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SENATE BILL 117

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY

Carroll H. Leavell

AN ACT

RELATING TO CRIMINAL LAW; ALLOWING A SIX-MONTH AGGREGATION OF CERTAIN FALSE INSURANCE CLAIMS TO DETERMINE PENALTY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 59A-16-23 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1984, Section 1. Chapter 127, Section 290, as amended) is amended to read:

"59A-16-23. FALSE APPLICATIONS, CLAIMS, PROOFS OF LOSS.--

- A. An agent, broker, solicitor, examining physician, applicant or other person shall not knowingly or willfully:
- make a false or fraudulent statement or (1) representation as to a material fact in or with reference to an application for insurance or other coverage;
- for the purpose of obtaining money or (2) benefit, present or cause to be presented a false or fraudulent .175015.1

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1	claim or proof in support of such a claim for payment of loss	
2	under a policy;	
3	(3) prepare, make or subscribe a false or	
4	fraudulent account, certificate, affidavit or proof of loss or	
5	other document with intent that the same may be presented or	
6	used in support of such a claim; or	
7	(4) make a false or fraudulent statement or	
8	representation on or relative to an application for a policy	
9	for the purpose of obtaining a fee, commission or benefit from	
10	an insurer, agent, broker or individual.	
11	B. A false statement or representation made under	
12	oath shall constitute and be punishable as perjury.	
13	$\underline{\text{C.}}$ A violation of the provisions of this section	
14	when the purported loss or potential loss to the victim insurer	
15	is:	
16	(1) two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) or less	
17	is a petty misdemeanor;	
18	(2) over two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) but	
19	not more than five hundred dollars (\$500) is a misdemeanor;	
20	(3) over five hundred dollars (\$500) but not	
21	more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) is a	
22	fourth degree felony;	
23	(4) over two thousand five hundred dollars	
24	($\$2,500$) but not more than twenty thousand dollars ($\$20,000$) is	

a third degree felony; or

.175015.1

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1	(5) over twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) is
2	a second degree felony.
3	D. If ten or more violations of Paragraph (2) or
4	(3) of Subsection A of this section occur within any
5	consecutive six-month period, the amounts of the purported or
6	potential losses resulting from those violations may be
7	aggregated to determine the penalty pursuant to Subsection C of
8	this section."
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