



Florida Office of Insurance Regulation

INSTRUCTIONS FOR STATUTORY COMPLIANCE OF FORMS: PREMIUM FINANCE COMPANIES

Premium Finance Agreements

1. Pursuant to Sections 627.839(1) and (2)(a), Florida Statutes, the printed portion of the agreement must be in at least 8-point font and the words "PREMIUM FINANCE AGREEMENT" must appear in all caps at the top of the page in at least 10-point bold type.
2. The "Notice" required by Section 637.839(2)(b), Florida Statutes, should be printed exactly as set forth in the statute and entirely in 8-point bold type as required.
3. Section 627.842, Florida Statutes, prohibits provisions in which a power of attorney is given to confer any authority to perform any act other than to request cancellation for nonpayment of premium.

Many contracts contain a provision similar to the following:

[Company Name] is authorized to endorse the assured's name on any check or draft for all monies that may become due from the insuring company and to apply the same as payment of this agreement, and return any excess to his/her agent, providing such excess is an amount greater than \$1.00 USD.

The Office suggests that language similar to the following be substituted instead:

The insured agrees that the premium finance company may endorse their name on any check or draft for all monies that may become due from the insuring company and apply the same as payment of this agreement, returning any excess to the insured, provided such excess is an amount greater than or equal to \$1.00 USD.

4. Many contracts contain a provision similar to the following:

The insured hereby releases, discharges, and agrees to hold harmless the premium finance company and each holder hereof, their officers, agents, and employees from any liability or cause of action by reason of any cancellation, when such cancellation is in conformity with Florida law.

The Office feels that this language is contrary to Section 627.842(3), Florida Statutes, and we suggest that language similar to the following be substituted:

When cancellation by the premium finance company is in accordance with Florida law, the company is not responsible for consequential damages, and the prevailing party shall collect costs and attorney's fees from the other party in any action filed as a result of cancellation of the policy initiated by the premium finance company.

5. Often contracts contain a provision similar to the following:

The company may advance to the assured's agent or the insuring company any additional premiums that may become due, less normal down payment adding any advance amount, plus any finance charge to his/her present contract balance.

Language similar to the following is suggested as a substitute:

Upon request of the insured, the premium finance company may advance to the insuring company any additional premiums that may become due, less normal down payment, adding the advance amount, plus any finance charge, to their present contract.

The request must be in writing, either by letter from the insured or through the use of an Additional Premium Request form. If you choose to utilize the Additional Premium Request form, it must be submitted to the Office for review and approval as indicated below in the Other Forms section.

Standard Cancellation Notice

1. Must be as laid out in Rule 690-196.001, Florida Administrative Code.
2. The standard cancellation notice, including all parts of any multi-part form, must be printed on paper that is a shade of pink.
3. Section 627.848(1)(b), Florida Statutes, requires that the language regarding financial responsibility be in 12-point font.

10 Day Notice of Intent to Cancel

1. The Office recommends that the 10 Day Notice of Intent to Cancel contain the same language as is required on the Standard Cancellation Notice with regard to financial responsibility. This language is referenced in Section 627.848(3), Florida Statutes, and found in Rule 69O-196.001, Florida Administrative Code. It is also recommended that it be in the same font-size as required for the Standard Cancellation Notice.
2. All print should be a minimum of 8-point font.

Other Forms

Section 627.838, Florida Statutes, requires that no Premium Finance Agreement or related form is to be used in this state unless it has been filed with and approved by the Office. The only forms required by statute to be used by every premium finance company are a Premium Finance Agreement, 10 Day Notice of Intent to Cancel, and a Cancellation Notice. However, if a premium finance company uses other forms, such as drafts, coupons, additional premium request forms, standard collection letters, or the like, these forms must be filed, together with the filing fee as set out in Section 627.849, Florida Statutes, and approved by the Office prior to use.