

ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 3155

By: Toure and Braddock of
the House

and

Henry of the Senate

An Act relating to procedures in civil cases;
amending 12 O.S. 1991, Sections 942, as amended by
Section 4, Chapter 403, O.S.L. 1997, 951, 2004, as
amended by Section 4, Chapter 339, O.S.L. 1996, and
2004.1, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 61,
O.S.L. 1996 (12 O.S. Supp. 1997, Sections 942, 2004
and 2004.1), which relate to procedures in civil
cases; modifying amount allowable as expenses in
civil cases; modifying procedures for perfection of
appeals in certain cases; requiring dismissal of
civil actions under certain circumstances related
to service of process; providing for service of
subpoena in certain proceedings; prescribing
procedures with respect to response to subpoena;
modifying procedures with respect to request for
production of documents pursuant to subpoena;
prescribing procedures for objections; amending 59
O.S. 1991, Section 513, as amended by Section 36,
Chapter 323, O.S.L. 1994 (59 O.S. Supp. 1997,
Section 513), which relates to certain proceedings
for license revocation; prescribing period within
which appeal to be perfected; amending 85 O.S.

1991, Section 42, as amended by Section 32, Chapter 1, 2nd Extraordinary Session of the 44th Oklahoma Legislature (85 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 42), which relates to filing of certain orders; deleting requirement for filing with county clerk; deleting requirement with respect to entry on judgment docket; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 12 O.S. 1991, Section 942, as amended by Section 4, Chapter 403, O.S.L. 1997 (12 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 942), is amended to read as follows:

Section 942. A judge of any court of this state may award the following as costs:

1. Any fees assessed by the court clerk or the clerk of the appellate court;
2. Reasonable expenses for the giving of notice, including expenses for service of summons and other judicial process and expenses for publication;
3. Statutory witness fees and reasonable expenses for service of subpoenas;
4. Costs of copying papers necessarily used at trial, limited to the amount authorized by law. If no amount is specified, costs of copying papers shall be limited to ten cents (\$0.10) per page;
5. Transcripts of the trial or another proceeding that the court determines are necessary to resolve the case;
6. Reasonable expenses for taking and transcribing deposition testimony, but not to exceed Four Dollars (\$4.00) per page, for furnishing copies to the witness and opposing counsel, and for recording deposition testimony on videotape, but not to exceed One

Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per two-hour videotape, unless the court determines that a particular deposition was neither reasonable nor necessary; and

7. Any other expenses authorized by law to be collected as costs.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 12 O.S. 1991, Section 951, is amended to read as follows:

Section 951. (a) A judgment rendered, or final order made, by any tribunal, board or officer exercising judicial functions, and inferior in jurisdiction to the district court, may be reversed, vacated or modified by the district court except where an appeal to some other court is provided by law.

(b) Proceedings for review of a judgment or final order shall be commenced by filing a petition in the district court of the county where the inferior tribunal, board or officer rendered the order within thirty (30) days of the date that a copy of the judgment or final order is mailed to the appellant, as shown by the certificate of mailing attached to the judgment or final order.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 12 O.S. 1991, Section 2004, as amended by Section 4, Chapter 339, O.S.L. 1996 (12 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 2004), is amended to read as follows:

Section 2004.

PROCESS

A. SUMMONS: ISSUANCE. Upon filing of the petition, the clerk shall forthwith issue a summons. Upon request of the plaintiff separate or additional summons shall issue against any defendants.

B. SUMMONS: FORM. 1. The summons shall be signed by the clerk, be under the seal of the court, contain the name of the court and the names of the parties, be directed to the defendant, state the name and address of the plaintiff's attorney, if any, otherwise, the plaintiff's address, and the time within which these rules require the defendant to appear and defend, and shall notify the

defendant that in case of failure to appear, judgment by default will be rendered against the defendant for the relief demanded in the petition.

2. A judgment by default shall not be different in kind from or exceed in amount that prayed for in either the demand for judgment or in cases not sounding in contract in a notice which has been given the party against whom default judgment is sought. Except as to a party against whom a judgment is entered by default, every final judgment shall grant the relief to which the party in whose favor it is rendered is entitled, even if the party has not demanded such relief in his pleadings.

