

# WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §33-4-17

## **§33-4-17. Prohibited interests of officers and directors in certain transactions.**

(a) No director or officer of an insurer shall accept, except for and on behalf of the insurer, or be the beneficiary of any fee, commission, brokerage, gift or other emolument or thing of value in addition to his fixed salary or compensation, because of any investment, loan, deposit, purchase, sale, exchange, or other similar transaction made by or for the insurer, or be pecuniarily interested in any capacity except on behalf of the insurer.

(b) No insurer shall guarantee the financial obligation of any of its officers or directors.

(c) This section shall not prohibit such a director or officer from becoming a policyholder of the insurer and enjoying thereunder the rights customarily provided therein for holders of such policies, nor shall this section prohibit a director or officer of an insurer from serving as an agent or general agent of such insurer and receiving regular established agency commissions therefor: Provided, That the contract between the insurer and its officer and/or director has been approved by the board of directors of the insurer and a true copy thereof, certified to by the secretary of the board of directors of such insurer, has been filed with the commissioner of insurance; nor shall this section prohibit such a director or officer of an insurer from receiving his share of the commission earnings of a stock exchange firm of which he is a partner, or a percentage of underwriting profits under a management contract: Provided, however, That such contract is subject to review and termination by the board of directors, nor shall this section prohibit the payment to a director or officer of a fee for legal services actually rendered to any such insurer provided such compensation is not in excess of the amounts customarily charged for the same type of service; nor shall this section prohibit an officer, in connection with the relocation by the insurer of the place of employment of such officer, including any relocation in connection with the initial employment of such officer, from (i) accepting a mortgage loan made by the insurer on real property owned by such officer which is to serve as such officer's residence or (ii) selling to the insurer, at not more than the fair market value thereof, the residence of such officer.