

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article - State Government**

12-107.

(a) A claim under this subtitle shall:

(1) contain a concise statement of facts that sets forth the nature of the claim, including the date and place of the alleged tort;

(2) demand specific damages;

(3) state the name and address of each party;

(4) state the name, address, and telephone number of counsel for the claimant, if any; and

(5) be signed by the claimant, or the legal representative or counsel for the claimant.

(b) The Treasurer may:

(1) consider a claim for money damages under this subtitle or delegate wholly or partly this responsibility to other State personnel; and

(2) contract for any support services that are needed to carry out this responsibility properly.

(c) (1) In this section, "structured settlement" means a plan for the payment of a SETTLEMENT OR judgment to a claimant for damages in periodic installments.

(2) Unless a contract with a private insurer provides otherwise, the Treasurer or designee may compromise and settle a claim for money damages after the Treasurer or designee consults with the Attorney General.

(3) The State may enter into a structured settlement to the extent permitted in § 12-104(a)(2) of this subtitle.

(4) If a structured settlement is entered into, the STATE AND THE claimant shall select the investment company BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT.

(5) The acceptance of a settlement by a claimant is, as to that claimant:

(i) final; and

(ii) a complete release of each claim arising from the same cause of action against:

1. the State;

2. each of its units; and

3. all State personnel.