

**490.504 Service on corporation.**

1. A corporation's registered agent is the corporation's agent for service of process, notice, or demand required or permitted by law to be served on the corporation.

2. If a corporation has no registered agent, or the agent cannot with reasonable diligence be served, the corporation may be served by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the secretary at the corporation's principal office. Service is perfected under [this subsection](#) at the earliest of the following:

a. The date the corporation receives the mail.

b. The date shown on the return receipt, if signed on behalf of the corporation.

c. Five days after its deposit in the United States mail, as evidenced by the postmark, if mailed postpaid and correctly addressed.

3. a. The secretary of state shall be an agent of the corporation upon whom process, notice, or demand may be served, if any of the following applies:

(1) The process, notice, or demand cannot be served on a corporation pursuant to [subsection 1 or 2](#).

(2) The process, notice, or demand is to be served on a registered foreign corporation that has withdrawn its registration pursuant to [section 490.1507](#) or [490.1509](#), or the registration of which has been terminated pursuant to [section 490.1511](#).

b. Service of any process, notice, or demand on the secretary of state as agent for a corporation may be made by delivering to the secretary of state duplicate copies of the process, notice, or demand. If process, notice, or demand is served on the secretary of state, the secretary of state shall forward one of the copies by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the corporation at the last address shown in the records of the secretary of state. Service is effected under [this subsection](#) at the earliest of the following:

(1) The date the corporation receives the process, notice, or demand.

(2) The date shown on the return receipt, if signed on behalf of the corporation.

(3) Five days after the process, notice, or demand is deposited with the United States mail by the secretary of state.

4. [This section](#) does not prescribe the only means, or necessarily the required means, of serving a corporation.

[89 Acts, ch 288, §35; 96 Acts, ch 1170, §7; 2021 Acts, ch 165, §42, 230](#)

Referred to in [§490.1421, 490.1422, 490.1423, 490.1507, 490.1509, 490.1511, 624.23](#)