C. BY WHOM SERVED: PERSON TO BE SERVED.

1. SERVICE BY PERSONAL DELIVERY. a. At the election of the plaintiff, process, other than a subpoena, shall be served by a sheriff or deputy sheriff, a person licensed to make service of process in civil cases, or a person specially appointed for that purpose. The court shall freely make special appointments to serve all process, other than a subpoena, under this paragraph.

b. A summons to be served by the sheriff or deputy sheriff shall be delivered to the sheriff by the court clerk or an attorney of record for the plaintiff. When a summons, subpoena, or other process is to be served by the sheriff or deputy sheriff of another county, the court clerk shall mail it, together with his voucher for the fees collected for the service, to the sheriff of that county. The sheriff shall deposit the voucher in the Sheriff's Service Fee Account created pursuant to Section 514.1 of Title 19 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The sheriff or deputy sheriff shall serve the process in the manner that other process issued out of the court of the sheriff's own county is served. A summons to be served by a person

licensed to make service of process in civil cases or by a person specially appointed for that purpose shall be delivered by an attorney of record for the plaintiff to such person.

c. Service shall be made as follows:

- (1) Upon an individual other than an infant who is less than fifteen (15) years of age or an incompetent person, by delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition personally or by leaving copies thereof at the person's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person then residing therein who is fifteen (15) years of age or older or by delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition to an agent authorized by appointment or by law to receive service of process;
- (2) Upon an infant who is less than fifteen (15) years of age, by serving the summons and petition personally and upon either of the infant's parents or guardian, or if they cannot be found, then upon the person having the care or control of the infant or with whom the infant lives; and upon an incompetent person by serving the summons and petition personally and upon the incompetent person's guardian;
- (3) Upon a domestic or foreign corporation or upon a partnership or other unincorporated association which is subject to suit under a common name, by delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition to an officer, a managing or general agent, or to any other agent authorized by appointment or by law to receive service of

process and, if the agent is one authorized by statute to receive service and the statute so requires, by also mailing a copy to the defendant;

- (4) Upon the United States or an officer or agency thereof in the manner specified by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4;
- (5) Upon a state, county, school district, public trust or municipal corporation or other governmental organization thereof subject to suit, by delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition to the officer or individual designated by specific statute; however, if there is no statute, then upon the chief executive officer or a clerk, secretary, or other official whose duty it is to maintain the official records of the organization; and
- (6) Upon an inmate incarcerated in an institution under the jurisdiction and control of the Department of Corrections, by delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition to the warden or superintendent or the designee of the warden or superintendent of the institution where the inmate is housed. It shall be the duty of the receiving warden or superintendent or a designee to promptly deliver the summons and petition to the inmate named therein. The warden or superintendent or his designee shall reject service of process for any inmate who is not actually present in said institution.

2. SERVICE BY MAIL. a. At the election of the plaintiff, a summons and petition may be served by mail by the plaintiff's

attorney, any person authorized to serve process pursuant to subparagraph a of paragraph 1 of this subsection, or by the court clerk upon a defendant of any class referred to in division (1), (3), or (5) of subparagraph c of paragraph 1 of this subsection. Service by mail shall be effective on the date of receipt or if refused, on the date of refusal of the summons and petition by the defendant.

b. Service by mail shall be accomplished by mailing a copy of the summons and petition by certified mail, return receipt requested and delivery restricted to the addressee. When there is more than one defendant, the summons and a copy of the petition or order shall be mailed in a separate envelope to each defendant. If the summons is to be served by mail by the court clerk, the court clerk shall enclose the summons and a copy of the petition or order of the court to be served in an envelope, prepared by the plaintiff, addressed to the defendant, or to the resident service agent if one has been appointed. The court clerk shall prepay the postage and mail the envelope to the defendant, or service agent, by certified mail, return receipt requested and delivery restricted to the addressee. The return receipt shall be prepared by the plaintiff. Service by mail to a garnishee shall be accomplished by mailing a copy of the summons and notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, and at the election of the judgment creditor by restricted delivery, to the addressee.

