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ANNOUNCEMENT

Requests for Motor Vehicle Accident Reports – Change in Requirements

Effective May 21, 2008, the requirements of Transportation Article 20-110 (Insurance – Fraud – Intentional Motor Vehicle Accidents, Creation of Documentation of Motor Vehicle Accidents and Reports) which was signed into law by the Governor of Maryland on May 17, 2007, are no longer applicable to Maryland law enforcement agencies who investigate motor vehicle collisions. As a result of Emergency Legislation (HB 488, SB 796) passed by the Maryland Legislature during the 2008 session, it is no longer necessary for persons requesting copies of police investigated motor vehicle collisions to submit a request to a law enforcement agency verifying that they are an authorized party as identified in law nor does it remain a requirement that the applicant indicate that from the time the person is granted access to the report until sixty days after the date the report is filed the report will not be used for any commercial solicitation of an individual in the report; and the person will not knowingly disclose any information contained in the report to a third party for commercial solicitation of an individual listed in the report. In addition, it is no longer necessary for a sworn member of the law enforcement agency receiving a request to investigate that request prior to dissemination of the accident report.

The emergency legislation provides that a person may not, for personal gain, access a report for the purpose of soliciting another person to sue or to retain a lawyer to represent the other person. Additionally, the legislation provides for a penalty and repeals the provisions of law concerning access to and disclosure of a specified motor vehicle accident report.

Maryland State Police Central Records Division

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