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EQUITY NEWS AND VIEWS

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WALKING A MILE IN AN EQUITY SERVER'S SHOES

Under a bridge. At a bus depot. In a bar. On the sidelines of a football game. Under lockdown at a prison. Bedside. Next to a bathtub. These are a few of the unusual situations servers at Equity Management have had to place themselves in in order to get process served. While process serving may sound as simple as walk up to door, ring doorbell, hand over documents, and walk away, the reality is quite different. Only around one third of Equity servers' cases get served at the given address on the first attempt. Incorrect physical addresses, treacherous road conditions, vicious dogs, and people who will go to any length to avoid service may all play a role in impeding a successful service.

In an effort to deliver process, servers face many dangerous situations. Occasionally, an individual being served may become verbally or physically abusive. Our servers have been cursed, pushed, punched, chased, struck with rocks, and threatened with deadly weapons. One has even heard a

round of gunfire as he was driving away. Nearly every Equity server has been the recipient of a dog bite while attempting a service, with small dogs being the main culprits. Aside from the abuse, servers report having to give bad news to people who may already be struggling as one of the main drawbacks of their job. The emotionally distraught also provide a particular challenge. While leaving a defendant angry or in tears sometimes comes with the territory, every Equity server intends to leave a defendant with his or her dignity intact.



So what drives Equity servers to come to work each day? They cite the flexible hours, not being tied to a desk, being able to work outdoors, being able to work independently, and the camaraderie they have with their coworkers as the motivating factors. Some also experience satisfaction from tracking down and serving a difficult defendant. Although positive responses are few and far between from individuals being served, there are a few notable exceptions. At times the respondents in divorce cases are overjoyed to receive their paperwork. Also, a thank you for a server's discretion and compassion may occur. The main thing that keeps us all going at Equity, though, is customer satisfaction. We enjoy making the professional lives of our clients run smoothly. In short, it is our pleasure to serve for you.

Please contact our main office at 406-721-3337 to find out what our servers can do for your business.

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LET US SERVE FOR YOU!

We're on the web at
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FEBRUARY, A MONTH FOR HEARTS

While some think of February as the month for hearts of the chocolate or conversation variety, the American Heart Association reminds us this month that the most important hearts are located inside of our own ribcages. Since 1963, Congress has required the President to proclaim February “American Heart Month” in an effort to bring our attention to our nation’s #1 killer: cardiovascular diseases. Through education, screening, and preventative measures, Americans can strike back against this deadly disease.

Education. Warning signs of a heart attack include, but are not limited to, chest discomfort, upper body discomfort, shortness of breath, lightheadedness, and nausea. Warning signs of a stroke include sudden weakness of the face, arm, or leg (especially on one side of the body), sudden confusion, problems with vision, difficulty speaking, understanding, or walking, and a sudden, severe headache. While knowing the signs is a start, proper follow through is crucial. Activate emergency services immediately by calling 9-1-1. Fast action is key to saving a life.

Screening. Schedule and keep your annual doctor exams. Request a blood test for your cholesterol levels. Make a point of visiting with your doctor about your risk factors for cardiovascular disease. If you are getting older (who isn’t), if you have had a direct family member who has had a heart attack or a stroke, if your cholesterol levels or blood pressure are elevated, if you are diabetic, if you smoke, if you are overweight, and if you are inactive, you should initiate this very important conversation. Stress levels, alcohol consumption, and diet and nutrition all factor in to the equation, so mention these details as well.

Prevention. Look objectively at your lifestyle choices. If there is room to improve your nutritional intake, your exercise output, and the amount of stress you endure, then take action to change your situation. Use the month of February as your starting point for creating the best kind of heart – a healthy one.