c. Service by mail shall not be the basis for the entry of a default or a judgment by default unless the record contains a return receipt showing acceptance by the defendant or a returned envelope showing refusal

of the process by the defendant. Acceptance or refusal of service by mail by a person who is fifteen (15) years of age or older who resides at the defendant's dwelling house or usual place of abode shall constitute acceptance or refusal by the party addressed. In the case of an entity described in division (3) of subparagraph c of paragraph 1 of this subsection, acceptance or refusal by any officer or by any employee of the registered office or principal place of business who is authorized to or who regularly receives certified mail shall constitute acceptance or refusal by the party addressed. A return receipt signed at such registered office or principal place of business shall be presumed to have been signed by an employee authorized to receive certified mail. In the case of a state municipal corporation, or other governmental organization thereof subject to suit, acceptance or refusal by an employee of the office of the officials specified in division (5) of subparagraph c of paragraph 1 of this subsection who is authorized to or who regularly receives certified mail shall constitute acceptance or refusal by the party addressed. If delivery of the process is refused, upon the receipt of notice of such refusal and at least ten (10) days before applying for entry of default, the person elected by plaintiff pursuant to subparagraph a of this paragraph to serve the process shall mail to the defendant by first-class mail a copy of the summons and petition and a notice prepared by the plaintiff that despite such refusal the case will proceed and that judgment by default will be rendered against him unless he appears to

defend the suit. Any such default or judgment by default shall be set aside upon motion of the defendant if the defendant demonstrates to the court that the return receipt was signed or delivery was refused by an unauthorized person. Such motion shall be filed within one (1) year after the defendant has notice of the default or judgment by default but in no event more than two (2) years after the judgment.

3. SERVICE BY PUBLICATION. a. Service of summons upon a named defendant may be made by publication when it is stated in the petition, verified by the plaintiff or his attorney, or in a separate affidavit by the plaintiff or his attorney filed with the court, that with due diligence service cannot be made upon the defendant by any other method.

b. Service of summons upon the unknown successors of a named defendant, a named decedent, or a dissolved partnership, corporation, or other association may be made by publication when it is stated in a petition, verified by the plaintiff or the plaintiff's attorney, or in a separate affidavit by the plaintiff or the plaintiff's attorney filed with the court, that the person who verified the petition or the affiant does not know and with due diligence cannot ascertain the following:

- (1) whether a person named as defendant is living or dead, and, if dead, the names or whereabouts of his successors, if any,
- (2) the names or whereabouts of the unknown successors, if any, of a named decedent,
- (3) whether a partnership, corporation, or other association named as a defendant continues to

have legal existence or not; or the names or whereabouts of its officers or successors,

(4) whether any person designated in a record as a trustee continues to be the trustee; or the names or whereabouts of the successors of the trustee, or

(5) the names or whereabouts of the owners or holders of special assessment or improvement bonds, or any other bonds, sewer warrants or tax bills.

c. Service pursuant to this paragraph shall be made by publication of a notice, signed by the court clerk, one (1) day a week for three (3) consecutive weeks in a newspaper authorized by law to publish legal notices which is published in the county where the petition is filed. If no newspaper authorized by law to publish legal notices is published in such county, the notice shall be published in some such newspaper of general circulation which is published in an adjoining county. All named parties and their unknown successors who may be served by publication may be included in one notice. The notice shall state the court in which the petition is filed and the names of the plaintiff and the parties served by publication, and shall designate the parties whose unknown successors are being served. The notice shall also state that the named defendants and their unknown successors have been sued and must answer the petition on or before a time to be stated (which shall not be less than forty-one (41) days from the date of the first publication), or judgment, the nature of which shall be stated, will be rendered accordingly. If jurisdiction of the court is based on property, any real property subject to the

jurisdiction of the court and any property or debts to be attached or garnished must be described in the notice.

