of Professional Process Servers, Inc. (FAPPS) a not-for-profit Florida corporation, for the benefit of the members. FAPPS assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of any article printed herein, nor do the articles necessary reflect the policies or opinions of FAPPS unless specifically noted. The articles are not to be construed as legal or accounting advice—those with such needs should consult the appropriate professionals. The editor reserves the right to edit any article for content, grammar, length, and style.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

MARGARET ZAWACKI, PRESIDENT

Dear Members:

I would like to start by hoping that everyone has recovered from Hurricane Irma and that your life is somewhat back to normal. If there is anyone that needs anything, please don't hesitate to personally contact me. I know that it will take a long time to get our wonderful Florida Keys back into some type of normalcy. I would ask that Dr. Denny Howley please keep us informed of the progress moving forward.

As I write this I am again saddened by the events that happened in Las Vegas. My thoughts and prayers are with all of those that have died or have been injured needlessly and to their family, friends and loves ones.

It seems kind of strange to me to go into how wonderful our 16th Annual Professional Beach Getaway in Daytona Beach was in August with all of the tragedies surrounding us all in the past two months. It definitely makes you aware of how precious your life is in this world that we live in. I'll just say thank you to all of those who came to the PBGA; to those of you who put this event together; to our Lobbyist, Jose Diaz and Marty Bowen; Florida Representative Patrick Henry from Daytona Beach; and to the women from the Paralegal Association of Florida, Bea LeVine and Jeremie Ayala. When we started this getaway it was our hope that members would come together and mingle with the board members and other members of the Association in a laid back relaxed atmosphere. For the most part these getaways have been very successful. The Board really does look forward to members attending and giving us any ideas you may have. Remember, we all work for you. This is your Association and the individuals you have elected are dedicated to the goals and objectives we have moving forward.

I would like to touch on the Marcia Gillings incident that some of you were made aware of at the Convention last March. I am excited to officially announce that she has been exonerated of any wrong doing and the complaint that was filed against her has been dismissed. I had appointed a special committee existing of Lance Randall and Russ Aloji to review all the court documents and then give me their opinion on what FAPPS could do for Ms. Gillings. I would like to say thank you to both of them for taking on this task and then for Lance to attend and testify at Ms. Gillings' hearing.

Our 4th Quarter Board Meeting will be held on December 2nd, 2017 at the Hyatt Place on International Drive in Orlando, FL. It is posted on the website so check it out and if you can come and join us. The Board always looks forward to seeing you.

Finally, start planning now on attending our Convention coming up on March 9th thru 11th, 2018 at the Marriott Orlando in Lake Mary, FL. We have a Roaring 20's theme and it is going to be a great time. You can find all the information on the board meetings and Convention as well as hotel reservation links, education course information and all news relating to our Association on our website.

In closing, I would just like to say that my phone (941-954-0169) and email (margiez@hctjudge.com) are always open to anyone with ideas or suggestions moving forward that will improve this Association. I thank you for your time and stay safe.

Sincerely,
Margaret L. Zawacki

Make Plans to Attend a
FAPPS Meeting
Get Involved!



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**MEETING
NOTICE!**

**4th Quarter Board Meeting
December 2, 2017 9:00 a.m.**

Hyatt Place Orlando Convention
8741 International Drive
Orlando, FL 32819

**27th Annual Conference
March 9-11, 2018**

Marriott Orlando Lake Mary
1501 International Parkway
Lake Mary, FL 32746
(407) 995-1100

Room Rate: \$149-\$159 per night
(Room rate \$149 includes one breakfast/
\$159 includes two breakfasts)

**Last Day to Book Reservations at
discounted rate: February 15, 2018**

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

BOB MUSSER

Secure Document Trading Service

FAPPS signed an agreement over a year ago with Secure Document Trading (SDT) to provide Secure Document Trading Services (SDTS) to FAPPS members at no cost. This gives FAPPS members an efficient, safe, and secure way to forward documents and data electronically between senders and servers. The SDTS is designed to let Senders, whether they be Attorneys, FAPPS or non-FAPPS process servers, or others to send documents and data to a FAPPS process server without requiring email or other unsecure transport methods. Data and Documents are encrypted using SSL at each point of transfer.

If you have not signed up yet, please go to FAPPS.SecureDocumentTrading.com and click on the "FAPPS" Tab to claim your listing. This is a free service, and as it grows in popularity it will be yet another way for Attorneys and Paralegals to find you and send you work.

FAPPS Server Hosting and Admin Duties

At the annual meeting, the board made a couple of decisions that should enhance the financial records of FAPPS.

To make the recording of FAPPS' financial data more consistent year over year (since the office of Treasurer can change every two years), we tasked the Administrator with some of the day to day duties of recording checks and paper that come into FAPPS. You can read the Policy and Procedure manual, Sections 4.1 and 4.3 for the details. In general, we hope that the Association's Chart of Accounts and procedures in how things are posted will be consistent over many years, making it easier for both Board and Members to see how we are doing financially.

In addition, the Board directed me (through my company, Database Services, Inc.) to set up a server at a secure colocation facility for exclusive FAPPS use. FAPPS now has a server that is replicated (copied) to another piece of physical hardware every 15 minutes. QuickBooks is installed on it, and backups are made nightly. Currently, only the Administrator and the Treasurer have access to this server. The intent and result of this decision is that physical security and backups of the Association's data are being handled professionally and consistently, even if the people in the roles are changed over the years.

Bob Musser, FAPPS Vice President

TPC

27th Annual Convention March 9-11, 2018 Lake Mary, FL

Advertising

Advertising available in the convention program:

Full Page Premium Location
Full Page
Half Page
Quarter Page
Business Card

Advertising Deadline: February 20, 2018

**SPONSORSHIP
& ADVERTISING
OPPORTUNITIES**

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Sponsorship

We have expanded the availability of items to sponsor:

Lanyards	Conference Bags
Reception Décor (Sat.)	Photo Booth (Sat.)
Golf Tournament	Poker Tournament
Bingo	Audio Visual
Friday Reception	Saturday A.M. Break
Luncheon	Afternoon Break
Education Sessions	

New for 2018! - Call to learn more about our custom sponsorship Hospitality Suite Thursday evening, Friday and Saturday.

We invite you to sponsor asap. These are first come, first served.

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

JOE OSBORNE , JR.

