Regulations for Enforcement of the Act on Special Measures Concerning the Management of and Collection on Monetary Claims

(Order of the Ministry of Justice No. 4 of January 29, 1999)

Based on the provisions of the Act on Special Measures Concerning the Management of and Collection on Monetary Claims (Act No. 126 of 1998) and of the Order for Enforcement of the Act on Special Measures Concerning the Management of and Collection on Monetary Claims (Cabinet Order No. 14 of 1999), and in order to enforce that Act and that Order, the Regulations for Enforcement of the Act on Special Measures Concerning the Management of and Collection on Monetary Claims is established as follows.

(Application for License)

Article 1 A person who intends to obtain a license from the Minister of Justice (hereinafter referred to as "license applicant") pursuant to the provisions of Article 3 of the Act on Special Measures Concerning the Management of and Collection on Monetary Claims (hereinafter referred to as the "Act") must submit to the Minister of Justice a written application for the license stated in Article 4, paragraph (1) of the Act prepared using Appended Form 1 (hereinafter referred to as "written application for the license"), and attach thereto the documents prescribed in Article 4, paragraph (2) of the Act.

(Other Particulars to Be Stated in Written Application for License)

Article 2 The particulars specified by Order of the Ministry of Justice, as prescribed in Article 4, paragraph (1), item (vi) of the Act are listed as follows:

(i) with regard to a director or an executive officer who has the authority of representation; a statement to that fact;

(ii) the trade name or name; and address of the major shareholders (meaning the persons who hold 10 percent or more of the total number of the issued shares under the persons' own names or the names of another persons; the same applies hereinafter);

(iii) in cases in which there is any officer, etc. prescribed in Article 5, item (vii) of the Act other than the officers prescribed in Article 4, paragraph (1), item (iii) of the Act: the job title or position name of that officer, etc. in the company, as well as their name and address;

(iv) in cases in which an officer, etc. prescribed in Article 5, item (vii) of the Act (hereinafter referred to as an "officer, etc.") engages in a business themselves, or serves as an employee of a person who engages in a business, or serves as an officer or employee of another corporation: the name of the relevant officer, etc., as well as the name of the person who employs them, or the trade name or name of the relevant corporation that employs them, the address of the relevant person or corporation, and the type of the relevant business or the type of operations of the relevant corporation;

(v) the names and addresses of the license applicant's employee who holds the management position in charge of carrying out the operations for conducting the credit management and collection business at the head office or any other business office and of the license applicant's employee who directly assists the former (referred to below as "major employees").

(Documents to Be Attached to Written Application for License)

Article 3 The documents specified by Order of the Ministry of Justice as prescribed in Article 4, paragraph (2) of the Act are the following:

(i) the articles of incorporation;

(ii) the certificate of registered information;

(iii) the extracts of the certificates of residence of the officer, etc. and major employees (limited to those containing the registered domiciles of these persons) or documents in lieu of this;

(iv) if the attorney who serves as a director is recommended by the bar association to which that person belongs as prescribed in the proviso to Article 6, paragraph (2) of the Act, a copy of the document certifying to that effect;

(v) a document in which the license applicant pledges, using Appended Form 2, that the applicant does not fall under any of the items of Article 5 of the Act;

(vi) documents in which the officer, etc. pledges, using Appended Form 3, that they do not fall within any of the categories listed in Article 5, item (vii), (a) through (h) of the Act; and

(vii) a document stating the organizational chart and the description of the business of the License Applicant.

(Persons who are Unable to Properly Engage in the Business of Claim Management and Collection Due to a Mental or Physical Disorder;)

Article 3-2 The persons prescribed by Order of the Ministry of Justice as provided in Article 5, item (vii), (a) of the Act are persons who are unable to adequately make use of the cognitive functioning, decision making, and communication skills needed to properly perform the duties involved in the management of and collection on monetary claims due to a mental impairment.

