



"The Server"

Holiday Issue

December 2014

Texas Process Servers Association



President's Message

Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Regional Meet & Greet	2-4
ALR Letter	5
Upcoming Events	6

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS
&
HAPPY NEW YEAR**

FROM TPSA



To the TPSA members: Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Let us never forget the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ. With the World in turmoil, we sometimes forget that our families matter the most, spend this holiday time with them and enjoy every moment you have with them.

We would like to thank all of those who attended our convention in Waco. If you missed it, you missed a fun and exciting time. We had a lot to talk about and everybody seemed to speak their mind. We had the highest attendance from previous conventions and for those who thought that maybe Waco was not a good choice; we've had requests to have it in Waco again. However, the vote has been taken and we will be having our convention next year in San Antonio. Details will follow from our Membership Director.

Also, legislation is just a couple of weeks away and we hope that everyone who can participate will walk the halls at the Capitol. This is very important; it shows Austin how strong an Association we are. As for those of you who cannot attend, we ask you to man your phones, because this is just as important. During last legislation, those who called in were able to shut down the phone lines at the Capitol. We have many important and exciting activities planned for the next two years and we hope to get your support in the many things that we will try to accomplish. Our first board meeting will be January 8, 2015. This is where all of the work really begins. As members, I look forward to your input and suggestions for the next two years. No suggestion is too small or too big to be considered. I would



If you are traveling, have a safe trip!

like to thank all of you for giving me the privilege and honor of serving as your President for the next two years. Please know that I am always available, so please feel free to send an email or call. Again, I wish you and your families a very safe and joyous Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

God Bless.

Dennis M. Cromwell

TPSA President

Regional Meet & Greets

Central Region

Our first regional meeting was held October 21st at 1830 hrs. at Poke-e-Jo's on Parmer Lane in Austin. We had a good turnout with 12 attendees. Folks from as far away as Killeen, Waco, and Bryan/College Station were there.

Sam Weeks was recognized for all of his hard work as the outgoing Central Regional Director. We discussed many of the topics covered at the September convention such as the proposed legislation for the up-coming session in January (i.e. assault on a process server, entrance to gated communities, statewide certification). It was requested that if anyone had a suggestion for proposed legislation to bring it to the Director's attention for presentation to the Board of Directors. One suggestion was to perhaps amend our current rules to allow substitute service (without having to obtain a court order) on the spouse of an intended target

who is not available for personal service. This suggestion was well received by everyone. We also talked about the Serve Manager presentation at the convention. It was im-



Regional Meet & Greet Reports

pressive that the panel endorsing this program consisted of a server new to the profession, a couple not so new, and Rick Keeney who is well established in the profession.

At our regional meeting we had a refresher presentation of the TPSA Code of Ethics and each member was provided a copy. Suffice it to say only a few members present had read the Code of Ethics since becoming members. Together we all reviewed the Code and it was pointed out that each member "agrees to abide" by this Code as a member of TPSA

We concluded our meeting with the Director's "Tip O' the Quarter": When researching Texas license plates, keep in mind that there are no alpha Os in the system and that only numerical zeroes are used. **Our next meeting will be January 20th at the same place and time** where the food is good, especially all the sides which is unusual for a barbeque joint, and the beer is cold. Members were asked to contact their Director anytime with suggestions for agenda items. The meeting was adjourned and most everyone stayed around for quite a while enjoying the fellowship and exchanging process serving war stories.

I encourage all of you who have not recently attended a regional meeting to do so. Your Association presents these meetings to you as another tool to help you become the best professional process server you can be.



Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another.

G. K. Chesterton
(1874 - 1936)

North Region

The North Regional Meet and Greet meeting was held at Spring Creek BBQ in Addison on October 25, 2014. The meeting was opened with the introduction of each one in attendance. There were 17 people at the meeting. We discussed the new rules from JBCC concerning the renewal process. Each one was encouraged to read over the JBCC rules.

We talked about the upcoming Legislature and Walk the Halls Campaign. We opened the floor for a round table discussion on various topics concerning the Process Service business.

At the close of the meeting we had three drawings for cash



money. We gave away \$96.00 to three different members. I want to encourage everyone in the North/Northeast Region to make plans to attend the next meeting. I would like to thank everyone that was at the meeting.

South Region

The Southern District's Meet & Greet BBQ was held on Wednesday, October 22, 2014 from 4-6 PM in at Comanche Park in San Antonio. Unfortunately, the gated entrances into the park were closed when I arrived and I had to quickly try to get out an update to shift the venue about 1/4 mile away at Covington Park (which used to be part of Comanche Park). Our location in Covington Park was such that you could see us from the main road, and a member was kind enough to park at the Comanche Park entrance in hopes of redirecting traffic to the new location. Despite the Bexar County Courthouse's cooperation in posting invitation signs inside the courthouse, and personal telephone invitations extended by me,

we only had a handful of people



Regional Meet & Greet Reports

turn out for the BBQ. We enjoyed grilled cheeseburgers and hot dogs with all the fixings, and homemade blueberry chocolate chip cookies for dessert. Those who were in attendance complimented the idea for a BBQ, as well as the pleasant

location of Covington Park and several suggestions were made to try this venue again on a Sunday. There was lots of information available for non-members as to the benefits of TPSA Membership, as well as the changed rules for Certification and Re-Certification through the JBCC.

Next in importance to freedom and justice is popular education, without which neither freedom nor justice can be permanently maintained.

