BULLETIN NO. 2021-06

TO: All Admitted Insurers
FROM: Jim L. Ridling Commissioner of Insurance
DATE: July 21, 2021
EFFECTIVE: October 1, 2021
RE: Revision of SERFFSM filing fees and mandatory use of electronic funds transfer payments for SERFFSM filings.
AMENDS: Bulletin dated April 1, 2007
RESCINDS: Bulletin No. 2010-07 dated May 17, 2010

1. Bulletin dated April 1, 2007, mandated use of SERFFSM (the System for Electronic Rate and Form Filings) for all rate and form filings in Alabama, effective November 1, 2007. That Bulletin strongly encouraged, but did not then mandate, use of electronic funds transfer (EFT) as a mode of paying filing fees. Since use of SERFFSM became mandatory, approximately 90% of the associated Alabama filing fees have been made by EFT. The Department of Insurance has determined that now requiring payment of fees by EFT will allow for faster review and disposition of filings, allow for more efficiency in the filing process, and will enhance the NAIC's Speed to Market initiatives in Alabama.

2. Since July 1, 2010, all fees relating to SERFFSM filings prescribed in the fee schedule set forth in paragraph (5) below have been required to be made by EFT through SERFFSM and the Department no longer accepts fee payments by check or other non-EFT method.

3. Information about implementing EFT, including an EFT Implementation Guide and the required agreement forms, is available at the SERFFSM Internet web-site (www.serff.com) or by contacting the SERFFSM Marketing Team at 816-783-8787 or by electronic mail at serffmktg@naic.org.

5. The following minimum fees will be charged for examination of the indicated filings:

(a) All Property & Casualty Filing Fees:

(1) Any property, casualty, marine and surety RATE filing ........................................ $100

(2) Any property, casualty, marine and surety RULE filing ........................................ $100

(3) Any COMBINATION RATE and RULE filing ........................................................ $100

(4) Any property, casualty, wet marine, marine and title FORM filing (per form) $100

(5) Exceptions to filing fees: Special rated risks, "A" rated filings, non-adoption of rating organization filings, rating organization membership filings, and responses to pending filings.

(b) All Life & Disability (Accident & Health) Advertisements, Riders, and Amendments Filing Fees:

(1) Each individual policy contract including revisions ................................................ $100

(2) Each group master policy or contract including revisions ...................................... $100

(3) Each individual or group certificate including revisions ...................................... $100

(4) Each rider, endorsement, amendment, etc. ....................................................... $100

(5) Each application, questionnaire, etc. that is made part of the policy .................. $100

(6) Each separate advertisement .............................................................................. $100

(7) Each Medicare Select Network Certification ....................................................... $120

(8)(i) Each Medicare Supplement, HMO, or Long-Term Care Insurance Rate Filing (includes first exhibit) ................................................................. $100

(8)(ii) Plus an additional charge for each additional exhibit ..................................... $50

(9) Each rate filing made for informational purposes ............................................. $100

(10) Each form filing made for informational purposes ......................................... $50
(11) Each Annual Report Filing (e.g.: Medicare Supplement, Long-Term Care, Life Insurance Illustration, Mental Health, etc.) .......................................................... $50

(12) Each Long-Term Care policyholder letter filing ................................................. $50

(c) Each Service Contract, Vehicle Protection Product, and Motor Club Filing .......... $50

(d) There is a maximum fee of $5,000 per SERFFSM submission.

JLR/JWG/RN/ct