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§ 11-113. Dispute settlement mechanisms

West's Annotated Code of Maryland Real Property Effective: October 1, 2022

West's Annotated Code of Maryland Real Property (Refs & Annos) Title 11. Maryland Condominium Act (Refs & Annos)

Effective: October 1, 2022

MD Code, Real Property, § 11-113

§ 11-113. Dispute settlement mechanisms

Currentness

In general

(a) Unless the declaration or bylaws state otherwise, the dispute settlement mechanism provided by this section is applicable to complaints or demands formally arising on or after October 1, 2022.

Procedures required before imposition of fine or infringement of rights

- (b)(1) The council of unit owners or board of directors may not impose a fine, suspend voting, or infringe upon any other rights of a unit owner or other occupant for violations of rules until the procedures in this subsection are followed.
 - (2) A written demand to cease and desist from an alleged violation shall be provided to the alleged violator specifying:
 - (i) The alleged violation;
 - (ii) The action required to abate the violation; and
 - (iii) A time period, not less than 15 days, during which the violation may be abated without further sanction, if the violation is a continuing one, or a statement that any further violation of the same rule may result in the imposition of sanction after notice and opportunity for hearing if the violation is not continuing.
 - (3) Within 12 months of the demand, if the violation continues past the period allowed in the demand for abatement without penalty or if the same rule is violated subsequently, the board shall provide the alleged violator, at the alleged violator's address of record, with a written notice of the alleged violator's right to request a hearing to be held by the board in executive session containing:
 - (i) The nature of the alleged violation;
 - (ii) The procedures for requesting a hearing at which the alleged violator may produce any statement, evidence, or witnesses on behalf of the alleged violator;
 - (iii) The period of time for requesting a hearing, which may not be less than 10 days from the giving of the notice; and
 - (iv) The proposed sanction to be imposed.
 - (4)(i) If the alleged violator requests a hearing within the period of time specified in the notice provided under paragraph (3) of this subsection, the board shall provide the alleged violator with written notice of the time and place of the hearing, which time may not be less than 10 days after the date the request for a hearing was provided.
 - (ii) 1. At the hearing, the alleged violator has the right to present evidence and present and cross-examine witnesses.
 - 2. The hearing shall be held in executive session pursuant to this notice and shall afford the alleged violator a reasonable opportunity to be heard
 - 3. A. Prior to the taking effect of any sanction hereunder, proof of notice shall be entered in the minutes of the meeting.
 - B. The proof of notice shall be deemed adequate if a copy of the notice, together with a statement of the date and manner of providing the notice, is entered in the minutes by the officer or director who provided the notice.
 - C. The notice requirement shall be deemed satisfied if the alleged violator appears at the meeting.
 - 4. The minutes of the meeting shall contain a written statement of the results of the hearing and the sanction, if any, imposed.
 - (5) If the alleged violator does not request a hearing within the period of time specified in the notice provided under paragraph (3) of this subsection, the board, at the next meeting, shall deliberate as to whether the violation occurred and decide whether a sanction is appropriate for the violation.

(6) A decision in accordance with these procedures shall be appealable to the courts of Maryland.

Failure of unit owners to comply with title, declarations, bylaws, or decisions

(c)(1) If any unit owner fails to comply with this title, the declaration, or bylaws, or a decision rendered in accordance with this section, the unit owner may be sued for damages caused by the failure or for injunctive relief, or both, by the council of unit owners or by any other unit owner.

(2) The prevailing party in any proceeding under this subsection is entitled to an award for counsel fees as determined by court.

Enforcement of title, declaration, or bylaws

(d) The failure of the council of unit owners to enforce a provision of this title, the declaration, or bylaws on any occasion is not a waiver of the right to enforce the provision on any other occasion.

Credits

Added by Acts 1981, c. 246, § 1, eff. July 1, 1981. Amended by Acts 1982, c. 836, § 3; Acts 1985, c. 553; Acts 2022, c. 282, § 1, eff. Oct. 1, 2022. MD Code, Real Property, § 11-113, MD REAL PROP § 11-113

Current through all legislation from the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly. Some statute sections may be more current, see credits for details.

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