Division of Insurance

Bail Recovery Requirements

House Bill 98-1224, Concerning Bail Recovery, became effective May 27, 1998. The law prohibits a bail bonding agent from hiring, contracting with, or paying compensation to an individual for bail recovery services unless certain requirements are met. The requirements are listed below:

- After January 1, 1999, applicants for bail bonding agent licensure shall be trained in bail recovery practices (not to exceed 16 hrs) according to the standards established by the Peace Officer Standards and Training Board (P.O.S.T.). Currently licensed bail bonding agents are not required to complete this training.
- After October 1, 1998, no bail bonding agent may employ a person for bail recovery services who has been convicted of, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, any felony within the last 15 years.
- Any person currently providing bail recovery services must submit a fingerprint card to the Colorado Bureau of Investigations (CBI) before July 1, 1998, in order to be assured of receiving clearance from the CBI by October 1, 1998.
- Any bail bonding agent employing a person for bail recovery services after October 1, 1998, must receive prior verification from the CBI that the individual fulfills the qualifications.
- Persons providing bail recovery services must obtain a certificate of completion of the P.O.S.T. bail recovery practice course for employment after January 1, 1999.
- The Division of Insurance shall deny, suspend or revoke a bail bonding agent's license if they employ an unqualified individual for bail recovery services.
- The bill also allows the District Attorney to contract out for the collection of forfeited recognizances and pay for such services out of the money collected.

Persons providing bail recovery services must be fingerprinted at their local police or sheriffs department, on that department's finger print card. The fee for this service is $38.50. A Cashier's Check or Money Order will be accepted and must be payable to Colorado Bureau of Investigations. The fingerprint card and fee will then be submitted to the CBI and forwarded to the FBI for processing. The response will be returned to the department that took the prints.

A Bail Bonding Agent shall contact the CBI prior to hiring an individual for bail recovery services to determine if they are qualified under House Bill 1224. Contact the Colorado Bureau of Investigations at http://cbi.state.co.us/ or by calling (303) 239-4208.

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