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EQUITY NEWS AND VIEWS

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SEASONS AND SERVING

The changing of seasons is both boon and curse to a process server. One would think that summer, with the extra daylight, the chance that a defendant may actually be outside an abode, and the normally excellent road conditions, would be the ideal time of year for a process server. Not necessarily so. Each of the four seasons present benefits and unique challenges to a process server.

The main asset of summertime serving is the extended daylight hours. House numbers and street signs are visible, people might be out in their yards, and it is not unusual for someone to be knocking at your door after 9:00 pm. On the other hand, atmospheric conditions can be brutal in the heat of the day. Servers need to keep their cool and stay hydrated with long days spent on the road. In regard to roads, summer is a prime time for road construction projects, which can impede a server's progress when driving around town or between towns. Summer vacations and the

recreational opportunities in the state make it difficult to even verify a defendant's address. Only two of the Equity servers polled selected summer as their favorite season for serving. The reasons given were mainly a result of enjoying the season in general, but also the feeling of accomplishment from serving in a season where it is hard to find folks at home.

Serving process in the winter was selected by a number of the Equity process servers as their favorite. Despite having to endure some treacherous road conditions, poorly maintained sidewalks and driveways, and cold, dark nights, serving in the winter can be satisfying. First, it is much easier to determine if a defendant could be at home when there are lights on in a house. In addition, a blanket of snow provides a perfect canvas for detecting footprints and tire tracks to and from a front door. Of course, there are a variety of winter sports and indoor sporting leagues that drive folks out of their homes, but in general,

people are more likely to be in their homes in the wintertime. Winter did bring about groans from some Equity servers who were not fans of the cold or walking and driving on the ice.

That leaves spring and the upcoming season: fall. These are arguably some of the best times to serve, when the weather is temperate and the potential of completing a service is probable. It is still light into the evening, and schedules become predictable. College and elementary schools are in session and organized sports are in season, which can narrow down the whereabouts of a recipient of legal process. Temperatures are usually tolerable, roadways passable, and defendants are more likely to be available for service. The bottom line is, no matter what the season, Equity servers are up for a challenge.

To arrange service of your legal documents, call 406-721-3337.

PO Box 4906, Missoula, MT 59806
1534 S AVE W, Missoula, MT 59801
406-721-3337 OR 888-721-3337
FAX: 406-721-0372

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EQUITY@EQUITYPROCESS.COM

HAPPY LABOR DAY!

It all started with a demonstration and picnic in New York city, organized by members of a labor union, on September 5, 1882. Gradually, this concept of a day of celebration for American workers spread to other cities. Soon state legislatures were giving official status to the Labor Day holiday. It wasn't until June 28, 1894, that Congress passed an act to make the first Monday in September a legal holiday.

Labor Day was initially proposed as a street parade and a festival for the recreation and amusement of workers and their families. This pattern has been modified through the years to become less of an organized celebration and more of an informal opportunity to enjoy one's free time and to relish the dregs of summer with family and friends.



However you plan on spending your Labor Day weekend, the crew at Equity hope that it is a safe and joyous occasion.