

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER, Governor

(a) There is an Uninsured Employers' Fund to provide for the payment of awards against uninsured employers in accordance with the provisions of this subtitle.

(b) (1) (I) The Fund shall have the staff and employees which are authorized in the annual State budget.

(II) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (III) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE FUND SHALL USE THE CENTRAL COLLECTION UNIT TO COLLECT ANY UNPAID ASSESSMENT, AWARD, OR OTHER EXPENSE INCURRED BY THE FUND ON BEHALF OF AN UNINSURED EMPLOYER.

(III) ~~THE FUND MAY EMPLOY ATTORNEYS-IN-PRIVATE PRACTICE--TO--COLLECT~~ ANY PERSON WHO SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COLLECTION OF UNPAID ASSESSMENTS, AWARDS, OR OTHER EXPENSES INCURRED BY IT ON BEHALF OF AN UNINSURED EMPLOYER IF:

1. THE CENTRAL COLLECTION UNIT NOTIFIES THE FUND THAT THE UNIT CANNOT PURSUE THE CLAIM;

2. WITHIN 90 DAYS AFTER IT IS REQUESTED BY THE FUND TO PURSUE A CLAIM, THE CENTRAL COLLECTION UNIT ADVISES THE FUND THAT THE UNIT IS NOT ACTIVELY PURSUING THE MATTER; OR

3. 1 YEAR AFTER THE FUND REQUESTED THE CENTRAL COLLECTION UNIT TO PURSUE A CLAIM, THE CENTRAL COLLECTION UNIT HAS NEITHER SETTLED THE CLAIM NOR INITIATED COURT ACTION; OR

4. THE TOTAL COMPENSATION FOR COLLECTIONS UNDER THIS SUBPARAGRAPH DOES NOT EXCEED 25% OF THE AMOUNT COLLECTED.

(2) The Fund annually shall submit its budget to the Governor for inclusion in the next State budget submitted to the General Assembly.

Article - State Finance and Procurement

3-302.

(a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) OR (C) of this section or in other law, the Central Collection Unit is responsible for the collection of each delinquent account or other debt that is owed to the State or any of its officials or units.

(2) An official or unit of the State government shall refer to the Central Collection Unit each debt for which the Central Collection Unit has collection responsibility under this subsection and may not settle the debt.