From the Desk of the Secretary

Dear Fellow FAPPS members,

As required by Article VIII Section 7 of our by-laws the below you will find; (a). a description of the motion or amendment, (b). the result of the vote and (c). the final wording of the order or amendment if passed that were made at our board meeting held August 19, 2017:



- Lance Randall moved to accept the agenda as amended. Seconded by Bonnie Moore. The motion carried unanimously.
- Motion by Allen Bryant to accept the proposed changed. Second by Sean Segal. Motion carried unanimously.
- Bob Musser made a motion to Amended Sec 10.4 as provided by Allen with the following exceptions by striking the words “committee or”. Seconded by Sean Segal. Motion carries unanimously.
- Allen Bryant made a motion that there be a charge of \$20.00 per book. Seconded by Lance Randall. After minimal discussion, Bob Musser moved to postpone consideration of this Motion to the next meeting to allow the committee to come back with a formal proposal for a book cost. Seconded by Lance Randall. Motion carried unanimously.
- Motion made by Allen Bryant for a \$1,000 budget for Member Benefits committee. Seconded by Chris Yeoman. After minimal discussion, the motion was withdrawn as it was determined that her idea was more P&G related and that expense could come out of the P&G budget.
- Sean Segal made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lance Randall Seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned by the president at 11:00 a.m.

On a final note, the next FAPPS quarterly meeting will be held December 2, 2017 at the Hyatt Place Orlando Convention Center, 8741 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32802. I hope to see you there!

As always it is a pleasure to serve this association and if you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free contact me at (813) 282-0074 or by email at joe@tsilegal.com

Respectfully,

Joe Osborne, Jr.
Secretary

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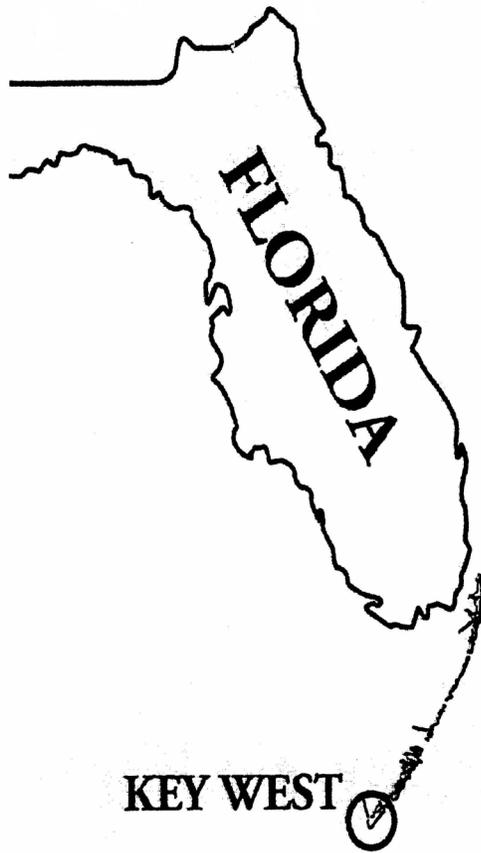
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Review your Member Listing
Email any updates to:
administrator@fapps.org



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“Like” our page today and share

Search “Florida Association of
Professional Process Servers”.

You can also view the page at
www.Facebook.com/FAPPSonFB

MEMBER REFERRAL PROGRAM

Help grow FAPPS and receive a discount on
your membership dues for your efforts.

Contact fellow process servers and provide them
with an application for membership with your name
listed on the “referred by” line.

*You will receive a \$25 discount off
membership for each active & associate member that you refer
(up to a free membership).*

**Member applications received by October 31, 2017 will be
counted toward your dues for 2018.**



ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Diana Wardwell, AFPS

Dear Members,

We had a positive turnout at the 16th Annual Professional Beach Getaway. There were many opportunities for members to mingle, participate in the board meeting, and hear from our speakers.

Florida Representative Patrick Henry was in attendance along with Jose Diaz, Marty Bowen, & Samantha Laurel, our Lobbyist team, to address legislative issues. Bea LeVine and Jeremie Ayala from the Paralegal Association of Florida spoke about what paralegals need from process servers. Everyone had a great time!

We now turn our energy toward our Annual Conference in March. We are very excited about the discussions that have been ongoing, but need your input. We are in the process of planning our educational sessions. These will ALL be geared specifically toward everyday issues Process Servers deal with. Whether it be understanding statutes, compliance, safety, collection, issues in various counties, etc.

We need your input on what topics you would like to learn more about at the conference. Contact myself, Amy Boyd (boydsprostatus@gmail.com) or Margie Zawacki (margiez@hctjudge.com) and let us know what's important to you.

While you have the convention on your mind, why not register now? It's never too early. As the end of the year holiday hustle starts, it's easy for it to be forgotten. All our forms are included in this newsletter and published on the website. We have some really great sponsorship and advertising opportunities available too!

Do something valuable for yourself and your business. *A Professional Never Stops Learning!* Join us at the conference, I'm sure you will leave with additional knowledge and have made some great contacts and friends.

Here is a quick guide for upcoming publication deadlines:

OCTOBER 2017

2018 Premium (Color) Ads and 2018 B/W Ads

Premium Color ad space goes on sale September 16, 2017 for the newsletter and annual member directory. The color advertising locations are sold on a first come, first paid basis.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE ADVERTISING & SPONSORSHIP

Interested in promoting your services and supporting the annual conference? All areas of sponsorship and advertising are on sale.

DECEMBER 1, 2017

Deadline for the 1st Quarter 2018 Newsletter. All full year ads and articles are due by this date.

Member Referral Program

Many thanks to the members who have referred applicants so far this year: **Russ Aloï, Melody Bulso, Allen Bryant, Beau Charlet, Brennan Fogarty, Troy McDonald, Bonnie Moore, Joe Osborne, Lance Randall, Rick Wendling, and Chris Yeoman.**

If you have any questions on any of our programs or services, do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email.

Diana Wardwell, AFPS
administrator@fapps.org

TPC

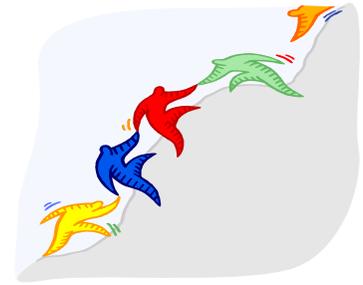
Membership Report

October 1, 2017

Active Members	245
Associate Members	85
Supporting Members	8
Pending Applicants	<u>2</u>
Total	339

Welcome New Members

Applicants are published the first day of each month at www.fapps.org and through email notification. Applicants automatically become a member the first day of the following month, pending no objection. Thank you for your support of FAPPS!



