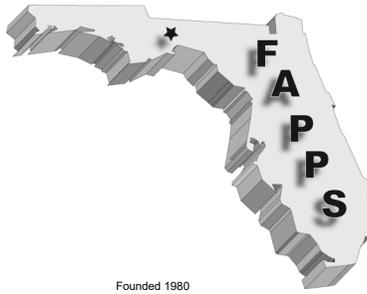


**33rd Annual Convention - April 12-14, 2024**



# *THE PAPER CHASE*

The Official Newsletter of the  
Florida Association of Professional Process Servers

3rd Quarter Edition 2023

**4th Quarter Board Meeting  
October 21, 2023  
Renaissance Boca Raton  
2000 NW 19th St, Boca Raton, FL 33431**

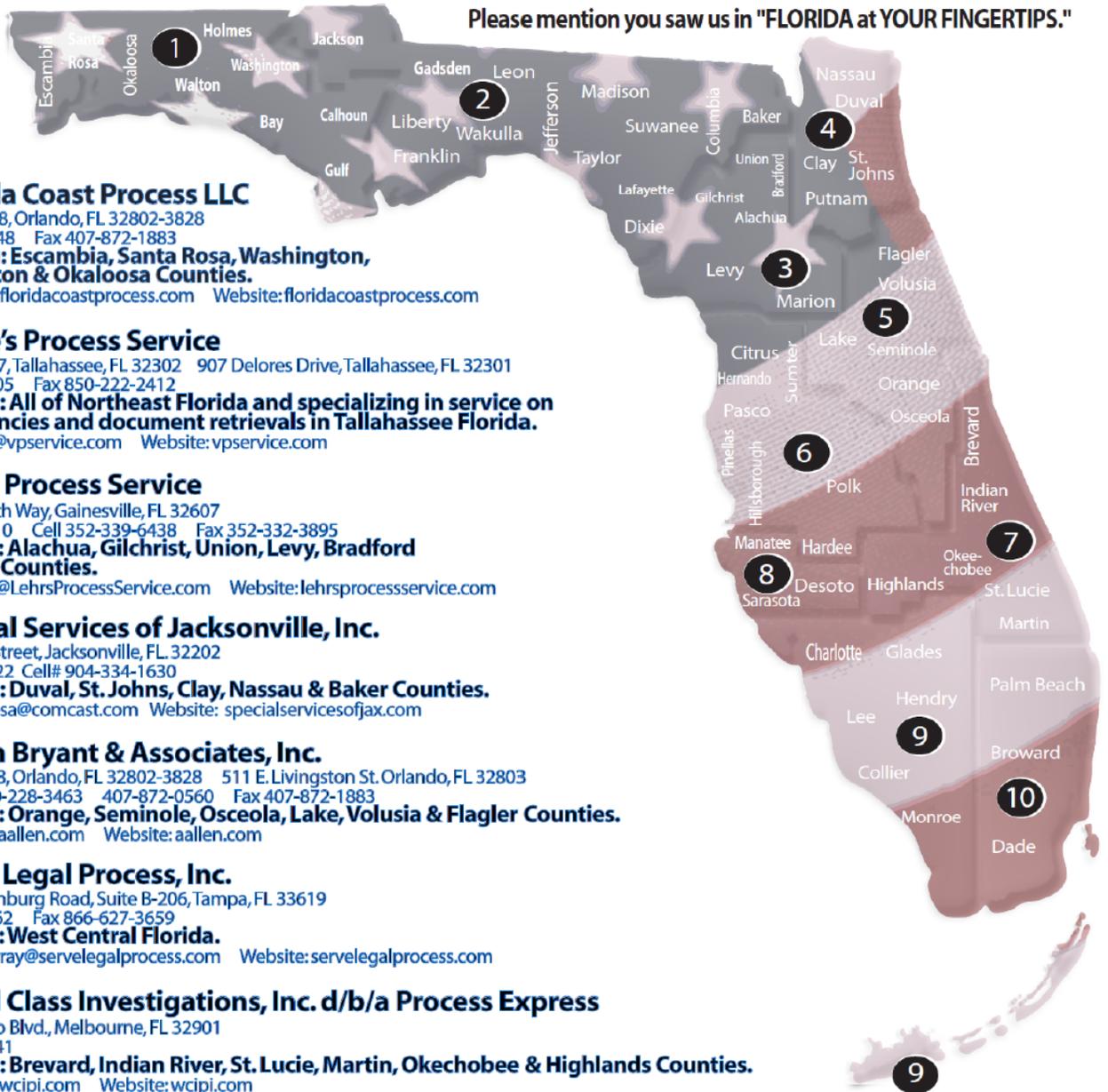


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# 2023-2024 Association Guide

## **Board of Directors**

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

### **Chris Yeoman AFPS, Vice President**

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

### **Joe Osborne, Jr., Secretary**

Sarasota  
(888) 360-5345  
email: joe@360legal.net

### **Gretchen Randall AFPS, Treasurer**

Hollywood  
(954) 944-3900  
email: Gretchen@lri.us

### **Kevin Fedotov AFPS, Director**

Orlando  
(407) 760-0880  
email: FedotovK@yahoo.com

### **Desy Garcia, Director**

Orlando, FL  
(407) 687-6179  
email: DesyGarcia22@gmail.com

### **Michelle Howard AFPS, Director**

Pinellas Park  
(888) 642-0130  
email: Michelle@trgtlegal.com

### **Sean Segel, Director**

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

### **Tammy White, AFPS Director**

Ft. Myers  
(239) 313-6740  
email: Tammy@weservejustice.com

### **Administration & Membership: Diana Wardwell, AFPS**

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

## **Committees**

### **Annual Conference Activities**

Chair: Amy Boyd, AFPS, boydsprostatus@gmail.com

### **Arbitration & Grievance (A&G)**

Chair: Sean Segel, tampaempire@gmail.com  
Vice Chair: Jennafer Segel  
Members: Janet Deal, Diana Wardwell, Don Seward

### **Elections**

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

### **FAPPS Distinguished Service Award (FDSA)**

Chair: Bob Musser AFPS, BobM@dbsinfo.com  
Members: Lance Randall, AFPS, Diana Wardwell, AFPS, Margie Zawacki, AFPS, Dr. Denny Howley

### **Formal Education (AFPS)**

Chair: Michelle Howard, AFPS, Michelle@trgtlegal.com  
Members: Diana Wardwell, AFPS, Joshua Kes, AFPS

### **Liaison**

Chair: Tammy White, AFPS ParalegalLiaison@fapps.org  
Vice Chair: Chris Yeoman, AFPS

### **Legislation**

Chair: Chris Yeoman, AFPS chris.yeoman@aol.com  
Vice Chair: Diana Wardwell, AFPS  
Members: Brennan Fogarty, Michelle Howard, AFPS, Bob Musser, Michael Nolan, Susan Pineiro, AFPS, Lance Randall, AFPS, Rick Wendling

### **Process Server Appointment (PSAC)**

Chair: Margie Zawacki AFPS margiez@hctjudge.com  
Vice Chair: Tammy White AFPS  
Member: Joe Osborne, Jr., AFPS

### **Promotion & Growth (P&G) and Member Benefits**

Chair: Kevin Fedotov, AFPS Promotioncommittee@fapps.org  
Members: Desy Garcia, Joshua Kes, AFPS, Tammy White, AFPS

### **Secure Data Exchange and eSOP**

Chair: Bob Musser AFPS, BobM@dbsinfo.com

### **Technology**

Chair: Desy Garcia, DesyGarcia22@gmail.com

### **Violence Against Process Servers (VAPS)**

Chair: Michelle Howard AFPS, Michelle@trgtlegal.com  
Vice Chair: Chris Yeoman, AFPS  
Member: Bonnie Moore AFPS, Becky Gaston, Lance Randall AFPS, Frank Carreras, AFPS, Tammy White, AFPS, Amy Boyd, AFPS

### **Website**

Chair: Diana Wardwell AFPS, administrator@fapps.org  
Webmaster: Bob Musser AFPS, bobm@dbsinfo.com  
Member: Desy Garcia

**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

BOB MUSSER AFPS, PRESIDENT

Members:

A lot has happened this year. Your Board and Committee Chairs just came back from the August Professional Beach Getaway and Board Meeting. We have had the FAPPS Annual Meeting, several of us attended the NAPPS annual meeting, and there has been movement on several important concepts that affect private process servers. The FL Legislature finished their session, and Leg Chair Chris Yeoman will have an article on that. Four of your FAPPS board members attended the NAPPS Annual meeting in Philadelphia on April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. I am happy to report that FAPPS has two representatives on the NAPPS Board. Lance Randall ran unopposed as an officer, and Tammy White was elected as a Director. Congratulations to both of you, and thank you for representing Florida Process servers at the national level!

