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## **New Law Allows Process Servers into Gated Communities**

*Law will take effect in Florida July 1, 2011*

(Tallahassee, FL) – A new law signed by Governor Rick Scott will enable process servers throughout Florida to do their job more effectively by allowing them entrance into gated communities starting Friday.

House Bill 59 (HB 59) will allow a professional process server the ability to guarantee the constitutional right to all defendants and ensure due process without unnecessary delays, says Mike Compton, first vice-president of the National Association of Professional Process Servers (NAPPS) and legislative director for the Florida Association of Professional Process Servers (FAPPS). “This is truly a significant advancement for process servers in Florida,” Compton says. “The new law will serve as an extremely useful tool for our members statewide.”

Bob Musser, FAPPS president, applauded the legislature and the governor for supporting professional process servers. “Allowing a process server entrance into a gated community area as an officer of the court will create an opportunity for expediting the legal process for all parties,” Musser says. “This process server bill also will assist in preventing a gate guard from obstructing justice by giving them unequivocal authority to allow a process server access.”

In the past, when a process server was denied entrance into a gated community, the alternative was to publish the legal notice in a newspaper that the defendant might not read. That sometimes resulted in a judgment of foreclosure or other type of judgment without ever having been notified of the action.

Musser commends Rep. John Patrick Julien, (D-North Miami Beach) for his strong leadership in sponsoring HB 59 and advocating for more tools for professional process servers. “Rep. Julien deserves a lot of credit for getting this done, and we are grateful for his commitment to our profession,” Musser said.

Lawrence Yellon, NAPPS president, applauded FAPPS leadership for showing strong support throughout the legislative process. “FAPPS has worked diligently in supporting this new law’s passage which will allow for process servers to do their jobs more effectively, and provide defendants the constitutional rights they deserve.”

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*NAPPS is a worldwide organization founded on the principles of professionalism and high ethical standards.*

**For more information about NAPPS, visit [www.napps.org](http://www.napps.org) .**