Judy Giles-Stocky

Fortis Investigation and
Executive Protection
1119 Carlton Road
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689
(727) 939-3074

Silvio J. Morales

Perfect Season
Process Services, LLC
18495 S. Dixie Highway #385
Miami, FL 33157
(786) 776-0349

Michelle Howard

The Rock Group
P.O. Box 320423
Tampa, FL 33679
(888) 642-0130

Joseph Marsala

East Coast Investigations, Inc.
P.O. Box 101218
Palm Bay, FL 32910
(321) 499-3499

Jake Poritzky

Pro Servers, Inc.
214 Apache Street
Tavernier, FL 33070
(305) 836-6069

Welcome FAPPS
Supporting Members

Ana Lisa Caraballo
Samantha McKinney
Sarah Saienni
Shelli A. Watson

Stewart Martin

Profile Legal Services, Inc.
393 University Ave., Suite 112
Toronto, Ontario M5G1E6
(416) 977-7312

Sharard Tuff

Tuff Services
835 Sunset Cove Dr.
Winter Haven, FL 33880
(863) 279-9530

Sherry Walker

Accuserve
383 SW Columbus Drive
Port St. Lucie, FL 34953
(772) 240-5891

Dave Culbreth

Dave Culbreth Investigations
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Ken Kramerman

Treasure Coast
Investigative Services
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Gina Marie Eannucci

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Islip, NY 11751
(800) 305-7511

www.fapps.org

**Website Resources
for
Members Only**

Email

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your initial login to be setup.

Have an idea for information
or resources to add? Email or
call: administrator@fapps.org
or (321) 952-0820.

Formal Education

Allen Bryant, Chair

allen@aallen.com
(407) 872-0560

Continuing Education Courses - Orlando, FL

Saturday, December 2, 2017 1:30 pm

Hyatt Place Orlando Convention
8741 International Drive
Orlando, FL 32819

Sunday, March 11, 2018 9:00 a.m.

Marriott Orlando Lake Mary
1501 International Parkway
Lake Mary, FL 32746

This class is open to all process servers who require continuing education to renew their license in approved jurisdictions; AFPS Designation for FAPPS members and education for clerical staff of FAPPS members. Our course is approved to provide the required training to apply to become a process server or renew your process service license in the following areas:

9th Judicial Circuit 10th Judicial Circuit
19th Judicial Circuit* 20th Judicial Circuit
Alachua County (Education Requirement for Motion & Orders)
*19th Circuit course is taught at Indian River State College

Our complete class schedule and additional information can be found on the website or by contacting Diana Wardwell, Administrator at administrator@fapps.org.

At the last board meeting a proposal was approved by the board to extend the term of AFPS designation for members. The expiration will now be 2 years from the date of exam. (This does not apply to those individuals who are required to attend an annual continuing education course to renew their license.)

Finally, the committee is working to continue to expand our course offerings around the state. If you have information to share about your local licensing and education programs and contact information, we welcome the information.

As always, feel free to contact the committee with any questions or suggestions.

Thank you,
Diana Wardwell, Committee Member

TPC

Website

Diana Wardwell, Chair
Bob Musser, Webmaster

The FAPPS website continues to be updated on a regular basis with current news and events. There also have been some significant changes to benefit members. Some of these expanded areas include:

Secure Document Trading, City-Zip Codes Pairs, new Member Benefits, and a new "Member Only" section that will require a login and password.

Email administrator@fapps.org or call (321) 952-0820 to have a link emailed to you to set up your login. If you have any suggestions for content to include, let us know. We are excited about continuing to grow the resources available.



TPC

October 2017 Legislative Report

We had an awesome meeting in August, with Rep. Patrick Henry of Daytona Beach. Representative Henry is a strong advocate for FAPPS. Joining us also was our Lobbyist team, Jose Diaz, Marty Bowen and Samantha Laurel. Without their invaluable assistance, we would not be able to accomplish so much for the benefit of not only our members but also process servers statewide.

The attached Bill will be the 2018 legislative submission. I will inform you of the name and number when it avails itself. You will also receive sponsor info for your assistance by reaching out to them.

I recently read an article that was so apropos, I wanted to share couple of excerpts.

The Legislature appropriate domain is public policy rather than judicial procedure.

Courts are supposed to look backward in time and decide particular cases and controversies, but legislatures are supposed to look forward and to issue general rules that protect us all. That is what public policy is.

The Florida constitution –has been read to prohibit legislative control over judicial procedure, even when these procedures determine large policy issues.

Michael Compton, FDSA
Director/Chairman



TPC

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to service of process; amending s. 48.021, F.S.; revising authority of special process servers; revising a cross-reference; requiring that civil witness subpoenas be served by certain persons; requiring that electronic service be made only by certain authorized individuals; amending s. 48.031, F.S.; revising requirements for substituted service on the spouse of the person to be served; revising requirements for documenting service of process; conforming terminology; amending s. 48.062, F.S.; revising requirements for service on limited liability companies; amending s. 48.194, F.S.; revising provisions specifying who may serve process outside of the state; revising requirements for documenting that service has been properly made outside the state; amending s. 48.21, F.S.; revising requirements for return-of-service forms; authorizing certain persons to electronically sign return-of-service forms; amending s. 48.27, F.S.; revising authority of certified process servers; conforming terminology; creating s. 49.13, F.S.; authorizing use of electronic means for constructive service by publication; requiring that such electronic service by publication be made only in certain circumstances by certain authorized individuals; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 48.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

48.021 Process; by whom served.—

(1) All process shall be served by the sheriff of the county where the person to be served is found, except ~~initial~~ nonenforceable civil process, criminal witness subpoenas, and criminal summonses may be served by a special process server appointed by the sheriff as provided ~~for~~ in this section or by a certified process server as provided ~~for~~ in ~~s. 48.27 ss. 48.25 48.31~~ Civil witness subpoenas ~~shall may~~ be served by a any person authorized by rules of civil procedure. Electronic service of process may only be made by an individual authorized under this chapter to serve process.

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

Section 2. Subsections (2) and (5) and paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section 48.031, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

48.031 Service of process generally; service of witness subpoenas.—

(2)(a) ~~Substituted~~ Substitute service ~~may be made~~ on the spouse of the person to be served may be made at any place in ~~a~~ the county by an individual authorized under s. 48.021 or s. 48.27 to serve process in that county, if the cause of action is not an ~~adversarial~~ adversary proceeding between the spouse and the person to be served, ~~if the spouse requests such service~~, and if the spouse and person to be served reside ~~are residing~~ together in the same dwelling, regardless of whether such dwelling is located in the county where substituted service is made.

