

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Criminal Procedure

Section 11–809

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2001 Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

Article – Criminal Procedure

11–809.

(a) (1) A claimant shall file a claim not later than[:

(i) 180 days after the occurrence of the crime or delinquent act on which the claim is based; or

(ii) 180 days after the death of the victim.

(2) For good cause, the Board may extend the time for filing up to] 3 years after the occurrence of the crime or delinquent act or the death of the victim.

[(3)](2) In a case of child abuse, a claimant may file a claim up to 3 years after the claimant knew or should have known of the child abuse.

(b) (1) Claims shall be filed in the office of the Board in person or by mail.

(2) The Board shall:

(i) accept for filing each claim that meets the requirements of this subtitle and the regulations of the Board; and

(ii) notify the claimant within 10 days after receipt of the claim.

(C) (1) (I) IN THIS SUBSECTION, “DEBT COLLECTION ACTIVITIES” MEANS:

1. REPEATEDLY CALLING OR WRITING TO A CLAIMANT AND THREATENING TO REFER THE UNPAID HEALTH CARE MATTER TO A DEBT COLLECTION AGENCY OR TO AN ATTORNEY FOR COLLECTION; OR

2. FILING A LEGAL ACTION OR PURSUING ANY LEGAL PROCESS OR LEGAL PROCEEDING.

(II) “DEBT COLLECTION ACTIVITIES” DOES NOT INCLUDE ROUTINE BILLING OR INQUIRIES ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE CLAIM.

(2) WHEN A CLAIMANT FILES A CLAIM UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, ALL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS, AS DEFINED IN § 3–2A–01(E) OF THE COURTS ARTICLE AND IN § 4–301(G) OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE, THAT HAVE BEEN GIVEN NOTICE OF A PENDING CLAIM SHALL REFRAIN FROM ALL DEBT COLLECTION ACTIVITIES RELATING TO HEALTH CARE, AS DEFINED IN § 4–301(F) OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL