

## **WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §7-14D-8a**

### **§7-14D-8a. Notice requirements; test case.**

(a) Each county shall prepare a written notice to be delivered to each deputy sheriff employed prior to July 1, 1998. This notice shall clearly and accurately explain the benefits, financial implications and consequences to a deputy sheriff of electing to participate in the retirement plan created in this article, including the consequences and financial implications in regard to the benefits under the public employees insurance plan as set forth in article sixteen, chapter five of this code for those deputy sheriffs employed by a county which participates in that insurance plan. This notice shall be distributed to each deputy sheriff and the county shall obtain a signed receipt from each deputy sheriff acknowledging that the deputy sheriff was provided a copy of the notice required in this subsection. If a deputy sheriff makes the election provided for in section eight of this article, he or she shall be considered to have made a voluntary, informed decision in regard to the election to participate in the retirement system created in this article.

(b) The consolidated retirement board shall cause to be included in the judicial determination required in section eight of this article the issue regarding the possible loss of any rights in regard to benefits accorded the electing deputy under the West Virginia public employees insurance act, article sixteen, chapter five of this code, and whether a deputy sheriff, by electing to participate in the retirement plan created in this article, is being unlawfully discriminated against, or is being unlawfully deprived of a right or benefit to which he or she would otherwise be entitled.

(c) Nothing in this section may be construed to alter, affect or change any of the rights and benefits of any deputy sheriff who has insurance coverage under article sixteen, chapter five of this code as a result of being a spouse or dependant of a participant who is the primary insured under article sixteen, chapter five of this code.

(d) Nothing contained in this section may be construed to affect or pertain to any life insurance coverage under article sixteen, chapter five of this code.