(b) ~~Substituted~~ Substitute service may be made on an individual doing business as a sole proprietorship at his or her place of business, during regular business hours, by serving the person in charge of the business at the time of service if two attempts to serve the owner ~~are~~ have been made at the place of business.

(5) A person serving process shall place, on the first page only of at least one of the processes served, the date and time of service, his or her initials, and, if applicable, his or her identification number ~~and initials for all service of process~~. ~~The person serving process shall list on the return of service form all initial pleadings delivered and served along with the process.~~ The person requesting service or the person authorized to serve the process shall file the return-of-service form with the court.

(6)(a) If the only address for a person to be served which is discoverable through public records is a private mailbox, a virtual office, or an executive office or mini suite, ~~substituted~~ substitute service may be made by leaving a copy of the process with the person in charge of the private mailbox, virtual office, or executive office or mini suite, but only if the process server determines that the person to be served maintains a mailbox, a virtual office, or an executive office or mini suite at that location.

Section 3. Subsection (4) of section 48.062, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

48.062 Service on a limited liability company.—

(4) If the address ~~provided~~ for the registered agent, member, or manager is a residence, ~~a~~ or private mailbox, a virtual office, or an executive office or a mini suite, service on the domestic or foreign limited liability company, ~~domestic or foreign~~, may be made by serving the registered agent, member, or manager in accordance with s. 48.031.

Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 48.194, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

48.194 Personal service outside state.—

(1) Except as otherwise provided herein, service of process on persons outside of this state shall be made in the same manner as service within this state by any person officer authorized to serve process in the state where the person is served. No order of court is required. ~~An affidavit of the officer shall be filed, stating the time, manner, and place of service.~~ A ~~The~~ court may consider the return-of-service form described in s. 48.21 affidavit, or any other competent evidence, in determining whether service has been properly made. Service of process on persons outside the United States may be required to conform to the provisions of the Hague Convention on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or Commercial Matters.

Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 48.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

48.21 Return of execution of process.—

(1) Each person who effects service of process shall note on a return-of-service form attached thereto, the date and time when it comes to hand, the date and time when it is served, the manner of service, the name of the person on whom it was served and, if the person is served in a representative capacity, the position occupied by the person. The return-of-service form must list all pleadings served and be signed by the person who effects the service of process. However, a person who is authorized under this chapter to serve process and employed by a sheriff who effects ~~such~~ the service of process may sign the return-of-service form using an electronic signature ~~certified by the sheriff~~.

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 48.27, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

48.27 Certified process servers.—

(2)(a) The addition of a person's name to the list authorizes him or her to serve ~~initial~~ nonenforceable civil process on a person found within the circuit where the process server is certified when a civil action ~~is has been~~ filed against such person in the circuit court or in a county court in the state. Upon filing an action in circuit or county court, a person may select from the list for the circuit where the process is to be served one or more certified process servers to serve ~~initial~~ nonenforceable civil process.

Section 7. Section 49.13, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

49.13 Electronic service of process.—A court may authorize that service by publication be effected through e-mail, posting on the social networking web page of the person to be served, or other electronic means, only if:

- (1) Requested by motion of a party.
- (2) An individual authorized under chapter 48 to serve process certifies in a sworn affidavit that, after reasonable diligence, personal service could not be effected.
- (3) Any such electronic service by publication is made by an individual authorized under chapter 48 to serve process.

This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

Follow our Legislative Page at www.fapps.org for updates on the progress of this legislation.

Elections

Bob Musser, Chair
BobM@dbsinfo.com
(407) 679-1539

Elections 2018

It's not too early to be thinking about what you can do for your Association.

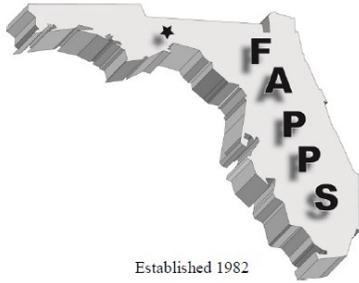
In 2018, we'll be electing the entire slate of Officers and Directors.

To run for office, you need to have been a member in good standing for the previous 12 months (at the time of the election).

To run for President or Vice-President, you need to have been a board member in any position for at least one of the preceding five terms.

Bob Musser, FAPPS Elections Chair





27th Annual Conference

March 9-11, 2018

Marriott Orlando Lake Mary
1501 International Parkway
Lake Mary, FL 32746



EDUCATION & MEETING

- Educational Seminars
- Continuing Education Course
 - Approved course for education requirement for license renewal (see website for list of current circuits)
- Annual Meeting
- Elections - Officers & Directors
- Exhibitors

NETWORKING EVENTS

- Golf Tournament
- Welcome Reception
- Bingo & Poker
- Luncheon
- Roaring 20's Theme
 - Cocktail Party
 - & Dinner



Convention Agenda & Education

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL PROCESS SERVERS 27th Annual Conference - March 9-11, 2018

Conference Schedule of Events

Friday, March 9, 2018

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
7:30 am – 1:00 pm	5th Annual President's Cup Golf Tournament
2:30 pm – 3:15 pm	Bag Stuffing (no other time will be allotted)
3:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Registration
2:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Exhibitor Set-up & Display
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Annual Meeting
6:30 pm – 8:45 pm	Welcome Reception
9:00 pm – 11:00 pm	Bingo
9:00 pm – 1:00 am	Poker Tournament

Educational Sessions:

- Issuing & Serving Out of State Subpoenas
- Roundtable Sessions
- Continuing Education for License Renewal & AFPS

Follow Website for Final Agenda

Saturday, March 10, 2018

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>
8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Exhibitors on Display
8:00 am – 2:00 pm	Registration
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Annual Meeting Resumes
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	Education Seminar: TBA
12:00 pm – 1:15 pm	Luncheon
1:15 pm – 2:00 pm	Education Seminar: TBA
2:10 pm – 3:00 pm	Education Seminar: TBA
3:10 pm	Exhibitor Drawings
3:15 pm	Annual Meeting Continues
3:20 pm	By-law Amendments (Time Specific)
	Election of Directors
6:45 pm – 10:00 pm	Evening Banquet 27th Annual Conference Theme Banquet Introduction of 2018-2019 Board of Directors, Awards Presentations, Raffles – Dinner Served 7:30pm <i>Roaring 20's - costumed guests are welcome</i> <i>Photo Booth, Raffles, Games</i>

