COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

ROSS
INSURANCE
COMMISSION

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STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION BUREAU OF INSURANCE

October 20, 2010

Administrative Letter 2010-12

To: All Companies Licensed under Chapters 10, 11, 12, 40, 41, 42, 45 or 61 of

Title 38.2 of the Code of Virginia

Re: Virginia Life, Accident and Sickness Insurance Guaranty Association Chapter 510 of the 2010 Acts of Assembly (House Bill 448)

The purpose of this Administrative Letter is to inform life, accident and sickness companies (insurers) subject to Chapter 17 of Title 38.2 of the Code of Virginia of the disclaimer required to be attached to policies in order to comply with the provisions of Chapter 510 (House Bill 448), enacted by the Virginia General Assembly during its 2010 legislative session.

Chapter 510, effective July 1, 2010, amends and re-enacts § 38.2-1442 (Investments) and §§ 38.2-1700 through 38.2-1715 (Virginia Life, Accident and Sickness Insurance Guaranty Association) to update and expand the scope of the Guaranty Association. Pursuant to amendments in § 38.2-1715, the Guaranty Association is required to prepare and submit to the Commission for approval, a summary document describing the general purposes and limitations of Chapter 17, which includes a disclaimer that discusses limitations, exclusions, and the types of policies that are covered by the Guaranty Association.

The attached summary document entitled *Notice of Protection Provided by the Virginia Life, Accident and Sickness Insurance Guaranty Association* (Notice) is approved effective November 1, 2010. Beginning January 1, 2011, insurers are required to attach this Notice to policies or contracts delivered to policy or contract owners. Insurers are required to retain evidence of compliance with this Notice requirement so long as the policy or contract remains in effect.

Questions regarding this letter may be directed to:

Robert Grissom
Supervisor, Forms and Rates Section
Life and Health Division
Bureau of Insurance
State Corporation Commission
804-371-9152

bob.grissom@scc.virginia.gov

Cordially,

Alfred W. Gross

Commissioner of Insurance

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Attachment

NOTICE OF PROTECTION PROVIDED BY VIRGINIA LIFE, ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION

This notice provides a **brief summary** of the Virginia Life, Accident and Sickness Insurance Guaranty Association ("the Association") and the protection it provides for policyholders. This safety net was created under Virginia law, which determines who and what is covered and the amounts of coverage.

The Association was established to provide protection in the unlikely event that a life, annuity or health insurance company licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia becomes financially unable to meet its obligations and is taken over by its Insurance Department. If this should happen, the Association will typically arrange to continue coverage and pay claims, in accordance with Virginia law, with funding from assessments paid by other life and health insurance companies licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The basic protections provided by the Association are:

- Life Insurance
 - o \$300,000 in death benefits
 - o \$100,000 in cash surrender or withdrawal values
- Health Insurance
 - o \$500,000 in hospital, medical and surgical insurance benefits
 - o \$300,000 in disability [income] insurance benefits
 - o \$300,000 in long-term care insurance benefits
 - o \$100,000 in other types of health insurance benefits
- Annuities
 - o \$250,000 in withdrawal and cash values

The maximum amount of protection for each individual, regardless of the number of policies or contracts, is \$350,000, except for hospital, medical and surgical insurance benefits, for which the limit is increased to \$500,000.

Note: Certain policies and contracts may not be covered or fully covered. For example, coverage does not extend to any portion(s) of a policy or contract that the insurer does not guarantee, such as certain investment additions to the account value of a variable life insurance policy or a variable annuity contract. There are also various residency requirements and other limitations under Virginia law.

To learn more about the above protections, please visit the Association's website at www.valifega.org or contact:

VIRGINA LIFE, ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION c/o APM Management Services, Inc. 8001 Franklin Farms Drive, Suite 235 Henrico, VA 23229 804-282-2240

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION Bureau of Insurance P. O. Box 1157 Richmond, VA 23218 804-371-9741 Toll Free Virginia only: 1-800-552-7945

http://www.scc.virginia.gov/division/boi/index.htm

Insurance companies and agents are not allowed by Virginia law to use the existence of the Association or its coverage to encourage you to purchase any form of insurance. When selecting an insurance company, you should not rely on Association coverage. If there is any inconsistency between this notice and Virginia law, then Virginia law will control.