

What "version" of information is ultimately produced when requested by counsel?

Getting opposing counsel to produce information is often a daunting process that results in less information than requested and too frequently inaccurate facts and figures. Compound this issue with determining what 'version' is produced and what you have is a major issue.

Consider copies of tax returns produced. TurboTax and similar products make it easy to create 'versions' of the same return for different purposes. I have experienced up to four versions of the same tax return for different uses. One version was a complete return, one was filed with the IRS, a third accompanied a mortgage application, and the fourth accompanied a financial aid application.

This problem exists time and again with financial reports produced using QuickBooks, where data can be easily deleted or changed.

In a recent matrimonial case, I found four versions of the spouse's resume - each with different dates, degrees and information.

It is critical to validate any produced records to ensure you have the correct 'version'. For tax returns, obtain transcripts from the IRS. For QuickBooks, verify the activity with the monthly bank statements. As for resumes, well... be creative in validating the information.

-Stephen Pedneault, CPA, CFE, FCPA
Principal

Submit your question to: fasllc@sbcglobal.net

**forensic
accounting
services LLC**



860.659.6550

2389 Main Street • Glastonbury, CT 06033

www.forensicaccountingservices.com

RESPONSE Legal Search

**We have the right RESPONSE
to your legal needs.**

Providing direct-hire and temporary legal
placement to Law Firms and Corporations.

With Two CT Locations To Serve You

242 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103
ANNA SAVIC, MANAGER
TEL: 860-293-1948
rls@responseco.com

600 Summer Street, 6th Floor
Stamford, CT 06901
ELEANOR KANZLER, ESQ.
TEL: 203-487-6082
stamfordlegal@responseco.com

Visit our website at
www.responseco.com



ATTORNEYS | PARALEGALS | LEGAL ASSISTANTS
LEGAL MANAGEMENT | COMPLIANCE SPECIALISTS
CONTRACT ADMINISTRATORS

and a car was damaged. He said a police officer would actually have to see the flying ice.

The governor's initiative is being shepherded in the legislature by House Minority Leader Lawrence Cafero, R-Norwalk. It states that drivers would have an "affirmative duty" to remove ice and snow from their vehicle. If they don't, and the ice and snow ends up "dislodging" and causing personal injury or property damage, the driver could be arrested and fined anywhere from \$200 to \$1,000.

"My wife experienced this a few years ago driving home," said Cafero. "Flying ice shattered her windshield. Thank God she wasn't physically injured... Since I [first] introduced this seven years ago, I've received so many letters, e-mails, and pictures of people who have suffered a serious injury and property damage because of this."

Still, Cafero agrees with McDonald that any bill enacted this session should give the police leeway to issue tickets instead of making arrests.

Attorney Jerald S. Barber, of Williams & Barber in New Haven, also sees need for fine-tuning. "Only a fine if it causes damage or injury, that's really suspect," said Barber, whose practice specializes in traffic infractions. "You're either in violation or you're not."

If the details are worked out, Barber said he does not think a snow removal law would lend itself to numerous challenges by defense attorneys handling traffic infractions.

"It needs some work, but it's heading in the right direction," Barber said. "I've seen cars and I wonder how [drivers] can see behind and in front of them" because of the