In May we held a virtual Board meeting to set expectations and budgets for the year. We didn't want to wait until the August meeting to discuss priorities and allocate funds. At the August meeting, we heard from all the Committee Chairs on progress so far. We took care of some administrative business on the Policy and Procedure manual – You should see updates from the Secretary elsewhere in this newsletter. I also challenged each Committee Chair to do more, accomplish more, and report thoroughly at the October board meeting. You should see the August reports in this newsletter, and updated reports with concrete results at the October meeting.

I said this at the last meeting, and time has proven that I was correct: We have entered what I call a “strategic inflection point” in the world that is private process service. The decisions and efforts FAPPS makes this year will have a direct impact on how prosperous we are in the coming years.

FAPPS and several members have filed a lawsuit against the Department of Financial Services to compel them to alter their portal to comply with Chapter 48 regarding who can serve original process. Our attorneys have met with them, and they are not going to oppose a Motion for Summary Judgement. That hearing that I was originally led to believe would happen in late January or early February, is finally set for June 8<sup>th</sup>. Why so long? When we got the indication that the DFS was willing to work with us and file a joint Motion, we felt that a Joint Motion would have the best chance of being “rubber stamped” by the Judge. The DFS took weeks between each iteration, we took hours or days. The DFS answered our initial interrogatories on January 6, 2023. We finally filed the request in late March. There is a mandatory 40 day waiting period, then we get a calendar slot. There is a backlog of such cases, and the scheduling time is well past the 40 days. On April 6<sup>th</sup> we received our Notice of Hearing date, which is June 8<sup>th</sup>.

I left the above paragraph intact – I want us all to read it and understand what our expectations were, and how disappointed we are with the outcome. The DFS attorneys were far from “not opposing” our efforts. They had a well prepared presentation that, while not 100% accurate, opposed our point of view at every concept, and clearly affected the judge's decision. He ended up denying our request for summary judgement. We narrowly escaped having him rule FOR the DFS, and having a total defeat on the record books with a judgment that said what they are doing is fine. Instead, our lawsuit was dismissed, and we are back to the drawing board. We are carefully weighing what we can get done from a legislative front, which is what many of us wanted to do in the first place.

*President's Report Continued Next Page*

## *President's Report Continued*

At the spring meeting in 2022 we wrote and passed a white paper on what constitutes valid Electronic Service. I have forwarded that paper to NAPPS for publication, we have published it in The Paper Chase, and I'm pointing to it as we argue with entities like the Department of Financial Services. I discussed the importance of becoming the authority on Electronic Service, and the details of that white paper, in my presentation to NAPPS as President of FAPPS. I included it as part of my presentation to the Illinois Association on May 29th. It was a forward thinking effort on the part of this Board, and I think we did a good job on encapsulating the key points that we are going to be emphasizing in many arenas for a long time.

In my opinion, and I believe this is shared by the entire board, our primary project this year is educating everyone else in the legal system on what constitutes good Electronic Service. As detailed in our white paper, it has to include a disinterested third party as mandated by Chapter 48.021. It has to be on a secure platform, not Email. We have to spread that message far and wide. We have to improve Chapter 48.021 to clarify with words something like "All original process, regardless of method served, must be served by...". We need to enlist the help of friends at the FL Bar, representatives that share our view, judges, whomever we know and can talk with. And we need to attempt to alter parts of Chapter 48 that mention service by anyone else, such as the reference in the new Secretary of State section that says "or an attorney".

Bob Musser, AFPS  
President  
[BobM@dbsinfo.com](mailto:BobM@dbsinfo.com)  
(321) 679-1539

TPC

### Florida Judicial Circuit Assessment Committee

Background: On June 15th, 2023 Paul Renner, Speaker of the House for the State of Florida sent a letter to the Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice Carlos G. Muniz in regards to a 2021 decision that determined that a sixth appellate court should be created in Florida. The letter's rationale was that "Florida's appellate districts have recently been realigned, but the boundaries of Florida's judicial circuits have been unchanged for decades despite significant population and demographic changes...", thus the Speaker was seeking for the courts to consider a consolidation in an effort to improve "efficiencies and uniformity" and "improved economies of scale...leading to substantial cost savings for Florida's taxpayers." On June 30th, 2023 the Chief Justice ordered the creation of the Judicial Circuit Assessment Committee with an Administrative Order (No. AOSC23-35) asking the Committee to bring back its findings and recommendations back to the court by 12/1/2023 (with a final committee expiration date of 3/29/2024.).

On August 25th, 2023 the Judicial Circuit Assessment Committee held its 1st Public Hearing and Committee Meeting #3 via a face to face and Zoom videoconference. During the meeting a variety of Public Defenders, State Attorneys, and Private Lawyers (mainly those practicing criminal defense) from all around Florida provided remarks and testimonies to the Committee on their views and opinions regarding the consolidation of circuits. The overwhelming majority of participants were in consensus that a consolidation of the circuits would not do the local population any justice, and there were no benefits in doing so. Based on the participants' views at this hearing, it does not appear that there was any traction to get this initiative moving forward, but the Committee has several more meetings and surveys planned. The next Judicial Circuit Assessment Committee meeting will be held via a video conference on September 15th, 2023 and we will continue to monitor the state of affairs.

**Kevin Fedotov, AFPS**  
Director  
(407) 627-8222  
[FedotovK@yahoo.com](mailto:FedotovK@yahoo.com)

# VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

CHRIS YEOMAN AFPS, VICE PRESIDENT

Greetings to all,

I hope you have not melted in the heat this summer, which has proven to be record breaking for many dates this year. Spending the majority of your days in the car just adds another challenge, so be sure to stay hydrated and out of the sun as much as possible.

This past June I had the pleasure of attending the Florida Bar convention along with fellow board member Tammy White for a few days representing FAPPS. Our presence was welcomed with open arms by everyone we met, including lawyers, judges, paralegals, and many other professions in the legal field. We attended award ceremonies, educational seminars, committee meetings, and social functions. Each function gave us a new audience to speak with and discuss multiple topics.

Our first priority was introducing these individuals and groups to FAPPS and who we are and our important function in the legal arena. We explained why they should be choosing their process servers from our website of qualified members who represent the best available professional process servers from around the state. We touted our formal educational platform that has spread throughout multiple circuits around the state these past years and is being accepted by agencies like the Broward Sheriff's Office and Palm Beach County court administration to name a few. We explained how our membership has established committees such as Legislative, Technology, and Process Server Appointment Committees.

We received a multitude of thanks for bringing this information forward, but it was easy. When you believe in something, it is easy to talk about the benefits we offer to our customers and clients. It's easy to speak confidently about finding an ethical member to perform a service that may seem simple to some, but plays such an integral part in the legal arena.

Tammy and I also took this opportunity to meet with members of the Bar's legislative leaders. Some we knew, others we formed relationships with, exchanged emails and phone numbers so we can

work together in the future when changes are being made to statutes or laws pertaining to service of process. It's imperative that we become an integral part of any future changes. Tammy worked her magic with paralegal association's representatives as she has in the past, so they too understand using FAPPS members when services are needed.

Additionally, we laid some groundwork with bar groups and committees that we can work with in regards to areas with issues of process server licensing, lack of appointing/ licensing or education requirements. These are issues most attorneys and paralegals were unaware of, so hopefully gaining their support will prove beneficial as we battle forward.

Attending this event was just another way of putting our organization and it's members on the map to the legal community, and we appreciate the opportunity and confidence our board and members provided us with. I know the results will filter through on many different levels now and in the future.

In August we hosted our annual Professional Beach Getaway, and it was attended by not only our board and many committee members, but several new members & guests for the first time. I want to thank those who came out and hope to see them at future meetings. Our next meeting will be in Boca Raton in October, we hope to see many of the new members from south Florida who have recently joined after participating in our expanded education courses.

I know I have spoken with many members lately about getting more involved in the FAPPS organization, so what are you waiting for? Step up, speak up, volunteer, attend an event, join a committee, make a difference!

