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**WHAT IS NYSPPSA AND WHAT CAN NYSPPSA DO FOR YOU?**

NYSPPSA (New York State Professional Process Servers Association) is a charter organization of NAPPS (National Association of Professional Process Servers). NYSPPSA is comprised of process servers and principals of process serving agencies who are invested in promoting professionalism, knowledge, accountability and ethical conduct within the process serving industry in New York State. Our members are committed to fostering a favorable reputation for process servers as a whole, by providing tools to assist the process server in properly performing the job at hand. We offer educational/certification programs for process servers, networking, legislative assistance, pertinent case law and technology updates and overall support to our members. Process servers who are active in NYSPPSA are career servers who take their responsibilities seriously, understand the importance of the work they do, and care that the jobs they handle are done correctly.

NYSPPSA has, for many years, and continues to make strides to improve the process serving industry in New York. This not only assists professional process servers, but the attorneys, paralegals and other legal support staff our members work with. NYSPPSA, with the assistance of NAPPS, has been proactive in dealing with impractical and draconian changes to the New York City DCA’s licensing requirements for process servers, which have driven a significant percentage of the process servers in New York City out of the industry. New York City, in response to abuses by a very small number of process servers, changed the licensing laws so that they were so stringent and punitive. Many small businesses and independent servers were unable to continue to operate. Excessive fines were imposed on process servers for the slightest oversight or error, many of them clerical or due to compliance issues with the minimal time frame allowed to electronically document attempts and services.

In 2016, we were also successful in promoting and obtaining passage of a law on the state level that makes assault of a process server during the performance of his or her duties a felony. This was a monumental legislative accomplishment for the members of our organization. Passage of this law addressed a growing problem for process servers, who are typically the first face people see when learn they are on the receiving end of a lawsuit. All too often, their frustrations are taken out on the process server standing in front of them, sometimes physically. A number of process servers have suffered serious injuries at the hands of those they are serving. This law was promoted to serve as a deterrent to that level of aggression toward the process server.

Unfortunately, most attorneys and others in the legal community are unaware of NYSPPSA and its many functions and substantial contributions. As process servers are such an important part of the due diligence process, and knowledgeable and proficient process servers are essential to the expeditious and proper progress of litigation, it made sense to take steps to include attorneys and paralegals in our organization. With that in mind, NYSPPSA now offers a tier of membership for individuals who are not process servers, but who work directly with the process serving industry. It is called Supporting Membership. Supporting Members receive all NYSPPSA newsletters and notifications. The membership is inexpensive, and insures that the Supporting Member will be advised of changes in legislative requirements and service requirements as they pertain to process serving but which may ultimately affect attorneys and their staff. The Supporting Member will also have a line of communication within NYSPPSA through which to voice their concerns or make suggestions as to how our members could better meet the needs of legal professionals. We would welcome the input.

We urge you to visit our website, NYSPPSA.org to learn more about us and possibly consider Supporting Membership. We are certain it would prove to be an asset to your firm. Should you be interested in becoming a Supporting Member, you can sign up via the website or contact Membership Chairperson Kim Letus by email at Kletus@rondoutlegal.com or by telephone at 888-331-6029, or our Administrator, Brenda Geedy, at brenda.nysppsa@gmail.com.

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