

# LEGAL SUPPORT INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

A Professional Investigative Agency



# Make the smart move with LSIS

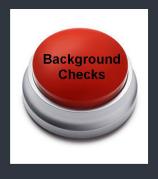
Call today for a free consultation and case review.

562-315-5052 or visit

www.LSISinvestigations.com

"You did a fabulous job for us, and your professionalism will always be greatly appreciated."

Patricia M. Tazarra, Esq. Montedonico, Belcuore & Tazzara, P.C.



There is NO Magic Button!

"We were able to prevail in our client's case, thanks in large part to the investigation and report compiled by The Legal Support Investigative Service. Randall Alexander did a great job uncovering critical details in our case which netted positive results for our client.

Randall is professional, dependable, and detailoriented."

Allison E. Burns, Esq. Stradling, Yocca, Carlson & Rauth

## **Background Investigations**

Background Investigations are an important litigation tool. At any given time, you can find numerous websites that offer background background checks for \$49. The problem is the check is never 100% accurate, complete or extensive. In fact, many of the online companies collect basic internet information, which is frequently incorrect, citing details of a similarly named person. I have found their accuracy and thoroughness around 20-30%.

As an attorney, it's critical to make sure your investigator understands due diligence and exercises it, ensuring the information obtained is accurate and complete. Therefore, it must be realized that the best, legitimate database searches are merely an investigative tool and never to be considered a definitive source. The information must be cross referenced and independently verified, otherwise the P.I. could unnecessarily expose your firm and the client to liability.

Major areas of concern in backgrounds:

- (1) Do I have the right person?
- (2) Is the data accurate?
- (3) What data is not accounted for?

### There is NO Magic Button!

Currently, there is no publicly available database or all inclusive *Magic Button* that provides complete, accurate and conclusive personal data. Information brokers are dependent on the digital information from a multitude of sources provided by each county and each agency. The data available varies with each government agency as some have more restrictive policies and/or laws than others. Some agencies are not even "online" yet.

An example of restrictive laws is found here in California. In some states, you can get driver address information through DMV.

However, DMV address information has not been available in California for years due to stalker John Bardo killing actress Rebecca Schaeffer after he purchased her DMV information from a P.I.

#### Do I have the right person?

Shell Oil Company was engaged in litigation against the federal government. Shell's attorney hired a licensed P.I. to investigate the background of a key government witness. At trial, the Shell attorney accused the government witness of hiding over \$1 million in unreported income located in offshore accounts. It was later revealed that the accounts belonged to a similarly named person. The witness received a 6 figure settlement after he sued Shell Oil for defamation.

#### Is the Information complete?

Most data brokers have a disclaimer that the search results are replete with errors, never to be considered complete and subject to human error. A couple years ago I conducted a criminal database background check through a leading, nationwide information broker. The search revealed 2 convictions in LA County. I went downtown to confirm the 2 cases and found <u>5 additional</u> convictions for the subject...one for attempted murder.

#### How broad is the search?

If John Doe has lived in Orange County all his life, it's reasonable that the search can be limited to California and more specifically, the local adjacent counties. However, if Doe was born in Arkansas, went to college in lowa, served in the Air Force in Florida, then transferred to California where he was later discharged, the search will obviously be much more extensive...and much more expensive.

Call us today for a free case consultation at 888-731-7111 or visit our website at:

www.LSISinvestigations.com