Stay safe my friends,

Chris Yeoman AFPS  
Vice President  
Legislative Chair  
(954) 270-4597 cell

TPC

## FAPPS MEETINGS AND EVENTS

*You are  
invited*

**October 21, 2023 9:00 am**  
4th Quarter Board Meeting  
Renaissance Boca Raton  
2000 NW 29th St.  
Boca Raton, FL 33431

**February 10, 2024 10:00 a.m.**  
1st Quarter Board Meeting  
Meeting via Zoom

**April 13-14, 2024**  
33rd Annual Conference  
Safety Harbor Resort and Spa  
105 N. Bayshore Dr.  
Safety Harbor, FL

**August 16-19, 2024**  
Professional Beach Getaway  
3rd Quarter Board Meeting

Location TBA

Meeting information available at  
[www.fapps.org](http://www.fapps.org)

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# SECRETARY'S REPORT

JOE OSBORNE , JR.

Dear Fellow FAPPS members,

As required by Article VIII Section 7 of our by-laws 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 the 3rd quarter board meeting held August 19, 2023:

- Joe Osborne made a motion to accept the agenda as Amended presented. Seconded by Tammy White. The motion passed unanimously.
- Motion by Chris Yeoman to accept the P&P Proposal that at the annual convention all voting members must have a displayed form of designation on their badge in order to vote. Seconded by Tammy White. The Motion carried.
- Motion from Tammy White to accept the P&P Proposal to add Section 4.7.1 as written. There was no second.
- Chris Yeoman made a motion to accept all 3 of the P&P changes by the education committee as written. Seconded by Joe Osborne. After some discussion, the President call for the question. The motion carried 7 to 1.
- Michelle Howard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Joe Osborne. The motion carried unanimously.

On a final note, the FAPPS 4th Quarter Board Meeting will be held on October 21, 2023, at the Renaissance Boca Raton Hotel, 2000 NW 19th St, Boca Raton, FL 33431. 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 (888) 360-5345 or by email at [joe@360legal.net](mailto:joe@360legal.net)

Respectfully,

Respectfully,  
Joe Osborne, Jr., AFPS

TPC

Updates to your member listing? Email: [Administrator@fapps.org](mailto:Administrator@fapps.org)

# ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Diana Wardwell, AFPS

administrator@fapps.org

Dear Members,

I hope this message finds you all in good health and that your year is progressing successfully. I am excited to share some exciting developments and important updates with all of you.

**Warm Welcome:** First and foremost, I extend a warm welcome to all new members who have recently joined our association. It is through your support and active participation that our community continues to grow stronger and more vibrant with each passing day.

**Steady Growth in Membership:** I am delighted to inform you that our association's membership base is steadily growing. The passion and commitment of our existing members, along with your enthusiastic referrals, have contributed significantly to this expansion. We take pride in fostering a community where process serving professionals can connect, collaborate, and thrive together.

**Expanding Education Program:** The education program of our association is flourishing, thanks to the hard work and dedication of our education committee. We have witnessed a diverse range of training sessions that have enriched our collective knowledge and expertise in the field of process serving.

**Upcoming Meeting:** I cordially invite all members to join our upcoming meeting on October 21, 2023 at the Renaissance Boca Raton, where we will discuss recent achievements, share valuable insights, and chart a path for future growth. Please mark your calendars, and look for more details in this publication and on our social media pages.

**Planning the 33rd Annual Convention April 12-14, 2024 in Safety Harbor:** The preparations for the 2024 Convention are in full swing, and I assure you that it will be an unforgettable experience. Safety Harbor has been chosen as the host city for its serene surroundings, exceptional facilities, and ease of accessibility. We are working to create an engaging program with distinguished speakers and engaging workshops to provide an enriching experience for all attendees.

**Selecting Locations for the 2025 and 2026 Conventions:** As part of our commitment to delivering exceptional conventions in the coming years, we have already initiated the process of selecting host cities for the 2025 and 2026 conventions. Your valuable input is crucial in making informed decisions, and we encourage all members to share their suggestions and preferences.

In conclusion, your active participation is the driving force behind our association's success. We value your contributions and are committed to providing you with an enriching experience. If you have any ideas, feedback, or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Let us continue to collaborate, learn, and grow together, making our association a beacon of excellence in the realm of process serving professionals.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Diana Wardwell, AFPS

## 2023 Status Update

### Membership Numbers

2023 August Membership	
Active	255
Associate	80
Supporting	48
Pending Applicants	8
Total	391



**A&G** (Arbitration & Grievance)

**Sean Segel, Chair**

Tampaempire@gmail.com (813) 251-9197

Dear Members,

The A&G Committee has continued to serve FAPPS by upholding the professional standards and ethics held by the association. This quarter one verbal complaint was received regarding non-payment for services between two active members. Before a formal complaint could be submitted the parties were able to resolve their issue, waiving any further action from the committee.

If anyone feels a member may be in violation of the FAPPS Code of Ethics or Bylaws, please contact me.

Sean Segel  
Committee Chair

Chair: Sean Segel  
Vice Chair: Jennafer Segel  
Committee Members: Janet Deal, Diana Wardwell, Don Seward

---

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Katy, TX 77449  
Phone: (281) 808-2616

**Steven Glenn**

Magnum-Diego Priority Services, LLC  
8480 E. Orchard Rd. #5700  
Greenwood Village, CO 80111  
Phone: (303) 778-7662  
Fax: (303) 778-1310

**Alan Goodman**

Lawyers Investigative Service  
P.O. Box 8479  
Portland, ME 04104  
Phone: (207) 775-5685

**Mary Green**

Allied Process Services  
P.O. Box 12698  
Tallahassee, FL 32317  
Phone: (850) 597-0234

**Adam Hochman**

ACESO Courier  
406 Hillwood Ct.  
Mountain View, CO 94040  
Phone: (415) 637-7611

**Nick Hudson**

INSPERA LLC  
6443 Ridings Road, Suite 113  
Syracuse, NY 13206  
Phone: (315) 461-2795

**Paul Hughes**

Hughes Legal Support  
7 Eva Lane  
Cranston, RI 02921-1067  
Phone: (800) 783-7690

**Gail Kagan**

aSubpoena Service, LLC  
30 South Broadway  
Yonkers, NY 10710  
Phone: (914) 963-1941

**Matt Lynch**

Moonlighter Enterprises Inc  
44 N. Second St., Suite 503  
Memphis, TN 38103  
Phone: (901) 527-4623

**Michael Meador**

Meador Investigations  
2201 Woodlawn Dr. #560  
Lincoln, IL 62656  
Phone: (217) 732-1585

**Robert O'Tate**

Process Service of Wyoming, Inc.  
P.O. Box 429  
Casper, WY 82602  
Phone: (307) 266-1979  
Fax: (307) 265-7747

**Derek Reddick**

Reddick Legal Services  
2483 Heritage Vlg #16-327  
Snellville, GA 30078  
Phone: (252) 916-9932

**Sharon Russ Hendrix**

Neat & Notarized LLC  
11802 Tetrafin Dr.  
Riverview, FL 33579  
Phone: (813) 515-4795

**Andrew S. Webster**

Puget Sound Process  
P.O. Box 3310  
Renton, WA 98056  
Phone: (253) 226-0185

**Richard Buckley**

12171 SW 52nd Court  
Cooper City, FL 33330  
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**Carlos Coney**

1113 Carefree Cove  
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**Elena Estilin**

648 NW 6th Ct.  
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**Keith Lowery**

Certified Process Servers, LLC  
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Garland, TX 75049  
Phone: (972) 840-3600

**Carlye Barberio**

Barberio Process, LLC  
1940 Rolling Green Circle  
Sarasota, FL 34240  
Phone: (941) 232-8790

**John Habermehl**

SRK Enterprises  
52 Graw Rd.  
Schodack, NY 12123  
Phone: (518) 729-9800

**Leigh Humphrey**

Cardinal Investigative Solutions, LLC  
P.O. Box 6164  
Brandon, FL 33508  
Phone: (813) 596-8456

**Mark Miller**

EGA Process Serving - Western  
Maryland  
19813 Leitersburg Pike, Suite 108  
Hagerstown, MD 21742  
Phone: (240) 520-1347

**Eduardo Ochoa**

Statewide Process Service, Inc.  
5727 NW 7 Street, Suite 317  
Miami, FL 33126  
Phone: (786) 512-5440

**Miranda Rios**

The Warren Agency  
1218 Duval Street, Unit D  
Key West, FL 33040  
Phone: (305) 289-9339

**Bill Rorie**

Bill Rorie Civil Process Server  
4709 Welcome Drive  
Sebring, FL 33870  
Phone: (317) 716-5410

**Scott VanOchten**

Swift Process Servers, LLC  
4337 E. Grand River Ave. #101  
Howell, MI 48843  
Phone: (517) 295-5655

**Supporting Members:**

**John Scott Harper**

**Harley Ahrens**

**Lee Dulcio**

**LaVette Gulley**

**Vicky Lozano**

Applicants are published the first day of each month at [www.fapps.org](http://www.fapps.org) and through email notification.