- (1) When the recovery of money is sought, it is not necessary for the publication notice to state the separate items involved, but the total amount that is claimed must be stated. When interest is claimed, it is not necessary to state the rate of interest, the date from which interest is claimed, or that interest is claimed until the obligation is paid.
- (2) It is not necessary for the publication notice to state that the judgment will include recovery of costs in order for a judgment following the publication notice to include costs of suit.
- (3) In an action to quiet title to real property, it is not necessary for the publication notice to state the nature of the claim or interest of either party, and in describing the nature of the judgment that will be rendered should the defendant fail to answer, it is sufficient to state that a decree quieting plaintiff's title to the described property will be entered. It is not necessary to state that a decree forever barring the defendant from asserting any interest in or to the property is sought or will be entered if the defendant does not answer.
- (4) In an action to foreclose a mortgage, it is sufficient that the publication notice state that if the defendant does not answer, the defendant's interest in the property will be foreclosed. It is not necessary to state that a judgment forever

barring the defendant from all right, title, interest, estate, property and equity of redemption in or to said property or any part thereof is requested or will be entered if the defendant does not answer.

- d. Service by publication is complete when made in the manner and for the time prescribed in subparagraph c of this paragraph. Service by publication shall be proved by the affidavit of any person having knowledge of the publication. No default judgment may be entered on such service until proof of service by publication is filed with and approved by the court.
- e. Before entry of a default judgment or order against a party who has been served solely by publication under this paragraph, the court shall conduct an inquiry to determine whether the plaintiff, or someone acting in his behalf, made a distinct and meaningful search of all reasonably available sources to ascertain the whereabouts of any named parties who have been served solely by publication under this paragraph. Before entry of a default judgment or order against the unknown successors of a named defendant, a named decedent, or a dissolved partnership, corporation or association, the court shall conduct an inquiry to ascertain whether the requirements described in subparagraph b of this paragraph have been satisfied.
- f. A party against whom a default judgment or order has been rendered, without other service than by publication in a newspaper, may, at any time within three (3) years after the date of the judgment or order, have the judgment or order opened and be let in to defend. Before the judgment or order is opened,

the applicant shall notify the adverse party of the intention to make an application and shall file a full answer to the petition, pay all costs if the court requires them to be paid, and satisfy the court by affidavit or other evidence that during the pendency of the action the applicant had no actual notice thereof in time to appear in court and make a defense. The title to any property which is the subject of and which passes to a purchaser in good faith by or in consequence of the judgment or order to be opened shall not be affected by any proceedings under this subparagraph. Nor shall proceedings under this subparagraph affect the title of any property sold before judgment under an attachment. The adverse party, on the hearing of an application to open a judgment or order as provided by this subparagraph, shall be allowed to present evidence to show that during the pendency of the action the applicant had notice thereof in time to appear in court and make his defense.

- g. The term "successors" includes all heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, trustees, and assigns, immediate and remote, of a named individual, partnership, corporation, or association.
- h. Service outside of the state does not give the court in personam jurisdiction over a defendant who is not subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state or who has not, either in person or through an agent, submitted himself to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state.

4. SERVICE ON THE SECRETARY OF STATE. a. Service of process on a domestic or foreign corporation may be made by serving the Secretary of State as the corporation's agent, if:

(1) there is no registered agent for the corporation listed in the records of the Secretary of State; or

(2) neither the registered agent nor an officer of the corporation could be found at the registered office of the corporation, when service of process was attempted.

b. Before resorting to service on the Secretary of State the plaintiff must have attempted service either in person or by mail on the corporation at:

(1) the corporation's last-known address shown on the records of the Franchise Tax Division of the Oklahoma Tax Commission, if any is listed there; and

(2) the corporation's last-known address shown on the records of the Secretary of State, if any is listed there; and

(3) the corporation's last address known to the plaintiff.

If any of these addresses are the same, the plaintiff is not required to attempt service more than once at any address. The plaintiff shall furnish the Secretary of State with a certified copy of the return or returns showing the attempted service.

c. Service on the Secretary of State shall be made by filing two (2) copies of the summons and petition with the Secretary of State, notifying the Secretary of State that service is being made pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph, and paying the Secretary

of State the fee prescribed in paragraph 7 of Section 1142 of Title 18 of the Oklahoma Statutes, which fee shall be taxed as part of the costs of the action, suit or proceeding if the plaintiff shall prevail therein. If a registered agent for the corporation is listed in the records of the Secretary of State, the plaintiff must also furnish a certified copy of the return showing that service on the registered agent has been attempted either in person or by mail, and that neither the registered agent nor an officer of the corporation could be found at the registered office of the corporation.

