

507C.10 Seizure order.

1. With respect to a domestic insurer the commissioner may file in the district court a petition alleging all of the following:

a. That there exist grounds that would justify a court order for a formal delinquency proceeding against an insurer under this chapter.

b. That the interests of policyholders, creditors, or the public will be endangered by delay.

c. The contents of an order deemed necessary by the commissioner.

2. Upon a filing under subsection 1, the court may issue, ex parte and without a hearing, the requested order which shall direct the commissioner to take possession and control of all or a part of the property, books, accounts, documents, and other records of an insurer, and of the premises occupied by it for transaction of its business, and until further order of the court enjoin the insurer and its officers, managers, agents, and employees from disposing of the insurer's property and from transacting of the insurer's business, except with the written consent of the commissioner.

3. The court shall specify in the order the duration of the order. The duration shall be the time the court deems necessary for the commissioner to ascertain the condition of the insurer. Upon motion or on its own, the court may from time to time hold hearings as it deems desirable after notice as it deems appropriate, and may extend, shorten, or modify the terms of the seizure order. The court shall vacate the seizure order if the commissioner fails to commence a formal proceeding under this chapter after having had a reasonable opportunity to do so. An order of the court pursuant to a formal proceeding under this chapter shall automatically vacate the seizure order.

4. Entry of a seizure order under this section is not an anticipatory breach of a contract of the insurer.

5. An insurer subject to an ex parte order under this section may petition the court after the issuance of the order for a hearing and review of the order. The court shall hold the hearing and review not more than fifteen days after the request. A hearing under this subsection may be held privately in chambers. Upon request of the insurer the hearing shall be held privately in chambers.

6. If at any time after the issuance of an order under this section it appears to the court that a person whose interest is or will be substantially affected by the order did not appear at the hearing and has not been served, the court may order that notice be given. An order that notice be given shall not stay the effect of any order previously issued by the court.