Applicants automatically become a member the first day of the following month, pending no objection.

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## **FAPPS 33RD ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**April 12-14, 2024**

**Safety Harbor Resort and Spa  
105 N. Bayshore Drive, Safety Harbor, FL 34695**

***The hotel sold out before our event in 2023. Book your room ASAP!***

**[www.safetyharborspa.com](http://www.safetyharborspa.com)**

**Enter the Group Code first and then select your dates - Group Code: 39Q7GP**



**FAPPS Member Badge**

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login to download the FAPPS Member Badge  
for use on your website.



## Annual Conference Activities Amy Boyd AFPS, Chair

Boydspstatus@gmail.com (772) 460-6679

2024 is the 33rd Anniversary of the Florida Association of Professional Process Servers annual convention. We are planning what is to be quite exhilarating and an educational weekend at the Safety Harbor Resort and Spa again this year. In honor of this beautiful location and the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the resort we are planning a 1920's Gangster/Gals Speakeasy & a Murder Mystery dinner for our Saturday night Banquet & Awards.

Friday morning, we will have the traditional FAPPS Golf Tournament. Friday evening, we will have our reception dinner and immediately following we will have our Annual Bingo game and Poker tournament. All events are open to all attendees. You can always register at the time of check-in but to ensure your spot to any event it is always best to Pre-Register!

There are many sponsorship opportunities for this fun-filled weekend to promote your business and services. Please check the website for updates soon regarding sponsorship opportunities.

Make your room reservations as soon as possible! This resort fills up fast and there are a limited number of rooms available at the FAPPS discounted rate.

I assure you do not want to miss out!

Always, Amy Boyd & Justin Petrae

We are always open to new ideas and educational opportunities. If you have recommendations, please email them to Diana at [administrator@fapps.org](mailto:administrator@fapps.org).

Amy Boyd, AFPS  
Chair, Annual Conference Activities



TPC

## 2024 Convention Sponsors & Exhibitors

- **Interested in Advertising or Sponsoring?**
  - **Interested in attending as a Vendor?**
- **Do you know of a Vendor or Service Provider that would be interested in our Convention?**

**Email [administrator@fapps.org](mailto:administrator@fapps.org)  
or call (321) 952-0820**



# Elections

**Bob Musser, Chair**

BobM@dbsinfo.com

(407) 679-1539

Members,

At our Annual Meeting this spring, the Officers were in the second year of their two year term, and remain unchanged. Your new Directors for 2023 – 2024 are Kevin Fedotov, Michelle Howard, Sean Segel, Desy Garcia, and Tammy White. Thank you to all who ran for the Board, and congratulations to our new Directors. We have important things to do this year for the benefit of all private process servers. If you need a reminder of who's who on the FAPPS Board, or an Email address to reach one of us, go to the FAPPS Website and choose Association, Board. The direct link is <https://www.fapps.org/board.aspx>

Bob Musser, AFPS  
FAPPS President  
Elections Chair  
BobM@dbsinfo.com  
www.fapps.org

TPC



# FDSA (FAPPS Distinguished Service Award)

**Bob Musser, Chair**

BobM@dbsinfo.com

(407) 679-1539

Dear Members,

We are now in another cycle for this prestigious and important award. If you, as members of FAPPS, have suggestions for the committee to consider, please send me an email with the name, and a brief summary of their experience or their attributes that would make them a fitting recipient this year or at some time in the future. I will forward your email to the committee prior to our next meeting. I am happy to report that for the first time since I've been asking for those suggestions (about two years now), I received a nomination from a member at the Daytona Beach Board Meeting. Thank you! The first in person meeting of the committee will be the October Board meeting, but we will be doing the preliminary work by email and zoom prior to that.

Bob Musser  
FDSA Chair  
BobM@dbsinfo.com  
www.fapps.org

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# Formal Education

Michelle Howard AFPS, Chair  
Michelle@TRGTLegal.com (813) 492-2500

As of early August, our education team has already educated 326 servers in 2023. This includes new process servers as well as servers needing the required continuing education to renew their license. This is the first year we have provided education for the servers in the 17<sup>th</sup> Circuit, Broward County. We have received great feedback regarding how informative our class is. We have had several seasoned servers; some have been serving 20+ years and have stated they learned something new. This is always exciting to hear.

Our committee strives to provide the most current materials and knowledge. We have spent countless hours on calls and meetings to ensure we have the most comprehensive, practical materials to present in a fun and exciting manner.

We have initiated new technology to make the classes more interactive including an app we are utilizing for our reviews where the attendees can submit their answer anonymously, so no one ever feels the pressure if they do not get the answer correct. This also gives us an opportunity to clarify a topic that we receive mixed answers on to ensure everyone understands the concepts.

This year is far from over for our committee, but we are looking forward to our continued success and helping others in our profession become more successful!

Each year for the past few years we have expanded into a new circuit and would love to be able to expand to even more. If there is a circuit that you know NEEDS a structured comprehensive program, please let us know. Just as in business a referral is the highest compliment.

**Do not forget to register for Educational Classes early to ensure you meet the deadlines for renewing your license, keep your AFPS current and invest in yourselves and businesses to be able to provide guidance to your staff, servers and clients.**

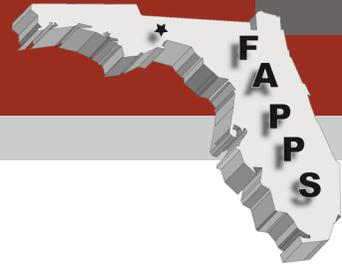
We look forward to sharing our passion and knowledge with you!

Michelle Howard AFPS,  
Committee Chair  
813-492-2500 (office) 727-542-1975 (cell) Michelle@TRGTLegal.com

TPC

## Member Information

- Member Listings can be updated continuously throughout the year. Email all updates to: [administrator@fapps.org](mailto:administrator@fapps.org)
- Email [administrator@fapps.org](mailto:administrator@fapps.org) to receive a link to set up your login and password to access the Member Only section of benefits & resources.
- Claim your free listing at [fapps.securedocumenttrading.com](https://fapps.securedocumenttrading.com) to send and receive documents securely. This a FREE service for FAPPS Members. Need more information about how it works? Give us a call and we will walk you through the setup.
- Advertise your services with FAPPS (info at [www.fapps.org](http://www.fapps.org))
- Attend an Education Class to obtain your AFPS Designation. Clerical staff of members are also welcome to attend for a reduced fee.
- Attend meetings to network and build your connections with other members



## FAPPS Member Referral Program

Join FAPPS Member Referral Program! As valued members of FAPPS, your support and involvement play a crucial role in our association's growth and success. Now, we invite you to join hands with us and help FAPPS expand even further!

Here's how it works: Refer a new Active or Associate process server to join FAPPS, and as a token of our appreciation, you will receive a fantastic incentive! For every successful referral, you will receive \$25 off your 2024 membership fee,

and with enough referrals, you could even secure a FREE membership for the year!

It's a win-win situation!

Not only do you contribute to our vibrant community by bringing in new members, but you also get rewarded for your efforts. So, spread the word about FAPPS and the fantastic opportunities it offers to process servers in Florida.

Together, let's strengthen our association, foster meaningful

connections, and enhance the support we provide to each other. Join us in making FAPPS the go-to hub for process servers in the region!

For more information on how to participate in the Member Referral Program, reach out to Diana our Administrator at [administrator@fapps.org](mailto:administrator@fapps.org) or give us a call at (321) 952-0820. Let's grow together and make 2024 an extraordinary year for FAPPS!

Thank you for being an integral part of our FAPPS family.