- d. Within three (3) working days after receiving the summons and petition, the Secretary of State shall send notice by letter, certified mail, return receipt requested, directed to the corporation at its registered office or the last-known address found in the office of the Secretary of State, or if no address is found there, to the corporation's last-known address provided by the plaintiff. The notice shall enclose a copy of the summons and petition and any other papers served upon the Secretary of State. The corporation shall not be required to serve its answer until forty (40) days after service of the summons and petition on the Secretary of State.
- e. Before entry of a default judgment or order against a corporation that has been served by serving the Secretary of State as its agent under this paragraph, the court shall determine whether the requirements of this paragraph have been satisfied. A default judgment or order against a corporation that has been served only by service on the Secretary of State may

be set aside upon motion of the corporation, if the corporation demonstrates to the court that it had no actual notice of the action in time to appear and make its defense. The motion shall be filed within one (1) year after the corporation has notice of the default judgment or order but in no event more than two (2) years after the default judgment or order.

- f. The Secretary of State shall maintain an alphabetical record of such service setting forth the name of the plaintiff and defendant, the title, docket number and nature of the proceeding in which the process has been served upon him, the fact that service has been effected pursuant to the provisions of this paragraph, the return date thereof, and the date when the service was made. The Secretary of State shall not be required to retain such information for a period longer than five (5) years from his receipt of the service of process.
- g. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to a foreign insurance company doing business in this state.

5. SERVICE BY ACKNOWLEDGMENT. An acknowledgment on the back of the summons or the voluntary appearance of a defendant is equivalent to service.

6. SERVICE BY OTHER METHODS. If service cannot be made by personal delivery or by mail, a defendant of any class referred to in division (1) or (3) of subparagraph c of paragraph 1 of this subsection may be served as provided by court order in any manner which is reasonably calculated to give the defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.

D. SUMMONS AND PETITION. The summons and petition shall be served together. The plaintiff shall furnish the person making

service with such copies as are necessary. The failure to serve a copy of the petition with the summons is not a ground for dismissal for insufficiency of service of process, but on motion of the party served, the court may extend the time to answer or otherwise plead. If a summons and petition are served by personal delivery, the person serving the summons shall state on the copy that is left with the person served the date that service is made. This provision is not jurisdictional, but if the failure to comply with it prejudices the party served, the court, on motion of the party served, may extend the time to answer or otherwise plead.

E. SUMMONS: TERRITORIAL LIMITS OF EFFECTIVE SERVICE.

1. Service of the summons and petition may be made anywhere within this state in the manner provided by subsection C of this section.

2. When the exercise of jurisdiction is authorized by subsection F of this section, service of the summons and petition may be made outside this state:

- a. by personal delivery in the manner prescribed for service within this state,
- b. in the manner prescribed by the law of the place in which the service is made for service in that place in an action in any of its courts of general jurisdiction,
- c. in the manner prescribed by paragraph 2 of subsection C of this section,
- d. as directed by the foreign authority in response to a letter rogatory,
- e. in the manner prescribed by paragraph 3 of subsection C of this section only when permitted by subparagraphs a and b of paragraph 3 of subsection C of this section, or
- f. as directed by the court.

3. Proof of service outside this state may be made in the manner prescribed by subsection G of this section, the order pursuant to which the service is made, or the law of the place in which the service is made for proof of service in an action in any of its courts of general jurisdiction.

4. Service outside this state may be made by an individual permitted to make service of process under the law of this state or under the law of the place in which the service is made or who is designated to make service by a court of this state.

5. When subsection C of this section requires that in order to effect service one or more designated individuals be served, service outside this state under this section must be made upon the designated individual or individuals.

6. a. A court of this state may order service upon any person who is domiciled or can be found within this state of any document issued in connection with a proceeding in a tribunal outside this state. The order may be made upon application of any interested person or in response to a letter rogatory issued by a tribunal outside this state and shall direct the manner of service.

b. Service in connection with a proceeding in a tribunal outside this state may be made within this state without an order of court.

c. Service under this paragraph does not, of itself, require the recognition or enforcement of an order, judgment, or decree rendered outside this state.

F. ASSERTION OF JURISDICTION. A court of this state may exercise jurisdiction on any basis consistent with the Constitution of this state and the Constitution of the United States.

