Insurers - Third Party Claimants - Notice of Payment to Claimant's Attorney

FOR the purpose of requiring, instead of authorizing, an insurer to provide certain notice to certain third party claimants if payment, in a certain amount, of a certain third party liability claim is made to the claimant's attorney under certain circumstances; altering the time period within which notice must be sent to a third party claimant; making conforming changes; and generally relating to notice to third party claimants of payment by insurers to a claimant's attorney.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Insurance

Section 4-117

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2003 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

Article - Insurance

4-117.

- (a) At the time of payment, if the payment has been specifically authorized by the claimant's attorney, an insurer [may] SHALL provide written notice to a third party claimant of payment of \$2,000 or more in settlement of a third party liability claim for bodily injury if:
 - (1) the claimant is an individual; and
- (2) the payment is delivered to the claimant's attorney by check, draft, or other means.
- (b) The notice [provided under] REQUIRED BY subsection (a) of this section shall be sent by regular mail [at least] NO MORE THAN 5 working days after payment is delivered under subsection (a)(2) of this section to the claimant at the last known address of the claimant.
- (c) The insurer may provide notice to the claimant by a copy of the letter of transmittal to the claimant's attorney.
 - (d) This section may not be construed to create:
- (1) a cause of action for any person against an insurer based on the insurer's failure to provide the notice [under] REQUIRED BY this section; or