FLAPPERS
&
GANGSTERS
WELCOME

Sunday, March 11, 2018

9:00 am	Continuing Education Course (AFPS) Point of Contact: Diana Wardwell, Administrator or Allen Bryant, Chairman
---------	---



Florida Association of Professional Process Servers 27th Annual Conference • March 9-11, 2018

Marriott Orlando Lake Mary, 1501 International Parkway, Lake Mary, FL 32746

Hotel registration deadline: 2/15/18 mention FAPPS for rate of \$149 per night
Hotel Reservation Link: [Click Here](#)

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Registration must be received by 2/20/18 to avoid \$25 Late Fee
If you are attending meeting only for voting, complete form and submit for identification badge

Name: _____ Sat. Meal Choice: _____ Member (Y/N): _____
 Name: _____ Sat. Meal Choice: _____ Member (Y/N): _____
 Name: _____ Sat. Meal Choice: _____ Member (Y/N): _____
 Name: _____ Sat. Meal Choice: _____ Member (Y/N): _____
 Company Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ Email: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Registration Information: This is a fillable form document. You can complete form and email to administrator@fapps.org. If you are paying by credit card: email form first and then use link to pay. Automatic notification of payment is sent to us from PayPal.

Full Registration: Includes admission to all non-sporting events including Friday Welcome Reception, Meetings, Educational Seminars, Luncheon, and Saturday Theme Dinner. Indicate meal choice above for Saturday evening (**BEEF OR CHICKEN**).

Partial Events: Admission to single event. Each priced individually

Continuing Education Class: AFPS Designation & License Renewal Education - Sunday, March 11, 2018 9:00 am.

First Name	Full Registration \$175	Fri. Reception \$80	Sat. Lunch \$50	Sat. Theme Dinner \$80	Golf \$75	Poker \$25	Bingo \$10	AFPS \$75
Total								

Sponsorship/Advertising/Exhibitor:

Advertising Deadline: February 20, 2018. Submit print ready ads to administrator@fapps.org

Sponsor of Conference (amount): _____ Advertising in Program (amount): _____

Exhibitor Fee \$350: _____

Exhibitor Fee is for space and Welcome Reception only as outlined on Exhibitor Registration Form. Complete form to register for other events.

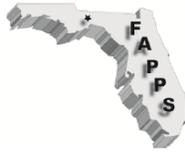
Late Fee: Applies to registration on-site or after 2/20/18 (one fee per company) \$25.00: _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED FOR REGISTRATION: _____

Payment can be mailed or paid through our website: [registration link](#)

Policies: Registration fee is not transferable, no event is transferable. A late fee of \$25.00 will be applied to registration forms received after 2/20/18. This includes on-site registration. Any cancellation received more than 7 days prior to the conference will receive a refund less a \$25.00 administrative fee. Any cancellation after that time will not be given a refund. There is no special pricing available for children. Prices posted are for all attendees. Conference information is posted at www.fapps.org

Mail or email completed registration form. All checks payable to FAPPS
FAPPS, P.O. Box 72, Melbourne, FL 32902-0072
Diana Wardwell, Administrator (321) 952-0820 administrator@fapps.org



Florida Association of Professional Process Servers 27th Annual Conference * March 9-11, 2018

Sponsorship & Advertising



Individual Sponsor Events

Only one sponsor per event. Sponsors are acknowledged at the event, listed on general signage, in the conference program, and the 2nd Quarter Newsletter.

Lanyards	400.00	_____
Conference Bags	550.00	_____
Saturday Reception Decor	300.00	_____
Saturday Evening Photo Booth	300.00	_____

New for 2018!

Call to customize your event - Sponsorship starts at \$250

Hospitality: Thursday Evening _____

Hospitality: Friday _____

Hospitality: Saturday _____

Co-Sponsorship Events

Sponsors are acknowledged at the event, listed on general signage, in the conference program, and the 2nd Quarter Newsletter.

Golf Tournament	175.00	_____
Poker Tournament	250.00	_____
Bingo	150.00	_____
Friday Welcome Reception	500.00	_____
Saturday Morning Break	250.00	_____
Luncheon	250.00	_____
Afternoon Break	250.00	_____
Educational Sessions	175.00	_____
Audio Visual	200.00	_____

General Sponsorship

All amounts are appreciated and welcomed

List Amount _____

Convention Program Advertising

Deadline: **February 20, 2018**

Premium Full Page: (back cover, inside front, inside back)	200.00	_____
Full Page:	150.00	_____
Half Page:	100.00	_____
Quarter Page:	75.00	_____
Business Card:	35.00	_____

**Your sponsorship enables us to help
keep costs low to allow more members
to attend than otherwise possible.**

Thank you for your support!

Name: _____

Company: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Total Amount Enclosed: _____

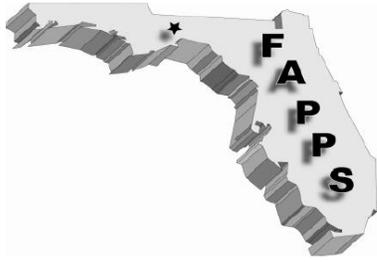
Forward completed form with Payment to:

FAPPS
P.O. Box 72
Melbourne, FL 32902-0072
(321) 952-0820
administrator@fapps.org

A complimentary ad is offered in the convention program for sponsorship received in the following amounts. Submit ad with sponsor form and payment:

Full page \$550+;
Half Page \$300-\$549
Business Card \$125-\$299
Ad placement is not guaranteed, excludes premium ad locations

Major sponsors \$750.00 and above are acknowledged in all promotional advertising.



Exhibitor Registration

March 9-11, 2018

Marriott Orlando Lake Mary
1501 International Parkway, Lake Mary, FL 32746

Company Name: _____

Representative Name: _____

Representative Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ FAX #: _____

E-Mail address: _____

The space for the exhibits is 8'x8' and includes: 1 - 6' Table; 2 – Chairs; 1 - waste-basket

Set-up will start on March 9, 2018 at 1:00 PM with exhibits open from 3:00 to 8:30PM. March 10, 2018 exhibits open 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Exhibits must be disassembled by 5:00 PM.

Exhibits may *not* be in a secured area. Security will *not* be provided by FAPPS, and *insurance is the responsibility of the exhibitor*. FAPPS will *not* be responsible for loss or damage in the exhibitor's area.

All internet fees, electrical fees, and additional equipment must be arranged through the hotel, by filling out the form attached and sending it in or calling the hotel.

FAPPS will not be responsible for arranging these items.