G. RETURN. 1. The person serving the process shall make proof of service thereof to the court promptly and in any event within the

time during which the person served must respond to the process, but the failure to make proof of service does not affect the validity of the service.

2. When process has been served by a sheriff or deputy sheriff and return thereof is filed in the office of the court clerk, a copy of the return shall be sent by the court clerk to the plaintiff's attorney within three (3) days after the return is filed. If service is made by a person other than a sheriff, deputy sheriff, or licensed process server, such person shall make affidavit thereof. The return shall set forth the name of the person served and the date, place, and method of service.

3. If service was by mail, the person mailing the summons and petition shall endorse on the copy of the summons or order of the court that is filed in the action the date and place of mailing and the date when service was receipted or service was rejected, and he shall attach to the copy of the summons or order a copy of the return receipt or returned envelope, if and when received by him, showing whether the mailing was accepted, refused, or otherwise returned. If the mailing was refused, the return shall also show the date and place of any subsequent mailing pursuant to paragraph 2 of subsection C of this section. When the summons and petition are mailed by the court clerk, the court clerk shall notify the plaintiff's attorney within three (3) days after receipt of the returned card or envelope showing that the card or envelope has been received.

H. AMENDMENT. At any time in its discretion and upon such terms as it deems just, the court may allow any process or proof of service thereof to be amended, unless it clearly appears that material prejudice would result to the substantial rights of the party against whom the process issued.

I. SUMMONS: TIME LIMIT FOR SERVICE. If service of process is not made upon a defendant within one hundred eighty (180) days after

the filing of the petition and the plaintiff cannot show good cause why such service was not made within that period, the action ~~may~~ shall be dismissed as to that defendant without prejudice upon the court's own initiative with notice to the plaintiff or upon motion. The action shall not be dismissed where a summons was served on the defendant within one hundred eighty (180) days after the filing of the petition and a court later holds that the summons or its service was invalid. After a court quashes a summons or its service, a new summons may be served on the defendant within a time specified by the judge. If the new summons is not served within the specified time, the action shall be deemed to have been dismissed without prejudice as to that defendant. This subsection shall not apply with respect to a defendant who has been outside of this state for one hundred eighty (180) days following the filing of the petition.

SECTION 4. AMENDATORY 12 O.S. 1991, Section 2004.1, as last amended by Section 2, Chapter 61, O.S.L. 1996 (12 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 2004.1), is amended to read as follows:

Section 2004.1

SUBPOENA

A. SUBPOENA; FORM; ISSUANCE.

1. Every subpoena shall:

- a. state the name of the court from which it is issued and the title of the action; and
- b. command each person to whom it is directed to attend and give testimony or to produce and permit inspection and copying of designated books, documents or tangible things in the possession, custody or control of that person, or to permit inspection of premises, at a time and place therein specified. A subpoena shall issue from the court where the action is pending, and it may be served at any place within the state. If the action is pending outside of Oklahoma, the district

court for the county in which the deposition is to be taken shall issue the subpoena. Proof of service of a notice to take deposition constitutes a sufficient authorization for the issuance by the clerk of subpoenas for the persons named or described therein.

2. A witness shall be obligated upon service of a subpoena to attend a trial or hearing at any place within the state and to attend a deposition or produce or allow inspection of documents at a location that is authorized by subsection B of Section 3230 of this title.

3. The clerk shall issue a subpoena, or a subpoena for the production of documentary evidence, signed and sealed but otherwise in blank, to a party requesting it, who shall fill it in before service. As an officer of the court, an attorney authorized to practice law in Oklahoma may also issue and sign a subpoena on behalf of an Oklahoma state court.

B. 1. SERVICE. Service of a subpoena upon a person named therein shall be made by delivering or mailing a copy thereof to such person and, if the person's attendance is demanded, by tendering to him the fees for one (1) day's attendance and the mileage allowed by law. Service of a subpoena may be accomplished by any person who is eighteen (18) years of age or older. ~~Prior notice of any command~~ A copy of any subpoena that commands production of documents and things or inspection of premises before trial shall be served on each party in the manner prescribed by subsection B of Section 2005 of this title. If the subpoena commands production of documents and things or inspection of premises from a nonparty before trial but does not require attendance of a witness, the subpoena shall specify a date for the production or inspection that is at least seven (7) days after the date that the subpoena and copies of the subpoena are served on the witness and all parties, and the subpoena shall include the

following language: "In order to allow objections to the production of documents and things to be filed, you should not produce them until the date specified in this subpoena, and if an objection is filed, until the court rules on the objection."