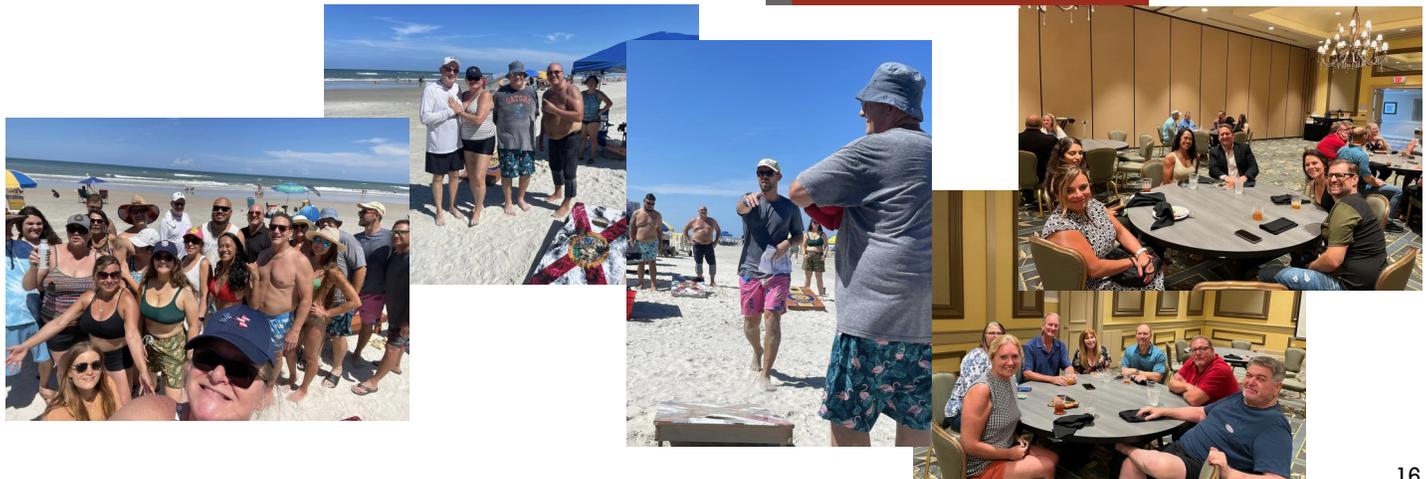
## FAPPS Professional Beach Getaway

The tradition has continued now for more than 20 Years! Members and their family attending a weekend event that mixes business with pleasure; to come together, conduct FAPPS business, network, and enjoy downtime in a beautiful waterfront location.

The Shores Resort was once again an excellent choice.

We had a great turnout and the Cornhole Tournament was lots of fun!

Thanks to everyone who attended. We can't wait to get busy planning our event for 2024!





# Florida Association of Professional Process Servers

🎓 Free Educational Session for Process Servers 📅 October 20, 2024 🕒 4:00 PM 🌟  
Renaissance Boca Raton, 2000 NW 19<sup>th</sup> St., Boca Raton, FL 33431

Are you a process server, looking to enhance your skills or just starting in the field? Look no further! Join us on October 20, 2024, at 4:00 PM for an exciting and enriching educational session brought to you by the Florida Association of Professional Process Servers (FAPPS) Education Team.

🗨️ What's in store for you? 🗨️

🔍 **Insightful Discussions:** Our expert panel of seasoned process servers will lead discussions on a wide range of topics, including best practices, legal updates, and techniques to improve efficiency in serving legal documents.

🗨️ **Open Forum:** We welcome you to submit any questions or specific topics you'd like to see discussed in advance. Just email your inquiries to [education@fapps.org](mailto:education@fapps.org), and we'll ensure your concerns get addressed during the session.

🆕 **New Server Orientation:** If you're new to the profession, this is the perfect opportunity to get a head start. Learn the ropes, understand the intricacies, and gain valuable tips from experienced professionals.

**Networking Session:** Following the educational session, stick around for a dedicated networking session. Connect with fellow process servers, build meaningful relationships, and exchange ideas in a relaxed and friendly environment.

📌 **Reserve Your Spot:** Secure your spot now and be a part of this extraordinary opportunity to learn, grow, and connect within the process serving community.

Mark your calendars for October 20, 2024, at 4:00 PM and get ready to take your process serving career to the next level!

For more information following our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/FAPPSonFB](https://www.facebook.com/FAPPSonFB) and RSVP to [administrator@fapps.org](mailto:administrator@fapps.org) to let us know you will be attending.

🗨️ Don't forget to share this event with your fellow process servers and help spread the knowledge!

#FAPPS #ProcessServing #Education #Networking #LegalProfession #ProfessionalDevelopment  
#ProcessServersUnite

# Learning from Serving

## *An Educational Forum*

Submitted by Dr. Denny Howley



### **Machoism vs Professionalism**

#### **Situation:**

Our Process Serving Business had a Twenty (20) Day Foreclosure Summons for the “Unknown Tenant in Possession” of a property in a high-risk area for Process Servers. Rather than risk placing a Server in a potentially difficult situation, the Process Serving Company decided to send the paper work to the Sheriff to be Served.

#### **The Problem**

A relatively short time later our Serving Company received a “Service Work Sheet and Return of Service” from the Sheriff’s Office in which the Serving Deputy stated the document had been POSTED on the THIRD attempt. Two attempts, six hours apart, was followed by the POSTING. It also noted that the property was UNOCCUPIED. The Return of Service had subsequently been filed with the Clerk of The Courts. BUT this was NOT A FIVE (5) DAY EVICTION NOTICE, but rather a Twenty Day Foreclosure Summons. Ergo, It should have stated NON-Serve, Not POSTED.

Since the Return of Service had been filed with the Court it is possible no one would notice that the documents were incorrectly POSTED, since it was not a Five-Day Eviction Summons. However, if the Judge noticed the discrepancy or if the Defendant’s Lawyer, if there had been one, questioned the POSTING, the Service could have been QUASHED. The Court would then have to issue an Alias Summons and it would have to be properly Served in accordance with Chapter 48.031 of the Florida Statutes.

#### **The Solution**

To short-circuit the problem, the Serving Business Owner suggested to the Serving Deputy’s Supervisor that the “offending” Return of Service be amended to state NON-SERVE. The Sheriff’s office accepted the “short-cut-hassle free-solution”. The issue was resolved after a copy of the “NON-SERVE” Amended Return was sent to the Processing Business and approved.

#### **Comment**

The real issue here is Professionalism – every document that is Served, processed and filed as well as how a Professional interacts with others during the entire procedure REFLECTS on both the Server and the SERVING Company. Had the Process Serving Company kowtowed to the “I’m Right ‘cause I’m a Deputy”, the Return might have waffled through the Justice System, but then again it might not have. In any case, it was the Process Serving Companies REPUTATION that was at stake. Sometimes one has to “bite-the bullet” and cross swords with “Big Brother” in a tactful and Professional manner to announce to one and all “ I AM A PROFESSIONAL”.

*The material for this article “Machismo vs Professionalism” was provided by Amy Boyd, Boyd’s 1 Stop Process Service (772) 460-6679. Great Story Tiger.*

---

*Denny has been writing articles for FAPPS and NAPPS for over twenty five years. He owns and operates Dr. Denny Howley d/b/a serving process in Key West - ONLY (33040, 33041, 33045) Capital of the Conch Republic. 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.*

### ***A Professional NEVER Stops Learning***

**Share your serving stories! You can share a full article or a synopsis of the service and Dr. Denny will help you create the article. Email: [DennyHowley@bellsouth.net](mailto:DennyHowley@bellsouth.net)**



# Legislation

Chris Yeoman AFPS, Chair

Chris.Yeoman@aol.com (954) 274-1337

Dear members,

I hope this report finds you healthy and busy. These past several months have been busy as ever. Our lawsuit against the Chief Financial Officer was concluded, unfortunately not in our favor as the judge decided this was a legislative matter that he was not willing to rule on. Our president will be elaborating on this subject in his report.

We will continue to move forward on the legislative front for changes that will clarify that any and all service of process must still be in compliance with guidelines spelled out in Florida Chapter 48, specifically that all process must be served by someone authorized by law within the jurisdiction where service is being made. This has been our goal all along to make sure even electronic service is made in this manner.

Our other goals remain to lengthen the hours a registered agent is required to be available or have someone available to accept service, and to amend the unknown tenant statute requiring three attempts at service including a weekend attempt.

