

April 2011 ILAPPS NEWS



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TIME TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP

ILAPPS is officially a year old as an Association. Our first dues paying member was **Dan Schroeder** (Metro Detective Agency), who was elected president during the inaugural meeting of the membership last fall. In this short time, our ranks have swelled to 74 members.

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW.

Agency membership: \$150; Individual membership \$75; Associate membership \$50.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Tom Keene (ATG Legalserve Inc.) was elected treasurer last fall. In the past year of operation, ILAPPS collected \$8,125.00 in membership dues. Charter members paid an additional \$500 towards the start up of the Association raising \$2,500. We have a current fund balance of \$4,405.00.

The biggest expenditure of the year (\$10,000) was for the retention of a contract lobbyist *Governmental Affairs Specialists* in Springfield. NAPPS contributed \$7,000 to our legislative committee which allowed us to retain a lobbyist.

Membership dues were also invested in the development of a searchable website for potential clients to locate a process server anywhere in the state. Our goal is to increase our Google and Yahoo search rankings for the website to increase the on-line marketing visibility of our members.

LOBBYIST HIRED

Loretta Durbin and Alice Phillips of Government Affairs Specialists were retained on March 1, 2011, after being approved by the Board in Feb. Their proposal of \$1,000 a month was discounted from their normal rate, recognizing we are a young association. Other proposals we received from other lobbyist were dramatically higher. We are grateful to the contribution of NAPPS that made this possible.

SB2004 Adopted by Senate

Senator **Mike Jacobs** (D-Moline) introduced legislation to make it a felony to assault or batter a process server. The bill passed out of the Senate on April 14 and is now awaiting passage in the House.

SB2069 Amended

Senator **Jacqueline Collins** (D-Chicago) introduced this bill at the request of Cook County Sheriff **Tom Dart**. This bill was in response to an unprofessional attempt at service of process that became the subject of a Chicago Sun-Times columnist Mary Mitchell. A process server knocked on the reporter's door at 5:30 a.m. and then failed to identify himself when she demanded to know his name.

The original bill proposed by Collins would have invalidated service of process if a license was not mailed to the sheriff, as required by the Code of Civil Procedure. The bill also drastically affected private detective agencies in Chicago by limiting service of process by agencies to the agent-in-charge. The bill also created as separate offense of false impersonation of a police officer by a process server.

On March 3, 2011, our lobbyist arranged for **Bill Clutter**, Legislative Committee Chairman, and ILAPPS President **Dan Schroeder** to personally meet with Sen. Collins to voice our concerns about her proposed legislation. She agreed to amend her bill. The bill deleted the language of concern, and the amendment now requires PERC registration cards to also be mailed to the sheriff of any county where process is served. ILAPPS has proposed creating an electronic registration instead, but IDFPR has been reluctant to support this.