2. Service of a subpoena by mail may be accomplished by mailing a copy thereof by certified mail with return receipt requested and delivery restricted to the person named in the subpoena. The person serving the subpoena shall make proof of service thereof to the court promptly and, in any event, before the witness is required to testify at the hearing or trial. If service is made by a person other than a sheriff or deputy sheriff, such person shall make affidavit thereof. If service is by mail, the person serving the subpoena shall show in his proof of service the date and place of mailing and attach a copy of the return receipt showing that the mailing was accepted. Failure to make proof of service does not affect the validity of the service, but service of a subpoena by mail shall not be effective if the mailing was not accepted by the person named in the subpoena. Costs of service shall be allowed whether service is made by the sheriff, his deputy, or any other person. When the subpoena is issued on behalf of a state department, board, commission, or legislative committee, fees and mileage shall be paid to the witness at the conclusion of the testimony out of funds appropriated to the state department, board, commission, or legislative committee.

C. PROTECTION OF PERSONS SUBJECT TO SUBPOENAS.

1. A party or an attorney responsible for the issuance and service of a subpoena shall take reasonable steps to avoid imposing undue burden or expense on a person subject to that subpoena. The court on behalf of which the subpoena was issued shall enforce this duty and impose upon the party or attorney, or both, in breach of this duty an appropriate sanction, which may include, but is not limited to, lost earnings and a reasonable attorney's fee.

2. a. A person commanded to produce and permit inspection and copying of designated books, papers, documents or tangible things, or inspection of premises need not appear in person at the place of production or inspection unless commanded to appear for deposition, hearing or trial.
 - b. Subject to paragraph 2 of subsection D of this section, a person commanded to produce and permit inspection and copying or any party may, within fourteen (14) days after service of the subpoena or before the time specified for compliance if such time is less than fourteen (14) days after service, ~~serve upon the party or attorney designated in the subpoena~~ written objection to inspection or copying of any or all of the designated materials or of the premises. If the objection is made by the witness, the witness shall serve the objection on all parties; if objection is made by a party, the party shall serve the objection on the witness and all other parties. If objection is made, the party serving the subpoena shall not be entitled to inspect and copy the materials or inspect the premises except pursuant to an order of the court by which the subpoena was issued. If objection has been made, the party serving the subpoena may, upon notice to the person commanded to produce, move at any time for an order to compel the production. Such an order to compel production shall protect any person who is not a party or an officer of a party from significant expense resulting from the inspection and copying commanded.
3. a. On timely motion, the court by which a subpoena was issued shall quash or modify the subpoena if it:

- (1) fails to allow reasonable time for compliance; or
- (2) requires a person to travel to a place beyond the limits allowed under paragraph 2 of subsection A of this section; or
- (3) requires disclosure of privileged or other protected matter and no exception or waiver applies; or
- (4) subjects a person to undue burden; or
- (5) requires production of books, papers, documents or tangible things that fall outside the scope of discovery permitted by Section 3226 of this title.

b. If a subpoena:

- (1) requires disclosure of a trade secret or other confidential research, development, or commercial information; or
- (2) requires disclosure of an unretained expert's opinion or information not describing specific events or occurrences in dispute and resulting from the expert's study made not at the request of any party,

the court may, to protect a person subject to or affected by the subpoena, quash or modify the subpoena. However, if the party in whose behalf the subpoena is issued shows a substantial need for the testimony or material that cannot be otherwise met without undue hardship and assures that the person to whom the subpoena is addressed will be reasonably compensated, the court may order appearance or production only upon specified conditions.

D. DUTIES IN RESPONDING TO SUBPOENA.

1. A person responding to a subpoena to produce documents shall produce them as they are kept in the usual course of business or shall organize and label them to correspond with the categories in the demand.