Exhibitor Fee \$350.00

Fee includes space as outlined above, company name listed in all advertising materials distributed prior to conference, listing on the Exhibitor sign at conference and business card ad in the program. Up to two tickets will be provided for the Friday night Welcome Reception. In addition a representative from your group will be invited to give a brief presentation on your services on March 10, 2018 during the morning session. *All other conference events, advertising, and sponsorship opportunities are outlined on the Conference Registration Form and priced separately.*

Complete and enclose payment with Conference Registration Form

Signature of Exhibitor

Date

Contact: Diana Wardwell, Administrator

FAPPS, P.O. Box 72, Melbourne, FL 32902-0072 (321) 952-0820

***A Late Fee of \$25.00 p/p will be applied to Registration forms received after February 20, 2018. This includes on-site registration.**

[Cancellation policy](#)

Any cancellation received more than **7 days** prior to the conference will receive a refund less a \$25.00 administrative fee. Any cancellation after that time will **NOT** be given a refund.

FAPPS Member Benefits Committee Report

MAKE YOUR MEMBERSHIP WORK FOR YOU

LOGIN AND EXPLORE!!!

Using just one of these benefits makes it worthwhile to be a member,
but using several of them will give you tremendous savings.

EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED – WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK!

Have you used any of the benefits listed below? We would like some testimonials to insure the members are getting value from these savings being offered. Please take a few minutes to email Bonnie@processxpress.com.

- **Cruise Discounts** – exclusive discounts for FAPPS members on cruises, hotels, tours, etc.
- **Car Rental Discounts** – unlimited mileage and save up to 10%
- **Office Supply Discounts** – FAPPS pays for all members to be a part of the Staples Premium Program. We have a personal representative who will tailor special pricing to your needs.
- **Entertainment Discounts** – FREE account with Working Advantage. Numerous savings on hotels, theme parks & attractions, movie tickets, shows & events, water parks, shopping deals & more!
- **Dental and Vision Plan** – This is our newest member benefit and we are proud to offer you savings on your dental and vision health.

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS? BRING THEM ON!

We have a group of fantastic but quiet members. I know someone out there must have some great ideas on benefits you would like to see our committee work on obtaining. **PLEASE SPEAK UP!** Email Bonnie@processxpress.com with your thoughts.

Our committee consists of:

Chair: Bonnie S. Moore

Members: Desy Garcia, Jean Glemaud, Jr,
Regina Moore, and Chris Yeoman

Regards,

Bonnie S. Moore

Chairperson



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at www.fapps.org/login or Contact
Bonnie@processxpress.com for details**

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Promotion & Growth

Tammy Laughlin, AFPS, Chair

promotioncommittee@fapps.org
(239) 313-6740

I would like to start this report off with stating that I am so thankful that all of you, my friends and colleagues, made it through the storm! I know that some of us are still trying to get everything back to normal, including myself, and wish you all the best!

Now on to business. The PBGA was a HUGE success!!

For the members who didn't take advantage of attending this year's PBGA, let me give you a little run down of what happened so you think twice before missing next year's.

Friday morning started off with a round of golf at the famous LPGA International course where Tammy Laughlin beat all the guys! (HAHAHA) Real winners were Bob Musser and Marty White.

Friday night we had a wonderful time and dinner networking at this little cool place called Ocean Deck Restaurant & Bar (They had karaoke and Lance and Margie did a duet...nothing more needs to be said but for those of us there, we will never forget... Just kidding!) Actually, it stormed that night and while dinner was great there wasn't much singing going on.

Saturday was filled with a great meeting that included our AWESOME speakers: Jose Diaz (our lobbyist), Marty Bowen, Samantha Laurel and our House of Representative Patrick Henry in the morning. For the afternoon session we had, President of the Paralegal Association of Florida Beatrice LeVine and Jeremie Ayala. We want to thank all of you for being there and appreciate all your support.

Saturday's activities included a volleyball match and in the evening we had a dinner boat cruise and a landside option at Bubba Gumps for those of you who preferred to stay dry for more networking and fun. Most of us met back up and enjoyed the Boardwalk along with several who dared the Slingshot ride. The weekend went perfect! Upcoming we are very excited to announce that FAPPS will be exhibiting at the Paralegal Association of Florida's 2017 Fall Session as soon as it gets rescheduled. More news to follow on that as it happens.

Future meetings: All members please keep your eyes and ears peeled for our next meeting on December 2, 2017 at the Hyatt Place Orlando Convention and of course, it's never too late to go ahead and make your plans to join us for the Annual Convention which is always great. This year's theme will be "Roaring 20's"(details below).

27th Annual Conference

DATE: March 9-11, 2018

**LOCATION: Marriott Orlando Lake Mary
1501 International Parkway
Lake Mary, FL 32746**

**ADDITIONAL INFO: Room Rate: \$149-159 per night.
Last Day to Book Your Room at this Rate is 2/15/2018.**

*****HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE*****

If you ever have any questions or suggestions on how to make our Association better please feel free to contact me at: promotioncommittee@fapps.org

Tammy Laughlin, AFPS
Your FAPPS P & G Chairwoman

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In Loving Memory of Lenny Randall (1940 – 2002)

Process Server Appointment

Melody Bulso, AFPS
Chair
mbulso@provest.us
(813) 335-0210

Recap 2017 to Date:

Gulf County: Sheriff refused to renew any server that did not reside in Gulf County. The Chief Judge of the 14th Circuit does not have the desire to create a circuit program.

Alachua County: judges will continue to sign orders as long as the server meets the temporary guidelines previously established last year requiring education and M/O format. (The M/O can only list two named individuals and must include an email address.) We will continue to monitor this situation.

Margie and I met with a judge regarding FAPPS administering a program instead of the Administrator of Courts (due to time constraint and cost). After deliberation, the Chief Judge thanked us for our time and decided not to implement a program at the time. We will continue to confer with his JA.

Washington County Sheriff has only one appointed server at this time. He is going to look at the program in September or October and may decide to open it more. This county has had few to no options. We will continue to monitor.

We reached out to Duval JSO regarding their program. The coordinator has stated that any Duval appointed server knows what to do to keep in good standing. She further stated that she has open communication with the servers and they are not accepting any new applications. No additional information was forthcoming. We reached out to the Chief Judge of the 4th Circuit and communication is evolving at time of this report.

One of our members met with a chief judge regarding a circuit certification. The Chief Judge is reviewing his options. We hope to have more news soon.

If you have any areas of concern that you would like to share or if you would like to assist the committee, please reach out to Melody at 813-335-0210 or mbulso@provest.us.