Initially we intended to try and work with the Florida Bar group who made many changes last year, as they agree some changes need to be made. However, they have advised they have no intentions of proposing any changes in the next session beginning January 2024. After meeting with our board and lobbyist, we have agreed to not wait and work again on passing our own bill, so we are currently working on the new bill draft now.

We have made some great contacts over the past several months within organizations like the Florida Bar, the Florida Paralegals association, and other members of the legal and judicial fields who understand our objectives and are willing work with us to achieve our goals.

As always I appreciate all those involved in the legislative committee for all the countless hours, phone calls, emails, zooms meetings, etc. we have been a part of these past many months.

Sincerely,

Chris Yeoman  
FAPPS Vice President,  
Legislative Chair, VAPS Vice Chair  
cellphone 954-270-4597

## LIAISON COMMITTEE

Good Day to our Members and Board:

Welcome to our annual PBGA, As your NAPPS Liaison I am here to report that FAPPS is in full compliance with NAPPS. The NAPPS Chair of State Associations, Shawn Condrey, shared that he wished he could be here with us this weekend and hopes that it's a "huge success". Shawn also asked me to relay that the NAPPS Conference 2024 is April 18 - 20, in Phoenix, AZ and to please put it on your calendars. If anyone is interested in joining NAPPS, please contact him at: Shawn@falconexpressservices.com or go to the NAPPS website to apply.

Our annual conference is already up on the NAPPS website but if the Board or any committee Chair has an event that they would like for me to share with NAPPS, please provide me with that information.

I wanted to give you an update regarding PAF and our attendance at their charity event back on 07/12/2023. We had a \$500 budget of which we only spent \$379.42. The evening was a complete success for PAF and for FAPPS.

We confirmed with Sherry Weber, PAF President, our plans of a short video introduction to be seen by the entire PAF membership during their online convention this year and looking at other events to attend with her.

We met the local PAF chair, Michelle Arty, who has already gone on to our website to find a server and had us provide a half page flyer for their local newsletter. We are also in discussion about creating a video for their specific chapter as well.

We met up again with Pat DeRamus – She is another contact with FRP and a part of the Florida Judicial. She is very supportive of our role in the legal industry and has handed out our flyers, asked me to attend a Florida Judicial meeting with her to share the role of FAPPS and is working with us on how to get the Florida Bar to recognize FAPPS. This is a tall endeavor and will take some time.

Every chance I get, I share with all about how they can go on to the FAPPS website and find a professional, educated, and upstanding process server. My goal is to have every attorney and paralegal going to FAPPS to find you before they look anywhere else.

Thank you so much for your support and if you have any questions and/or suggestions about how to make that goal happen please reach out to me. Thank you and hope you all have a wonderful day.

Tammy White, AFPS  
Liaison Committee Chair  
(239) 313-6740  
ParalegalLiaison@fapps.org

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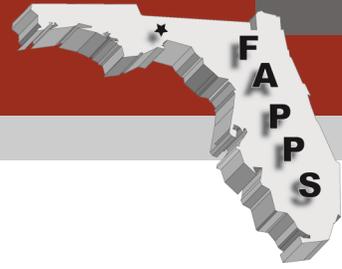
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## Florida Bar Annual Convention

FAPPS Vice President Chris Yeoman and Director Tammy White attended the Florida Bar Annual Convention June 22-23, 2023.

It was an informative event. The team was successful strengthening connections and building new relationships with individuals in the Florida Bar, paralegal associations, and others within the legal community.



## Get connected! Join a Meeting or Event

FAPPS Meetings are moving around the state to make it easier for members to attend.

Follow our Meetings page at [www.fapps.org](http://www.fapps.org) for upcoming dates and locations.

All members are welcome to attend.

The events are an excellent opportunity to learn more about your profession and network.

The events are posted on our Facebook Page and Facebook Group Page.

Join an event and get to know your fellow members!



## Stay Connected - Follow FAPPS on Facebook

Follow our Facebook page for current information and updates regarding meetings and events at [www.Facebook.com/FAPPSonFB](http://www.Facebook.com/FAPPSonFB)



Education Classes  
Meetings  
Special Events  
Current News  
Legislative Updates

# Learning from Serving

## *An Educational Forum*

Submitted by Dr. Denny Howley  
From the Archives circa 2005



## **Are We Professionals?**

### **Introduction**

We are members of the Florida Association of Professional Process Servers (FAPPS). Obviously, we don't need to define Florida – We're here! Process Servers – We're them, but PROFESSIONALS is another matter.

Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary defines Professional as:

“One that engages in a pursuit or activity professionally”.

Blacks' Law Dictionary, on the other hand, does a better job of defining the term:

“A Professional is one engaged in a LEARNED profession or occupation”.

So we can use “LEARNED” profession or occupation as a jumping off point to do some self/business analysis in addressing the question “ Are We Professionals?”

### **Self Analysis**

Since Chapter 48 of the Florida Statutes is our guiding beacon, it is logical to make it the building block of our “Self-Analyses”. So here are some questions to ask ourselves pertaining to Chapter 48:

- When was the last time we reviewed Chapter 48 ?
- Did we earmark area we had questions or wanted clarification?
- Do we read Don Eisenberg's series “ How to Serve Florida Process” in our newsletter, the Paper Chase?
- Did we make copies of the articles for our own reference or for our folks?
- Do we have a “mentor”, a big brother/big sister Process Serving guru, who we can go to when we don't understand a particular Serve or paragraph in Chapter 48?
- Do we take full advantage of our MEMBERSHIP IN FAPPS? Do we “network”, since networking means not on personal, but business growth as well?
- Do we attend the annual conferences and make ourselves and our business known to other attendees? I mean KNOWN, not just passing our business cards.
- Do we attend continuing education presentations to tune in on the topic, the speaker as well as those who are attending and their questions and comments?
- Do we attend the Board of Directors meetings (BOD) to monitor how OUR organization is run, issues that are being addressed and get to know the BOD Members as individuals?

***Are We Professionals Continued Next Page***

## ***Are We Professionals Continued***

When we talk to a client about serving their process do we communicate clearly:

- Our price for the Serve, a second address, number of attempts or non-serves?
- Do we discuss special requirements of our client, such as their wish to use their own Return of Service?

This basic “Rule Setting” can do much to reduce or eliminate misunderstandings and other problems in communication that might arise down the pike.

Once we do our clients Serve do we:

- Give our client prompt feed-back on the time, date et al of the Serve, so OUR clients can look good for THEIR client?
- Do we keep our client informed as to the progress of the Serve, if there are delays or other problems that might arise?

Do we pass written instructions?

- When we forward a Process to another Server, do we include our organization’s name and phone number in case there are problems?
- Do we include basic instructions or special instructions on the handling of OUR Process?
- Remember how you felt when you received that first “blivit” and were trying to figure out what papers belonged to which Process, what you were supposed to do and who had sent it to you?

Are We Polite?

- Courtesy is the grease that lubricates the difficulties in our life and business. Do we use it ALWAYS?
- Are we polite and diplomatic to our clients even when they are upset and venting?
- Are we polite to our folks when giving instructions or when “correcting” their mistakes?
- Are we sensitive to the subjects we are Serving, regardless of the attitudes toward us or the Serve we are making?

Do we educate/motivate our folks?

- Do we pass on information we have gained at conferences, etc, to our Servers?
- Do we seek to make them better Servers with tips of the trade we have acquired?
- Do we attempt to help them achieve an increasing sense of self satisfaction in the Service of Process?

Are we ethical business people?

- Do our business practices earn respect and confidence from our clients?
- Does our business approach make friends, who in turn become repeat clients?
- Trust is the key element in business. Do we earn it? DO WE EARN IT?

### **CONCLUSION:**

I think we must agree with Black’s Law Dictionary definition, that a professional is one engaged in a LEARNED Profession. And as the old adage goes the more you know, the more you know you don’t know. So the learning curve should continue regardless of how long one has been in the business. Lots of people know lots of things in lots of different areas, but the growth of knowledge and the spreading of the knowledge , is a mandate we should all accept in this fraternity/sorority of the Serving of Process.

---

*Denny has been writing articles for FAPPS and NAPPS for over twenty five years. He owns and operates Dr. Denny Howley d/b/a serving process in Key West - ONLY (33040, 33041, 33045) Capital of the Conch Republic. 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.*

## ***A Professional NEVER Stops Learning***

***Share your serving stories! You can share a full article or a synopsis of the service and Dr. Denny will help you create the article. Email: [DennyHowley@bellsouth.net](mailto:DennyHowley@bellsouth.net)***



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Cell 954.270.4597



# P&G/Member Benefits

Kevin Fedotov AFPS, Chair  
fedotovk@yahoo.com (407) 627-8222

Welcome FAPPS Members and Guests!

