



South Carolina Department of Insurance

HENRY McMASTER
Governor

RAYMOND G. FARMER
Director

To: All Professional, Surety Bondsmen and Runners
From: Willie Seawright
Program Coordinator
Subject: Schedule of fees and cost – Code 8-21-310 (13)
Date: July 10, 2017

This matter has been brought to the Department's attention. There are several bondspersons who are not satisfying their bond fees in a timely manner with the courts.

S.C. Code Ann. §8-21-310 states:

"Except as otherwise expressly provided, the following fees and costs must be collected on a uniform basis in each county by clerks of court and registers of deeds or county treasurers as may be determined by the governing body of the county: (13) for taking and filing an order for bail with or without bond, one dollar; with bond when surety must be justified, ten dollars;"

S.C. Code Ann. §38-53-150 (2) states:

"The director or his designee may deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew any license issued under this chapter for any of the following causes: (2) violation of any laws of this State relating to bail in the course of dealings under the license issued to a bondsman or runner by the director or his designee;"

S.C. Code Ann. §38-53-340 states:

"A person violating any of the provisions of this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than thirty days, or both."

The Department has been notified that these debts are exceeding 90 days or more. This is an unacceptable business practice and will warrant immediate action by this office.

Effective July 1, 2017, any compliant received from the clerk's office which show payment due has exceeded ninety (90) days or more will warrant immediate disciplinary action by this office.

Any questions concerning this memorandum, please feel free to contact this office at 803-737-6099 or 737-6181.