Thank You,

Process Server Appointment Committee

Committee Chair: Melody Bulso, AFPS

Committee Members: Michael Compton, Ryan Gleason, Tammy Laughlin, AFPS, Lance Randall

TPC

Technology

John Shelley, Chair
John@caffeinecode.biz
(844) 297-4834

We are still attending all of the Florida Courts E-Filing Authority meetings via WebEx. Most current or proposed changes to the Florida E-Portal will not affect the Process Server filer roles.

Sometimes no news is good news.

If you have any news, questions or concerns feel free to get in contact with me anytime at john@caffeinecode.biz

Members: Christopher Compton
Committee Chair: John Shelley

TPC

Hello to all our membership,

Our committee is new and still in the early stage of planning, but ready to assist any process server in need. We have not received any reports of violence since our inception. We hope this result is because there have no instances of violence against process servers. However, it's important to get the word out that this committee exists, so we encourage process servers who are members or not to please spread the word.

One of the most recent, and notable instances involved our member Marcia Gillings. The following update was provided by committee member Lance Randall:

In St. Lucie County, Process Server Marcia Gillings was threatened with a gun while serving process upon a defendant who was subsequently was arrested for this incident. After falling short of an acquittal during a stand-your-ground hearing, the matter went to trial and a jury found him not guilty as they could not make a decision beyond a reasonable doubt. After receiving this verdict, the defendant immediately filed a civil lawsuit against the process server in addition to a formal complaint with the Chief Judge who in turn issued a show cause order. The process server hired an attorney and then reached out to FAPPS for assistance. President Zawacki created a single action committee consisting of Russ Aloji and Lance Randall. After the committee reviewed the evidence we made contact with Marcia's lawyers to offer assistance. After a lengthy conversation, Lance was asked to testify as an expert witness. The hearing started at 8:30am and several witnesses testified on Marcia's behalf. The accuser's counsel asked for a recess to take lunch and stated that they would be calling their client as their first witness when we come back. When the hearing resumed, the accuser's counsel retracted their wish for their client to testify and informed the judge they had no further witnesses or questions. After over a month of deliberation, the judge dismissed all of the allegations and exonerated the process server of any wrong doing.

Recognition and a sincere thank you is in order toward Mark Wooster, Denny Howley, Lance Randall, Bob Musser, John Shelley, Sean Segel, Michael Compton and Margie Zawacki who all sent a financial donation to assist Marcia with her legal fees.

Exoneration of Marcia Gillings was important not only for her, but for all process servers statewide and nationwide.

We look forward to feedback from our members and the opportunity to assist anyone in need.

Sincerely,

Chris Yeoman, Chair
Director
chris.yeoman@aol.com

Learning from Serving

An Educational Forum

Submitted by Dr. Denny Howley



You're Kidding Right?

Situation:

Our FAPPS professional received a subpoena, which clearly appeared to be a no-sweat-walk-in-and-drop-off serve. Looked like an easy day, since this went to a nearby BANK. But, aware that “Murphy’s Law” some times, at the most inappropriate times tends to step in, our Server decided not to leave the car with the engine running or park where he might get a ticket if “an unimagined hitch” occurred in the serve.

As he had done on numerous serves in the past, our Server entered the newest bank in the area and went to the Customer Service Desk, since often they are empowered to accept Service of Process. The young lady at the desk said she could not accept the document, but would get one of the Bank Officers who could.

No Means No! Go!

The Customer Service woman returned with an Officer of the bank, who was also apparently new. The Bank Officer made it immediately clear that she had no intentions of accepting anything from our more than a little surprised Server. As this official loudly reiterated her message of “non-acceptance” she waved her arms for emphasis. Concurrently she also strongly “suggested” that our astounded Server leave the property. Our ever polite, ever professional Server tried to defuse the stressed-out bank officer by explaining the nature of the subpoena and its very routine nature. As our Server spoke, it was becoming increasingly clear that the over-wrought Bank Officer was becoming more emotionally disconnected. The Bank Official then ordered the Customer Service person to “CALL THE SHERIFF !”

Simple gets Complex

This no-sweat-walk-in-and-drop-off serve had just blown off the charts as more than strange. Our Server told the still “sputtering” Bank Officer, “I apologize for up-setting you so, but “YOU ARE SERVED”! He then turned to leave, but found THE DOOR HAD

BEEN LOCKED. Now more than a bit appalled at the absurdity of the situation, our Server turned and quietly asked the still fuming Bank Official “ARE YOU HOLDING ME AGAINST MY WILL?”

The Bank Official now became aware that “...against my will”, had an ominous implication. Then the Deputy Sheriff arrived. The door now had to be unlocked and opened. The Deputy entered to receive an emotional account of the events from the still up-tight Bank Officer. He listened, then turned to our Server to ask for his “version” of the events. After listening, the Deputy turned to the still haughty and fuming official and asked her “ARE YOU HOLDING THIS PROCESS SERVER AGAINST HIS WILL?”.

Hearing the Deputies question, the Bank Official physical and emotionally “deflated”, as she realized that she might have screwed up big time. As reality set in and under the watchful eye of the Deputy, the Bank Official humbly accepted the subpoena from our FAPPS Professional who had quietly picked it up from the desk. Our Server then departed the bank wondering how “Murphy” could have intervened on such a “no-sweat-walk-in-and drop-off- Serve.

COMMENT:

I guess the moral of this “hostage situation” serve is that in our business, despite all the pre-planning, “Murphy” can jump in with his fundamental law “anything that can screw up will”. So **professionalism** trumps all the rules in dealing with changing situations, environments and personalities. Clearly our Server kept his cool, remaining patient under the tirade from the dysfunctional Bank Officer and even as he found himself “trapped” in the bank.

Dr. Denny Howley, (305) 294-5568. Sometimes truth is stranger than fiction, as in this case demonstrates, Thinking on our feet and PROFESSIONALISM are our most valuable assets..

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Will DRONES Impact the Civil Process Industry?

Submitted by Dr. Denny Howley

As technological advances change the landscape of our society, the civil process service industry has been faced with a number of challenges to traditional personal service, including e-service and service by social media. Despite this, it seems that the civil process industry has managed to persevere. Now that the FAA recently established new rules for non-hobbyist Small Unmanned Aircraft (aka drones) in June 2016 – in effect lifting an ambiguous, decade-old ban on the commercial use of drones ---- it has become clear that drones will be a part of our normal technological landscape. And with that, comes the question of how the process service industry can take advantage of this technology and how it will be impacted by the capabilities of drones.