2. When information subject to a subpoena is withheld on a claim that it is privileged or subject to protection as trial preparation materials, the claim shall be made expressly and shall be supported by a description of the nature of the documents, communications, or things not produced that is sufficient to enable the demanding party to contest the claim.

E. CONTEMPT. Failure by any person without adequate excuse to obey a subpoena served upon him may be deemed a contempt of the court from which the subpoena issued.

SECTION 5. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 1991, Section 513, as amended by Section 36, Chapter 323, O.S.L. 1994 (59 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 513), is amended to read as follows:

Section 513. The Board is hereby given quasi-judicial powers while sitting as a Board for the purpose of revoking, suspending or imposing other disciplinary actions upon the license of physicians or surgeons of this state, and appeals from its decisions shall be taken to the Supreme Court of this state within thirty (30) days of the date that a copy of the decision is mailed to the appellant, as shown by the certificate of mailing attached to the decision. The license of any physician or surgeon who has been convicted of any felony in or without the State of Oklahoma and whether in a state or federal court, and which conviction shall have become final, shall be suspended or revoked and canceled by the Board upon the submission thereto of a certified copy of the judgment and sentence of the trial court and the certificate of the clerk of the court that the conviction has become final; Provided, that the revocation of the license of any person convicted of a felony on any other grounds than that of moral turpitude or the violation of the federal

or state narcotic laws, shall be on the merits of the particular case, but the court records in the trial of such case when conviction has been had shall be prima facie evidence of the conviction. The Board shall also revoke and cancel the license of any physician or surgeon who has been charged in a court of record of this or other states of the United States or in the federal court with the commission of a felony and who is a fugitive from justice, upon the submission of a certified copy of the charge together with a certificate from the clerk of the court that after the commitment of the crime the physician or surgeon fled from the jurisdiction of the court and is a fugitive from justice.

To the extent necessary to allow the Board the power to enforce disciplinary actions imposed by the Board, in the exercise of its authority, the Board may punish willful violations of its orders and impose additional penalties as allowed by Section 33 of this act.

SECTION 6. AMENDATORY 85 O.S. 1991, Section 42, as amended by Section 32, Chapter 1, 2nd Extraordinary Session of the 44th Oklahoma Legislature (85 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 42), is amended to read as follows:

Section 42. A. If payment of compensation or an installment payment of compensation due under the terms of an award, except in the case of an appeal of an award or an award from the Special Indemnity Fund, is not made within ten (10) days after the same is due by the employer or insurance carrier liable therefor, the Court may order a certified copy of the award to be filed in the office of the court clerk ~~and the county clerk~~ of any county, which award whether accumulative or lump sum shall ~~be entered on the judgment docket of the district court, and shall~~ have the same force and be subject to the same law as judgments of the district court. Any compensation awarded and all payments thereof directed to be made by order of the Court, except in the case of an appeal of an award or an award of compensation from the Special Indemnity Fund, shall bear

interest at the rate of eighteen percent (18%) per year from the date ordered paid by the Court until the date of satisfaction. Compensation ordered to be paid from the Special Indemnity Fund shall bear interest at the rate of interest applicable to judgments in civil cases pursuant to Section 727 of Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes from the date of the award. Any award from the Special Indemnity Fund prior to the effective date of this act shall bear interest at the rate of interest applicable to judgments in civil cases pursuant to Section 727 of Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes from the effective date of this act. Upon the filing of the certified copy of the Court's award a writ of execution shall issue and process shall be executed and the cost thereof taxed, as in the case of writs of execution, on judgments of courts of record, as provided by Title 12 of the Oklahoma Statutes; provided, however, the provisions of this section relating to execution and process for the enforcement of awards shall be and are cumulative to other provisions now existing or which may hereafter be adopted relating to liens or enforcement of awards or claims for compensation.

B. If any insurance carrier intentionally, knowingly, or willfully violates any of the provisions of the Workers' Compensation Act or any published rules or regulations promulgated thereunder, the Insurance Commissioner, on the request of a Judge of the Court or the Administrator, shall suspend or revoke the license or authority of such insurance carrier to do a compensation business in this state.

SECTION 7. This act shall become effective November 1, 1998.

Passed the House of Representatives the 9th day of March, 1998.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1998.

President of the Senate