April 2019

"Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act."

Proverbs 3:27

# **Greetings from Lane Farley**

Some have suggested that it is impossible for a trial lawyer to not be long-winded. I am about to attempt the impossible. If you, our loyal readers, will promise to show up at our annual FFSS Texas Law Update at the Double Tree Hotel at Campbell Centre on April 26, 2019, then this will be the record for shortest introduction to our firm newsletter. But like every great lawyer, I include one caveat. I make no warranties, neither express nor implied, that our



seminar presentations will be as efficient as this, now five sentence introduction.

Seriously, we hope to see all of you at the seminar. I already know some of the content, and it might actually be some of the most fun you can have whilst learning Texas law ... in more than five sentences.

## The New Era

## Lauren Lopez

Recently, I was watching the celebrity portion of the news and learned that Kylie Jenner (one of the many in the Kardashian clan) is the youngest "self-made" billionaire. She attributes her success to the social media platform, Instagram.

I have another quick story before I get to the point, so bear with me. I was a Plaintiff's attorney prior to joining Fletcher Farley, and was tasked with finding and serving hundreds of Defendants a year. One



particular Defendant was extremely difficult to serve, because he was not registered at any specific address, and he had different variations of his name. I was, however, able to find him on Facebook through his wife's Facebook account, and found pictures he posted showing the neighborhood where he lives. Using the pictures he posted, I was able to narrow down the potential addresses and draft a Motion for Substitute Service in

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Welcome to the latest edition of Fletcher Farley's Newsletter, which we hope you find interesting and helpful.

If you have any comments, questions or would like more information from us, please contact Doug or Joanna.

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We are looking forward to the Texas Law Update 2019 in Dallas on order to serve him. I used the pictures as exhibits to the Motion, which is rather unorthodox. It was granted, and he was served. All because of Facebook.

In this new era of social media, people think that as long as they make their account private or use a weird variation of their name, no one will be able to find anything on them. There are multitudes of ways to find a person's Facebook, Instagram, VSCO, or Twitter accounts, and even more ways to find pictures posted on those accounts.

This can be an underutilized tool when determining liability, or the severity of one's injuries. I once found a post where the person admitted liability on her Facebook account, which I was able to screenshot before she changed her account to private. On another case, I found pictures on Instagram of a Plaintiff who claimed his lifestyle was ruined as a result of an accident, on vacation with family and friends, days before a deposition.

Remember that you are not allowed to pretend to be someone else in order to gain access to someone's private account, but do not underestimate the vast amounts of public information that people put on their social media accounts. And do not forget to tell your insured to never post anything on social media that they would not want everyone else to see, because if it's out there, someone will find it.

Friday, April 26th, 2019 at the DoubleTree near Campbell Centre.

If you came to the seminar last year, please make note this is a different location.

See topics and more info here.

### National Stress Awareness Month



Below are 5 ways to de-stress at work:

- 1) Walking It will not only make you live longer, but also give you more energy throughout the day.
- 2) Healthy snacking -Eating delicious and healthy snacks will have a positive change in you. Your good mood will send positive vibes at your workplace.
- 3) Pictures of loved ones on your desk Remind yourself of the great times and people you have in your life, it will boost your productivity!
- **4) Stretching** Another way to give yourself energy throughout the day.
- 5) Smile Just smile and you will feel the difference!

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