

The Truth About Registered Agents: Do you know fact from fiction?

Registered Agent Facts

A Registered Agent *actually* is:



- ✓ **A trusted person or company** chosen by an incorporated entity to **receive important legal documents** on its behalf, including legal service of process and notifications from the RI Department of State.
- ✓ **Required to have a Rhode Island street address** where they can be found **during regular business hours**, known as the “Registered Office”. P.O. Boxes, shipping/postal company addresses, and virtual addresses are not allowed.
- ✓ **Required for all incorporated entities in Rhode Island.**



Mon - Fri 8:30am - 4:30pm



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RI Business Services

Registered Agent Fiction

“An entity’s Registered Agent is...”



- ✗ Automatically given **ownership rights** and/or **management privileges** within the business or non-profit
- ✗ Automatically **authorized to sign** legal documents and **engage in business** on behalf of an entity
- ✗ Required to file the entity’s **annual report**



TIP!

If your entity’s agent or office address ever changes, you ***must*** properly notify the RI Department of State’s Business Services Division as soon as possible. Contact us to learn more.



DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ Anyone that meets the required criteria may serve as your entity’s agent (yes, even you!)
- ✓ Registered Agents and their addresses are public record in the RI Corporate Database.