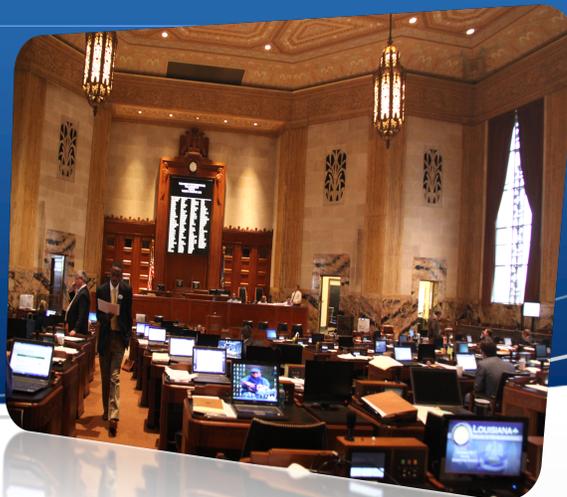


Private Process Serving: *Changes in the law*

Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure article 1293



Lawyers or private individuals hire private process servers to serve people with court documents. In federal court, private process servers may serve courts documents without being appointed by the court; however, in state court, the rules set forth in the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure govern the methods of service and individuals authorized to make process service. In state court, private process servers must be appointed by the court. Private process servers are a valuable component of the legal system.

In the past, C.C.P. article 1293 required that the court appoint a particular “natural” person to make service after the local sheriff has failed in an attempt to serve a person. In 2012 the Louisiana Regular Legislative Session, Rep. Tim Burns proposed that C.C.P. art. 1293 be amended to allow for appointment of a “juridical person” to make process service instead of a “natural” person. Therefore, a process service company may be appointed as the private process server and then any employee of that company would be authorized to serve the court documents. The Louisiana legislature adopted this proposed change to the law and now the court may appoint a “juridical”

person to make process service of court documents. ♦

Art. 1293. Service by private person

C. In addition to those natural persons who the court may appoint to make service of process pursuant to Paragraph A or B of this Article, the court may also appoint a juridical person which may then select an employee or agent of that juridical person to make service of process, provided the employee or agent perfecting service of process is a natural person who qualifies as an agent for service of process pursuant to Paragraph A or B of this Article.

Acts 1984, No. 210, §1; Acts 2006, No. 704, §1, eff. June 29, 2006; Acts 2010, No. 185, §1; Acts 2010, No. 466, §1, eff. June 22, 2010; Acts 2012, No. 521, §1.

