

CHAPTER 2016-207

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1432

An act relating to service of process; amending s. 48.031, F.S.; expanding the locations at which substitute service of process may be made when such location is the only discoverable address for the person to be served; defining the terms “virtual office” and “executive office or mini suite”; amending s. 48.193, F.S.; providing that orders issued by agencies of other states are not enforceable under certain circumstances; amending s. 48.081, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 48.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

48.031 Service of process generally; service of witness subpoenas.—

(6)(a) If the only address for a person to be served, which is discoverable through public records, is a private mailbox, a virtual office, or an executive office or mini suite, substitute service may be made by leaving a copy of the process with the person in charge of the private mailbox, virtual office, or executive office or mini suite, but only if the process server determines that the person to be served maintains a mailbox, a virtual office, or an executive office or mini suite at that location.

(b) For purposes of this subsection, the term “virtual office” means an office that provides communications services, such as telephone or facsimile services, and address services without providing dedicated office space, and where all communications are routed through a common receptionist. The term “executive office or mini suite” means an office that provides communications services, such as telephone and facsimile services, a dedicated office space, and other supportive services, and where all communications are routed through a common receptionist.

Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 48.193, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

48.193 Acts subjecting person to jurisdiction of courts of state.—

(1)

(b) Notwithstanding any ~~other~~ provision of this subsection, an order issued, or a penalty or fine imposed, by an agency of another any other state is shall not be enforceable against any person or entity incorporated or having its principal place of business in this state if the where such other

state does not provide a mandatory right of review of the ~~such~~ agency decision in a state court of competent jurisdiction.

Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 48.081, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

48.081 Service on corporation.—

(3)

(b) If the address for the registered agent, officer, director, or principal place of business is a residence, ~~a or private mailbox, a virtual office, or an executive office or mini suite,~~ service on the corporation may be made by serving the registered agent, officer, or director in accordance with s. 48.031.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

Approved by the Governor April 8, 2016.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 8, 2016.