

507.3 Conduct of examinations.

1. Upon determining that an examination should be conducted, the commissioner or the commissioner's designee may appoint one or more examiners to perform the examination and instruct them as to the scope of the examination. In conducting the examination, the examiner shall observe those guidelines and procedures set forth in the examiners' handbook adopted by the national association of insurance commissioners. The commissioner may also employ other guidelines as the commissioner deems appropriate.

2. A company or person from whom information is sought and its officers, directors, and agents shall provide to the examiners appointed under subsection 1, timely, convenient, and free access at all reasonable hours at its offices to all books, records, accounts, papers, documents, and any or all computer or other recordings relating to the property, assets, business, and affairs of the company being examined. The officers, directors, employees, and agents of the company or person shall facilitate the examination and aid in the examination so far as it is in their power to do so. The refusal of any company, by its officers, directors, employees, or agents, to submit to examinations or to comply with any reasonable written request of the examiners is grounds for suspension or revocation of, or nonrenewal of, any license or authority held by the company to engage in the business of insurance or other business subject to the commissioner's jurisdiction. Should a company decline or refuse to submit to an examination as provided in this chapter, the commissioner shall immediately revoke its certificate of authority, and if the company is organized under the laws of this state, the commissioner shall report the commissioner's action to the attorney general, who shall immediately apply to the district court for the appointment of a receiver to administer the final affairs of the company.

3. The commissioner or any of the commissioner's examiners may issue subpoenas, administer oaths, and examine under oath any person as to any matter pertinent to the examination. Upon the failure or refusal of any person to obey a subpoena, the commissioner may petition a court of competent jurisdiction, and upon proper showing, the court may enter an order compelling the witness to appear and testify or produce documentary evidence. Failure to obey the court order is punishable as contempt of court.

4. When making an examination under this chapter, the commissioner may retain attorneys, appraisers, independent actuaries, independent certified public accountants, or other professionals and specialists as examiners, the reasonable cost of which shall be borne by the company which is the subject of the examination.

5. This chapter does not limit the commissioner's authority to terminate or suspend any examination in order to pursue other legal or regulatory action pursuant to the insurance laws of this state. Findings of fact and conclusions made pursuant to any examination are deemed to be prima facie evidence in any legal or regulatory action.

[S13, § 1821-b; C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, § **8627**; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, § 507.3]

92 Acts, ch 1117, § 3; 97 Acts, ch 186, §2