James A. Garfield, July 12, 1880

20th president of US 1881

East Region

I had the pleasure of hosting the first TPSA East Regional meeting on Saturday, November 1st for Delyne Nunez, held at Fiesta Loma Linda Mexican Restaurant at 1231 Telephone Road in Houston, Texas. Delyne was re-elected to another two-year term at the annual convention and was present at the meeting.

We had approximately 28 people attend and four non TPSA members, new to the process serving industry. These individuals were excited to know an organization like TPSA was looking out for their best interest, and they were very pleased to meet seasoned members that agreed to offer a ride-a-long in their area. The fact came up that many people starting out in this industry get little support in areas of growing their business, on the field training and knowledge beyond the State certified class.



Delyne spoke about the Judicial Branch Certification Commission (JBCC) and the possible outline for continuing education hours required by the State. She explained that being a TPSA member will not only keep you informed about all the changes, but also likely offer greater value for membership, since regional meetings and the annual convention would likely count as hours.

We also discussed many of the topics covered at the September convention. Several TPSA members that attended the convention spoke highly of the experience and we challenged more East Regional members to attend next year. Since this year the Texas Legislator is in session, we touched on the proposed legislation for the up-coming session in January (such as: assault on a process server, entrance to gated communities, statewide certification). Those in attendance were also told to join us in February for the annual "Walk the Halls" Texas Legislator awareness campaign that TSPA encourages all members to participate in. We make our voice known by visiting elected officials and encourage them to support pro process serving laws in 2015.

Our meeting ended with asking the group which guest speakers in our East region they would like to hear from. The Montgomery District Clerk, Harris County District Court and Harris County District Attorney were all mentioned as good guest speakers. Our next meeting will be in late January, but the date has not yet been set.

Education is the guardian genius of democracy. It is the only dictator that free men recognize, and the only ruler that free men require.

Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar



News Flash

PROCESS SERVERS WHO DEAL WITH ALR SUBPOENAS

TPSA member, **Bobby Pickens**, brought to our attention the changes with the ALR Subpoenas. TPSA would like to share this information with all of its members as well. Thank you, Bobby, for bringing this new information to our attention. If any member has news they think is important or would be beneficial to all TPSA members, please feel free to contact us anytime. You can contact the TPSA Office Manager, Jennifer Redden or TPSA President, Dennis Cromwell. All contact information is on our website at www.texasprocess.org

Below is the letter Bobby wrote to TPSA:

To Whom It May Concern,

Last week while turning in some paperwork for an "ALR" Hearing, I was advised by the staff of a meeting that was being held today. The meeting was about a new proposal of changing up the way the subpoenas would be served on the arresting officer or officers.

I attended this meeting to see what was going to be said and take place. While sitting in the meeting, it turned out to be a state wide tele-conference (video & phone) with San Antonio, Austin, Dallas, Houston, and Corpus Christi & El Paso. You could sign up to speak at this

meeting & were allowed 3 minutes to speak. While listening to numerous attorneys speak from each city, I was the only process server to say anything. There was another process server at the San Antonio location, but from my understanding that this server is not a certified server.

What Austin wants to do is this:

1. No more emailing or faxing the subpoenas to the officers.
2. No more having someone from the police department, sheriff's office or DPS accepting the subpoenas on the officer's behalf.
3. No more leaving the checks or money orders with the staff when the subpoenas are turned in by the process server.
4. When serving the officer, the process server will hand over the payment to that officer.
5. The question that is coming up is: Will the officer show up for the hearing? Will the officer return the check or money order back to the law firm, if that officer does not show up for the hearing? Will the officer be held liable civil or criminal for cashing the checks or money order & not show for the hearing?

6. If the server cannot find the officer while on duty, then you would have to serve the officer at their residence, which threw up a major red flag from the attorneys, because they wouldn't want that officer to be disturbed on their off-duty time.

Everyone that spoke was not in favor of this sudden change that is supposed to take place. No one spoke in favor of it.

From my understanding the issue that has brought this up is that there has been some missing checks or money orders & not being placed into the defendant's file. Irene from the San Antonio office advised that she would keep us updated when they hear what will be taking place. Any feedback on this sudden proposal change would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Robert A. "Bobby" Pickens II
Panther Civil Process
Kerrville, Texas



"The Server"

TPSA
Office Manager:
Jennifer Redden

7215 Bosque Blvd.
Waco, Texas 76710

512-807-8772

www.texasprocess.org



ARE YOU AN ACTIVE TPSA MEMBER?
IS YOUR PROFILE CORRECT ON THE
SITE?

HAVE YOU UPDATED YOUR
INFORMATION FOR THE NEW SEARCH
ENGINE?

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?
DO YOU RECEIVE EMAILS FROM TPSA?

*TPSA is working hard to get information on
the website updated. If you or know
someone that their information is
inaccurate, please notify the office
manger, Jennifer Redden.*

REGIONAL MEETINGS

COMING UP FOR JANUARY
WATCH FOR DETAILS OF MEETING
SCHEDULE AT
WWW.TEXASPROCESS.ORG

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING**

JANUARY 8TH @ 3 PM
Central Texas Litigation Support
Services, Inc.
7215 Bosque Blvd.

HOLIDAY HOURS

DECEMBER 24TH: CLOSED AT NOON
DECEMBER 25TH: CLOSED
DECEMBER 31ST: CLOSED AT NOON
JANUARY 1ST-2ND: CLOSED