Welcome to the Professional Beach Getaway and thank you for joining us. Its been a busy quarter for us and here are all the things we've been up to in the last few months.

**In-Person Event Updates** - The Promotion & Growth Committee has hosted 2 events since our last meeting. The first was a Happy Hour in the Orlando area on June 7th. The event was held at the Ravenous Pig in Winter Park, we had 21 attendees and the occasion was very well received. The 2nd happening was a Breakfast Before Serving meet in the Southwest Florida area on July 19th. The event was held at a First Watch cafe in Ft. Myers and had 5 attendees. We were able to introduce FAPPS in a more intimate way and answered all questions that the new members had. We even had a couple of Lee County Sheriff Deputies stop by and introduce themselves. We signed up one new member for a full membership who took advantage of the \$30 credit for the event and several others who stated that they would be signing up. These events have been a great way to gather local servers who are not part of the FAPPS community and have in most part paid for themselves via the sponsorship moneys we solicit.

**Upcoming Events** - The P&G working on setting up more happy hour style events for process servers in the Volusia/Brevard area, as well as the South Florida region before the end of the year. The FAPPS 4th Quarter board meeting will be October 21st, 2023 in Boca Raton, so be sure to register for the meeting.

For the complete schedule of FAPPS events please visit - <https://www.facebook.com/FAPPSonFB> and be sure to "Like" and Follow Our Page.

**Social Media** - As of August 8th 2023, our Facebook Group is up to 303 members (up from 282 members) and the FAPPS page has 1,026 followers with 862 Likes (up from 977 followers with 831 Likes). Some analytics for the funds used for the events this year: We spent \$50 on the Orlando Happy Hour Facebook Ad, it reached 312 people

and it had 21 clicks. We spent \$50 on the Breakfast Facebook Ad that reached 422 people and it had 33 clicks. We spent \$100 on the FAPPS Beach Tetaway Ad. It has reached 346 people so far and it has 19 event responses as of today.

We will also begin work on promotion of our Florida and out of State members via weekly and monthly social media posts on Facebook. If you have an amazing server or office member who goes above and beyond the call of duty, please send us an email so we can show them off to our membership.

**Membership Calls** - Did you know that anyone who takes the FAPPS Education Course is entitled to a free Supporting Membership? Those who has taken the course to fill the education requirement in their jurisdiction, but have not signed up to become a member, will be receiving a call from our committee to get them enrolled. There are hundreds of potential members and we will be working diligently to call each one in order to drive up our membership numbers.

Please remember that membership is extremely important to our association, be sure to encourage process servers who are not current members to join the FAPPS family. Remember that we include the cost of a Supporting Membership class simply by taking our Education Class, so all you have to do is fill out the application.

The P&G Committee currently consists of Tammy White, Desy Garcia, Josh Kes, and Kevin Fedotov, but we are always looking for someone to donate their time.

Kevin Fedotov, AFPS  
Director and Chair

TPC



## PSAC (Process Server Appointment) Margie Zawacki AFPS, Chair

PSA@fapps.org (941) 954-0169

Dear Members:

We have been very busy this last quarter speaking with several people we believe will be able to help us with the issues in Duval County and last week we received our documents that we needed to be put up in FAPPS server.

Our conversations have continued with Hank Coxe extensively on the issues in Duval County from May 18, 2023 to the present. Tammy and Hank were able to speak briefly at the FL Bar Convention but the last conversation Tammy had he stated he would be "tip toeing" around to find out the real reason why the Sheriff is not appointing any more Servers in Duval County and he would be getting back in touch with us as soon as he learned what was going on. We have reached out since then and we are waiting for him to get back in touch with us.

Tammy and I had a telephone meeting with Scott Westheimer which is now the FL Bar President on May 30, 2023. He advised that the FL Bar would not get involved with political issues which he thought this was. However, he did state that if we were talking with Hank Coxe, we have a very good contact in Jacksonville because he knows everyone and his firm has had 3 Past Presidents, which is unheard of, Hank being one of them. He suggested we get Hank to introduce us to Craig Shoup, Executive Director of the Jacksonville Bar Association. He also suggested that we reach out to different Sections of the FL Bar because they have less restraints. Tammy saw Scott at a Lee County Bar event in mid-June prior to the FL Bar Convention and spoke to him briefly about the Duval Issues.

Tammy and Chris attended the FL Bar Convention on June 22nd and 23rd where they were well received not only by Scott Westheimer but others attending the Convention including Jim Murphy. Mr. Westheimer introduced Tammy from the Podium to Craig Shoup who was sitting in the audience. Tammy met with Krystle Cacci, Esq. who is in charge of providing press to/for FAWL and made her aware of the Duval Issue and asked Tammy to send her an email and she would look into the issue as well and help anyway should could. Tammy also spoke to Karen George, FRP (FL Registered Paralegals) Director who also stated she is willing to help with the Duval issues. This group is a Division of the FL Bar, and they communicate regularly.

There were several other attorney's that Tammy and Chris spoke to that were on the REPPTL Committee a Division of the FL Bar in reference to our Legislative endeavors which I am sure Chris will cover in his report.

On July 13, 2023 Tammy and I had a phone conference with Attorney David Glasser who Tammy and Chris met at the FL Bar Convention. They discussed the fact that there was no process serving program in Volusia County and he was very helpful in providing names and phone numbers for people to contact in Volusia County which is the 7th Circuit. During our extensive conversation with him he stated that he would be willing to write a letter to the Chief Judge in support of a Process Serving Program. He has a personal relationship with the Chief Judge as well as Sheriff Chitwood.

We spoke to Craig Shoup the Executive Director of the Jacksonville Bar on August 2, 2023. This was a long and enlightening conversation. I informed the Board at the past meeting as to what he suggested.

In closing what I have taken away from all these conversations is that we need to have a new study done on what it costs the Sheriff to serve process. It was discussed at the NAPPS meeting I attended in July as well as discussed at the past FAPPS meeting in August. The Board has advised us to find someone to do the study and come back with the costs. I believe that once this study is done, we will be able to move forward positively in our Duval endeavors and the rest of the Motion and Order Counties throughout the State.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at [margiez@hctjudge.com](mailto:margiez@hctjudge.com) or [psa@fapps.org](mailto:psa@fapps.org).

Sincerely,

Margaret L. Zawacki

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## Secure Data Exchange

**Bob Musser, Chair**

[BobM@dbsinfo.com](mailto:BobM@dbsinfo.com) (407) 679-1539

The Secure Document Trading Service, which is now 8 years old (First launched in 2015!) is a working platform, has support from 5 vendors. Process Master, Process Server's Toolbox, Paper Tracker, Tristar WinServe, and Loyal Dog all support import of jobs from the web version of SDTS directly into their software. If you have not taken the time to fill out your FAPPS profile (no cost, and gets you additional exposure and work through the FAPPS website), come talk to me, or read more about it at <https://Fapps.SecureDocumentTrading.com>

The SDTS, or something based on it, is likely to play a major role in the success of process servers in the coming years. We built it in 2015 to fill a need that NAPPS saw. The fear was that as Electronic Filing became a bigger thing, that many NAPPS members

were going to be on the outside looking in with no financially viable way to transfer data and documents in a secure manner. I expected Email to be used less, and a true Secure method of moving data and documents to be used more than it has so far. I see the next few years as an even bigger threat, as Electronic Service finally starts making significant inroads into our world. As leaders in the world of Due Process, we have to continue to evangelize against using Email alone as a method for Service or even transfer of sensitive documents. It can not be overstate how critical selling this message is to our continued existence.

Bob Musser, Chair

TPC



Hello Members,

First, I want to thank everyone that attended the Professional Beach Getawy. As your technology committee chair, I do not have a lot to report. I keep working closely with Diana to ensure all the sign-up forms for memberships and RSVP meetings are working correctly. I also assisted Tammy with recording a video for PAF where she wanted to show how to navigate the FAPPS website.

In closing, I want to remind all the members that I'm here to support each of you and your business. If you have any questions that you believe I can assist you with, please reach out to me. I am more than happy to help.