(Notification of Change)

Article 4 (1) The case specified by Order of the Ministry of Justice as prescribed in Article 7, paragraph (1), item (iii) of the Act is any of the cases listed in the following items:

(i) cases in which the company managing and collecting on monetary claims has discontinued the business that it conducts with approval of the Minister of Justice obtained as prescribed in the proviso to Article 12 of the Act (referred to below as the "subsidiary business");

(ii) cases in which the company managing and collecting on monetary claims has become aware that an attorney who serves as a director was subject to disciplinary action under Article 56 of the Attorneys Act; or

(iii) cases in which there has been a change to the organization of the company managing and collecting on monetary claims.

(2) When a company managing and collecting on monetary claims intends to make a notification as prescribed in Article 7, paragraph (1) of the Act, it must submit to the Minister of Justice a written notification of changes, etc. prepared using appended Form 4 by attaching the documents stated in the items of Article 3 which relates to the changes.

(Application for Approval of Business Transfer)

Article 5 (1) In the event of a transfer or acquisition of the whole or part of the company managing and collecting on monetary claims prescribed in Article 8, paragraph (1) of the Act (referred to below as a "business transfer, etc."), if the transferee is a person who has obtained a license stated in Article 3 of the Act, the person who intends to obtain approval of the business transfer, etc. must submit to the Minister of Justice a written application for the approval of business transfer, etc. prepared using Appended Form 5, and attach thereto the documents listed as follows:

(i) a document explaining the particulars of the business transfer, etc.;

(ii) in cases where a resolution of the shareholders meeting or the board of directors is required for the business transfer, etc., a copy of the minutes of the shareholders meeting or the board of directors meeting concerned; and

(iii) a copy of the contract of the Business Transfer, etc.

(2) In the event of a Business Transfer, etc., if the transferee is a person who has not obtained a license stated in Article 3 of the Act, the person who intends to obtain approval for the business transfer, etc. must submit to the Minister of Justice a written application for the approval of business transfer, etc. prepared using Appended Form 6, and attach thereto the documents listed as follows:

(i) the documents listed in the items of the preceding paragraph; and

(ii) the documents listed in the items of Article 3 which is related to the transferee (in this case, the terms "license applicant" and "application for the license" are to be deemed to be replaced with "applicant for the approval of business transfer, etc." and "application for the approval of business transfer, etc.," respectively).

(Application for Approval of Merger and Split)

Article 6 (1) A person who intends to obtain approval of merger as prescribed in the first sentence of Article 8, paragraph (2) of the Act must submit to the Minister of Justice a written application for the approval of merger prepared using Appended Form 7, and attach thereto the documents listed as follows:

(i) a document explaining the particulars, etc. of the merger;

(ii) a copy of the minutes of the shareholders meeting (or a copy of the minutes of the board of directors meeting if a merger agreement does not need to be approved by a resolution at the shareholders meeting);

(iii) a copy of the merger agreement;

(iv) the following documents related to the company surviving the merger or company incorporated through the merger (referred to below as the "merger company"):

(a) the articles of incorporation;

(b) the extracts of the certificates of residence of the persons who are to serve as officer, etc. and persons who are to serve as major employees (limited to those containing the registered domiciles of these persons) or documents in lieu of this;

(c) if the attorney who is to serve as a director is recommended by the bar association to which that person belongs as prescribed in the proviso to Article 6, paragraph (2) of the Act, a copy of the document certifying to that effect;

(d) A document prepared by the persons who are to serve as representative directors or representative executive officers (referred to below as "Representative Directors, etc."), etc. of the merged company using appended Form 8 pledging that they do not fall under any of the items of Article 5 of the Act;

(e) documents in which the respective persons who are to serve as officer, etc. pledge, using Appended Form 9, that they do not fall within any of the categories listed in Article 5, item (vii)(a) through (h) of the Act; and

(f) a document stating the organizational chart and the description of the business;

(v) in cases where any party to the merger has not obtained a license stated in Article 3 of the Act, the following documents related to that party:

(a) the articles of incorporation; and

(b) the certificate of registered information.