Drones as Delivery Agents

Drones have the potential to replace droves of delivery jobs, from food delivery to packages --- and potentially process service. Drone have already begun to cause controversy when it comes to proving a competing package/letter delivery service to the US Postal Office and other delivery services, like UPS and Fedex. Some companies, more notably Amazon, have already begun creating plans for how they will adopt drones as a means of delivery, which would thus eliminate the need for a third-party carrier. Although the Wall Street Journal reports that it would be a few years before we see package delivery drones flying in our airspace, the recent FAA ruling could be putting those plans on fast track.



If drones can carry and deliver packages to intended recipients, then the possibility of drones delivering court documents is a reality to consider as well. In situations similar to service by social media or email

where the recipient is expecting and willing to accept service, drones may become a legitimate means of service --- and if delivery by drones becomes a widely accepted courier service, it could encroach on service effectuated by certified mail

Although it seems unlikely that it would significantly encroach on the business that process servers have, it could become a new, very real competitor.

Ultimately, for process servers who are used to handling bulk service, such as those in the collection industry, the potential is there for drones to really impact their business.

Drone Surveillance

However, the surveillance possibilities for drones are endless. Law enforcement agencies across the US have applied for FAA drone licenses, and some agencies, including Mesa County Sheriff's Department in Colorado have been granted the permit, which means drones are currently being used by law enforcement agencies . According to the Mesa County Sheriff's Department website, they are primarily using drones for crime scene photography, as well as search and rescue.

For process servers and private investigators, this could help eliminate or reduce man-hours searching for elusive recipients. It could also verify skip traced addresses and remove process servers from potentially dangerous situations, such as dealing with recipients who are known to be hostile.

Tim Brenner, CEO of Southern Missouri Judicial Services explained that his company had used drones in the past for insurance loss claims for fire and crop (damage), but currently, their fleet is grounded. When asked to speculate on the usability of drones in the civil process service industry, he explained that "Our agency has not used them for process service; however, they would be useful to see if a residence existed in a rural environment. Many times houses are concealed by forest, hills, property gates and it is unknown if a residence does exist or is even occupied. It would be useful to have that information before wasting hours and days worth of time trying to contact the resident coming or going."

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Will DRONES Impact the Civil Process Industry? Continued

The Future of Drones

It seems as though the United States is beginning to accept commercial drones by taking cues from around the world, as a company in China has created and kicked off a drone delivery service. The Aussies are also considering jumping on the bandwagon to use drones as a means to deliver vital organs. It might just be that anything that needs to be delivered can be delivered by a drone. In fact, your next burrito, might be delivered that way ---no tip required.

Although we have never seen technology and social advancements create new methods of effectuating service in the past, it is unclear how drones specifically will ultimately affect the civil process industry. As the industry changes, it's better to stay ahead of challenges than to be left trying to react after it's already impacted business.

Of course, drones couldn't affect process servers until they became a legally accepted means of service, which would require amendments to laws currently on the books regarding acceptable means of service. And as we all know, challenging or changing current laws isn't always an expeditious and fruitful process. However, it's certainly a reason to keep your eyes to the skies.

This article is reprinted with permission of SERVENOW. It was published on line on December 20, 2016 and had been written by Stephanie Irvine, under the category Technology.

COMMENT:

The only constant in life is change! Yet again we have another reason to get involved and stay involved in Professional Process Serving organizations such as FAPPS or NAPPS. We have our own Technology Committees monitoring OUR business climate.

The bottom line - **we as Americans and as Floridians are GUARANTEED the Right of DUE PROCESS, to be notified of a legal action and to be able to defend ourselves.** If and when, a system is devised technologically that will insure that notification, the DUE PROCESS, is done with the same surety as when a Document is Served by a Process Server, then- maybe -our Profession will evolve into something different from what it is now, but NOT UNTIL THEN!!!

A Professional NEVER Stops Learning

Dr. Denny Howley owns and operates Dr. Denny Howley d/b/a serving process in Key West, ONLY (33040, 33041, 33045) Capital of the Conch Republic. Denny downsized after Hurricane Wilma in 2005 from covering the entire Keys when the Process Servers Cooperative of the Florida Keys (PSCFK) to become Dr. Denny Howley d/b/a. He has been in the business of serving process since 1997. Denny lives in Key West with his wife Beverly and two "critters" Shadow and Pepper.

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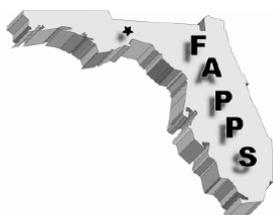
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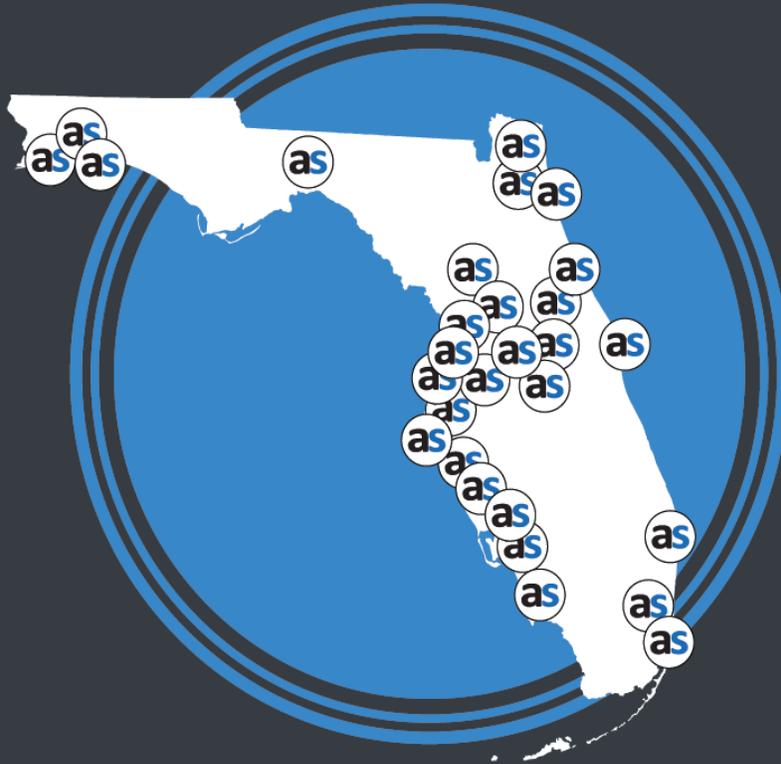
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