Respectfully,

Desy Garcia, AFPS  
Board Director  
Technology Committee Chair



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## SUMMER IS HERE!!!!



**As we navigate the complex landscape of process serving, we are committed to addressing challenges faced by those in our profession. The VAPS committee is tasked with providing insights into safeguarding process servers and ways to protect yourself in the face of potential threats. It is important to note there are no new cases reported, which is an encouraging sign. However, our vigilance must remain unwavering.**

### **Current case Updates:**

#### **Case 1 – Lee County**

Lee County Case # 23-CF-014163, Charges;

Criminal Mischief, Aggravated Assault with a deadly weapon; burglary of a conveyance ( all 3<sup>rd</sup> degree felonies)

Battery (1<sup>st</sup> degree felony)

Possession of a firearm by a convicted felon (2<sup>nd</sup> degree felony)

Weapon offense- improper exhibit firearm or dangerous weapon ( 1<sup>st</sup> degree felony)

Possession of weapon or ammo viol final injunction DV cyberstalking

This is set for another pre-trial on 8/30/2023, this subject was also arrested again in May 2023 for aggravated battery with a weapon (Case 23-015838000ACH) and is currently in jail and his bond has been revoked. You may view the full arrest report online with the Lee County Clerk's Office

#### **Case 2 – Pinellas County**

Recap : Process server was severely beaten after he served documents to the defendant, the defendant has been deemed temporarily incompetent but restorable. **Status check with the judge scheduled for 6/7/2024**

As we all know the importance of our role as process servers, however this vital role can sometimes expose individuals to potentially dangerous situations. Here are some effective ways to protect yourself while serving:

- **Safety Training:** Network with former law enforcement or first responders to learn how to de-escalate a hostile subject or situation.
- **Communication:** Maintain constant communication with your office or a trusted contact, especially when serving in a remote or unfamiliar area
- **Assessment:** Prior to serving papers, research the location and individuals involved to anticipate potential risks
- **Technology:** Utilize dash-cams, GPS tracking or other aps for emergency situations. These tools can provide crucial evidence and ensure your safety.
- **Trust Your Instincts:** If a situation feels unsafe or uncomfortable, prioritize safety and retreat if necessary.
- **Familiarize yourself with the contact telephone numbers of local law enforcement non-emergency line and save these in your phone for non-emergency situations. If you encounter a violent act, call 911**

Please remember to report any violent incident at FAPPS.org.

Michelle Howard AFPS, Director  
Committee Chair – Violence Against Process Servers  
727-542-1975 (cell)



# Website/FAPPS Server

Diana Wardwell, Chair  
Bob Musser, Webmaster

The FAPPS website is full featured, a complete source of information on all things FAPPS, and a frequently used tool for finding private process servers across Florida and the entire nation. Many thanks to Diana Wardwell for her constant review, and to the committee chairs who send us content for the areas for which they are responsible. The FAPPS server is a private, secure, replicated and backed up place for the Administrator, Secretary, Education, and other committee chairs to store information that belongs to FAPPS. We no longer have to move files and data from person to person after each election. We use an Uptime monitor which shows we are over "4 Nines" available (99.99%). That means that the FAPPS Website and membership database are online and available almost always, and don't miss more than 52 minutes a year. We are trying to achieve 5 Nines this year, which means less than 6 minutes of downtime.

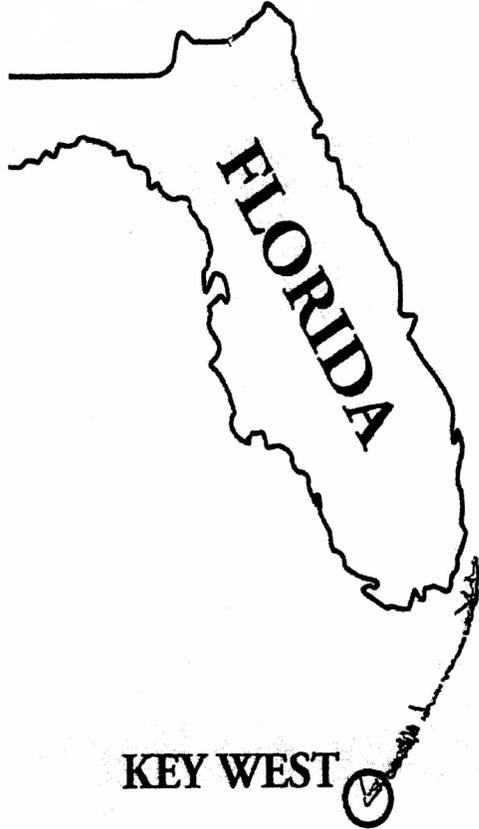
Bob Musser, Webmaster

The website is reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis to ensure our information is current. We are always open to suggestions for content and information to share. If you have a suggestion you are welcome to email [administrator@fapps.org](mailto:administrator@fapps.org).

The Member Only section contains additional resources. In order to access this area of the website you will need to create a login. This can be accomplished by [emailing](#) a request for login information.

Diana Wardwell, Chair

TPC



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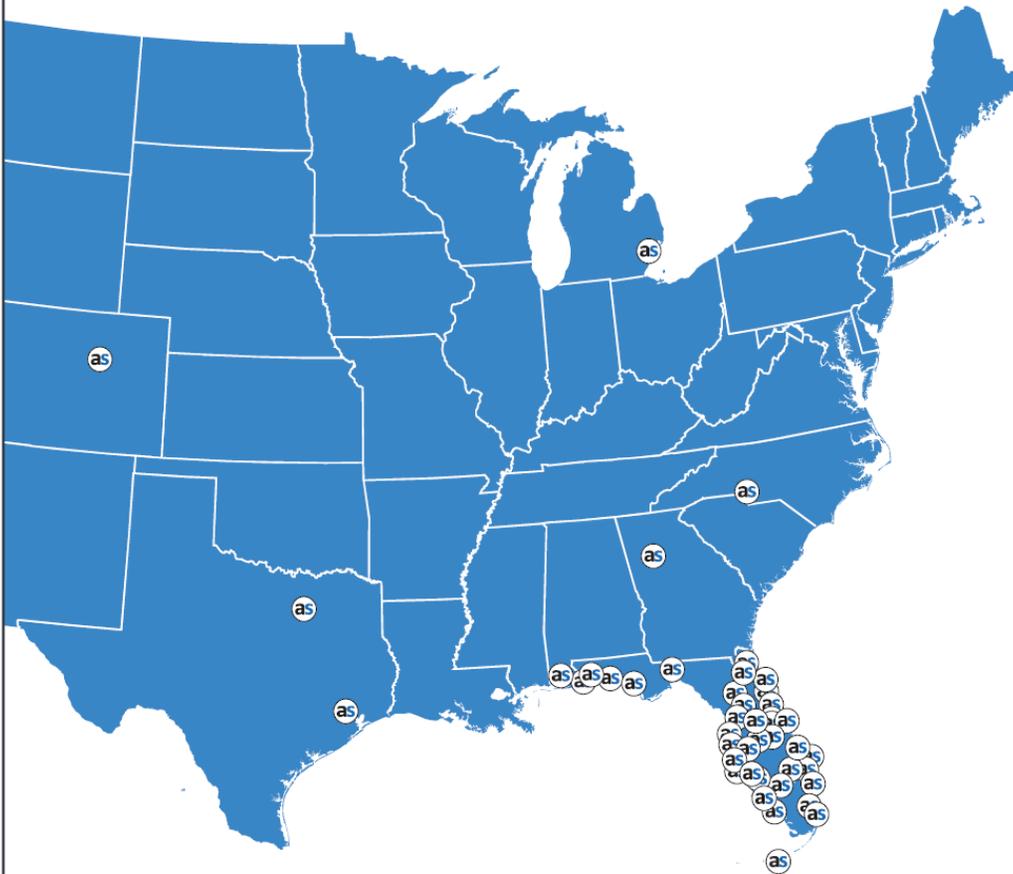


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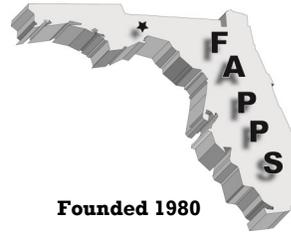
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# Florida Association of Professional Process Servers

A NAPPS Chartered State Association

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Melbourne, FL 32902-0072



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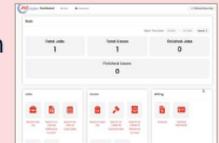
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