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An act relating to service of process of witness subpoenas; amending s. 48.031, F.S.; providing that service of a subpoena on a witness in a civil traffic case may be made by United States mail directed to the witness at the last known address and that such service must be mailed before a specified period; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 48.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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48.031 Service of process generally; service of witness subpoenas.—

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(3) (a) The service of process of witness subpoenas, whether in criminal cases or civil actions, shall be made as provided in subsection (1). However, service of a subpoena on a witness in a civil traffic case, a criminal traffic case, a misdemeanor case, or a second degree or third degree felony may be made by United States mail directed to the witness at the last known address, and the service must be mailed at least 7 days prior to the date of the witness's required appearance. Failure of a witness to appear in response to a subpoena served by United States mail that is not certified may not be grounds for finding the witness in contempt of court.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.