

FRANCHISE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT



The File Depot, L.L.C.

A Louisiana Limited Liability Company
646 Carnation Street
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We offer qualified parties a franchise for the right to independently own and operate a business that provides document storage solutions and shredding services, along with other products and services that we authorize, utilizing our proprietary marks and a proprietary business system developed by us and our principals (each, a “Franchised Business” or “Facility”). We also offer qualified parties the right to own, open and operate multiple Facilities within a development area we designate.

The total investment necessary to begin operation of a single Facility ranges from \$82,400 to \$146,250. This includes \$55,500 that must be paid to us or our affiliates.

The total investment necessary to operate multiple Facilities under our form of area development agreement depends on the number of franchises we grant you the right to open. The total investment necessary to enter into a development agreement for the right to develop three (3) Facilities is \$157,900 to \$221,750, which includes a \$125,000 development fee that is paid to us and your total investment to begin operation of your initial THE FILE DEPOT Facility. Under the area development agreement, the initial development fee is calculated as follows: (i) \$125,000 for the right to open three (3) Facilities, plus an additional \$41,667 for the right to open each additional Facility (up to a total of five); (ii) \$30,000 per Facility if you agree to open and operate between six and nine Franchised Businesses; and (iii) \$25,000 per Facility if you agree to open and operate 10 or more Franchised Businesses.

This disclosure document summarizes certain provisions of your Franchise Agreement and other information in plain English. Read this disclosure document and all accompanying agreements carefully. You must receive this disclosure document at least 14 calendar-days before you sign a binding agreement with, or make any payment to, us or our affiliates in connection with the proposed franchise sale or grant. **Note, however, that no government agency has verified the information contained in this document.**

You may wish to receive your disclosure document in another format that is more convenient for you. To discuss the availability of disclosures in different formats, contact A.G. Crowe, Chief Executive Officer, The File Depot, L.L.C. at 646 Carnation Street, Slidell, Louisiana 70461, ag@thefiledepot.com or (888) 985.FILE (3453).

The terms of your contract will govern your franchise relationship. Do not rely on the disclosure document alone to understand your contract. Read your entire contract carefully. Show your contract and this disclosure document to an advisor, like a lawyer or an accountant.

Buying a franchise is a complex investment. The information in this disclosure document can help you make up your mind. More information on franchising, such as “*A Consumer’s Guide to Buying a Franchise*,” which can help you understand how to use this disclosure document, is available from the Federal Trade Commission. You can contact the FTC at 1-877-FTCHELPHelp or by writing to the FTC at 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20580. You can also visit the FTC’s home page at www.ftc.gov for additional information. Call your state agency or visit your public library for other sources of information on franchising.

There may also be laws on franchising in your state. Ask your state agencies about them.

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2015 Franchise Disclosure Document

STATE COVER PAGE

Your state may have a franchise law that requires a franchisor to register or file with a state franchise administrator before offering or selling in your state. REGISTRATION OF A FRANCHISE BY A STATE DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE STATE RECOMMENDS OR HAS VERIFIED THE INFORMATION IN THIS DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT.

Call the state franchise administrator listed in Exhibit A for information about the franchisor or about franchising in your state.

MANY FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS DO NOT ALLOW YOU TO RENEW UNCONDITIONALLY AFTER THE INITIAL TERM EXPIRES. YOU MAY HAVE TO SIGN A NEW AGREEMENT WITH DIFFERENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE YOUR BUSINESS. BEFORE YOU BUY, CONSIDER WHAT RIGHTS YOU HAVE TO RENEW YOUR FRANCHISE, IF ANY, AND WHAT TERMS YOU MIGHT HAVE TO ACCEPT IN ORDER TO RENEW.

Please consider the following RISK FACTORS before you buy this franchise:

1. THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT REQUIRE YOU TO RESOLVE DISPUTES WITH US BY MEDIATION (AT OUR OPTION) OR LITIGATION ONLY IN LOUISIANA. OUT OF STATE MEDIATION/LITIGATION MAY FORCE YOU TO ACCEPT A LESS FAVORABLE SETTLEMENT FOR DISPUTES. IT MAY ALSO COST YOU MORE TO MEDIATE AND/OR LITIGATE WITH US IN LOUISIANA THAN IN YOUR OWN STATE.
2. THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT REQUIRE THAT LOUISIANA LAW GOVERNS THE AGREEMENT, AND THIS LAW MAY NOT PROVIDE THE SAME PROTECTIONS AND BENEFITS AS LOCAL LAW. YOU MAY WANT TO COMPARE THESE LAWS.
3. IF FRANCHISEE IS AN INDIVIDUAL AND MARRIED, THEN FRANCHISEE'S SPOUSE MUST ALSO SIGN THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, SIGN A PERSONAL GUARANTY MAKING YOUR SPOUSE JOINTLY AND INDEPENDENTLY LIABLE FOR THE FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE AGREEMENT. THIS GUARANTY PLACES YOUR SPOUSE'S MARITAL AND PERSONAL ASSETS AT RISK IF YOUR FRANCHISE FAILS.
4. IF THE FRANCHISEE IS A BUSINESS ENTITY, THEN EACH OF THE ENTITY'S OWNERS AND, AT OUR OPTION, THEIR RESPECTIVE SPOUSES MUST SIGN A PERSONAL GUARANTY. ALL PERSONS THAT SIGN A PERSONAL GUARANTY MUST PERSONALLY GUARANTEE, AND BE PERSONALLY BOUND BY, EACH OF THE FRANCHISEE'S OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT AND, IF APPLICABLE, AREA DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT. THOSE SIGNING THE PERSONAL GUARANTY WILL ALSO PUT THEIR PERSONAL ASSETS AT RISK.
5. THERE MAY BE OTHER RISKS CONCERNING THIS FRANCHISE.

We use the services of one or more FRANCHISE BROKERS or referral sources to assist us in selling our franchise. A franchise broker or referral source represents us, not you. We pay this person a fee for selling our franchise or referring you to us. You should make sure to do your own investigation of the franchise.

STATE EFFECTIVE PAGE

The following states require that the Franchise Disclosure Document be registered or filed with the state, or be exempt from registration: California, Florida, Hawaii, Kentucky, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New York, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin.

This Franchise Disclosure Document is registered, on file or exempt from registration in the following states having franchise registration and disclosure laws if an effective date is noted below for the state:

State	Effective Date
California#	Pending Registration
Florida (exemption)	Effective
Hawaii	Not Registered
Illinois	Pending Registration
Indiana	Pending Registration
Kentucky (one-time filing)	Pending Registration
Maryland	Pending Registration
Michigan	Pending Registration
Minnesota	Pending Registration
Nebraska (one-time filing)	Pending Registration
New York#	Pending Registration
North Dakota	Not Registered
Rhode Island	Pending Registration
South Dakota	Not Registered
Texas (one-time filing)	Effective
Utah (exemption)	Pending Registration
Virginia	Pending Registration
Washington	Pending Registration
Wisconsin	Pending Registration

#2014 Version of FDD Effectively Registered in this State.

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