



CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT & COUNTY COURT

Alachua County Courthouse - Family & Civil Justice Center

201 E University Ave • Gainesville, FL 32601

Telephone (352) 374-3636

J.K. "Jess" Irby, Esq. – Clerk

www.alachuaclerk.org

To: Bail Bond Agents Registering in Alachua County
From: J.K. "Jess" Irby, Esq., Clerk of Court
Re: Bail Bond Agent Registration for 2019-2021
Date January 1, 2019

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Florida Statutes require bail bond agents to register with both the Alachua County Sheriff's Office and the Alachua County Clerk's Office before they can issue bonds in Alachua County. §648.42, Fla. Stat. Agents must be registered by **April 1st** of each odd-numbered year.

The Sheriff's and Clerk's Offices are now accepting bail bond agent registrations for the referenced registration period. Registration consists of filing (1) a completed registration form, fillable Word form attached; (2) a certified copy of a power of attorney from each insurer the agent represents; and (3) proof that the agent is currently licensed (copy of license). Agents may provide their completed registration papers for the Clerk's office by email to bailbonds@alachuaclerk.org and for the Sheriff's office by delivery to the Department of the Jail in the main lobby (the bond room). The registration forms are also available online at www.alachuaclerk.org in the Forms page. The Clerk can also accept applications in person at the Criminal Courthouse, 220 N Main Street, Gainesville FL.

The "certification" on the power can be by the insurer. If the agent cannot provide a certification by the insurer, the agent can record the original power of attorney and purchase certified copies from official records for filing with the Clerk's and Sheriff's offices.

Once the Clerk's office verifies that an agent is licensed and the paperwork is complete, the Clerk's office will notify the agent that the registration is accepted. Once an agent is registered with both the Sheriff's office and the Clerk's office, the Sheriff's office will accept bonds written by the agent for the new registration period. Current agents not timely re-registered will not be able to write bonds as of April 1, 2019.

When writing a bond, the Sheriff's office requires each agent to add his or her license number on the bond or print the agent's name below or next to the signature so that the Clerk can identify the agent who wrote the bond. Using a stamp with the agent's name and license number will meet this requirement.

Electronic Notice: Note that chapter 903, Florida Statutes, authorizes electronic notice to bail bond agents for court notices as well as forfeiture notices. All agents registering with the Alachua County Clerk of Court must provide an e-mail address for receiving court and clerk notices. Should no email address be provided for any agent posting a bond, email notice will be sent to the email address on file with the Florida Division of Insurance Agent and Agency Services.