(2) A person who intends to obtain approval for a split as prescribed in the second sentence of Article 8, paragraph (2) of the Act must submit to the Minister of Justice a written application for the approval of the split prepared using Appended Form 7-2, and attach thereto the following documents:

(i) a document explaining the particulars, etc. of the split;

(ii) a copy of the minutes of the shareholders meeting (or copy of the minutes of the board of directors meeting if an absorption-type company split agreement or incorporation-type company split plan does not need to be approved by a resolution of the shareholders meeting);

(iii) a copy of the absorption-type company split agreement or incorporation-type company split plan;

(iv) the documents listed as follows related to the company which is to succeed to the company managing and collecting on monetary claims or the company managing and collecting on monetary claims which is to succeed to the business through the split (referred to below as the "successor company" in this item):

(a) the articles of incorporation;

(b) the extracts of the certificates of residence of the persons who are to serve as officer, etc. and persons who are to serve as major employees (limited to those containing the registered domiciles of these persons) or documents in lieu of this;

(c) if the attorney who is to serve as a director is recommended by the bar association to which that person belongs as prescribed in the proviso to Article 6, paragraph (2) of the Act, a copy of the document certifying to that effect;

(d) a document in which a person who is to serve as a representative director, etc. of the successor company pledges, using Appended Form 8, that that person does not fall within any of the categories listed in the items of Article 5 of the Act;

(e) documents in which respective persons who are to serve as officer, etc. pledge, using Appended Form 9, that they do not fall within any of the categories listed in Article 5, item (vii), (a) through (h) of the Act; and

(f) a document stating the organizational chart and the description of the business;

(v) in cases where the company which is to be split is not a Company managing and collecting on monetary claims, the following documents related to the relevant company which is to be split:

(a) the articles of incorporation; and

(b) the certificate of registered information.

(Notification of Discontinuation of Business)

Article 7 A person who makes a notification as prescribed in Article 10, paragraph (1) of the Act must submit to the Minister of Justice a written notification of discontinuation of business, etc. prepared using Appended Form 10, and attach thereto the following documents:

(i) a document certifying that the person who makes a notification is a person specified in any of the items of Article 10, paragraph (1) of the Act in accordance with the case specified in the relevant item; and

(ii) the certificate of registered information stating the particulars related to the notification, or document in lieu of this.

(Application for Approval of Subsidiary Business)

Article 8 A person who intends to obtain approval from the Minister of Justice as prescribed in the proviso to Article 12 of the Act must submit to the Minister of Justice a written application for the approval of subsidiary business prepared using Appended Form 11, and attach thereto a document stating the following as listed:

(i) the description and method of the subsidiary business;

(ii) the method of managing the risk of loss arising from the subsidiary business; and

(iii) the organization and distribution of personnel having jurisdiction over the subsidiary business.

(Particulars to Be Stated in Receipt)

Article 9 The particulars specified by Order of the Ministry of Justice as prescribed in Article 15, paragraph (1) of the Act are those listed as follows:

(i) the trade name of the Company managing and collecting on monetary claims, the location of its head office, and its license number;

(ii) the amount received and interest thereon, compensation based on an agreement for liquidated compensation (including penalty; the same applies below), or the amount appropriated to the principal;

(iii) the date of receipt;

(iv) the written characters signifying the fact that payment has been received;

(v) the name of the person who has received payment money;

(vi) the trade name or name of the debtor;

(vii) in cases in which payment of debt has been made by a person other than the debtor, the trade name or name of the person;

(viii) the trade name or name of the creditor of the claim which has been paid;

(ix) the date of occurrence of the claim which has been paid, the cause of occurrence of the claim, as well as the creditor of the claim at the time of occurrence (referred to below as the "original creditor") and the amount of the claim as of that time; and

(x) the amount of outstanding debt after payment and the breakdown of this.

(Particulars to Be Clarified upon Management and Collection of Claims)

Article 10 The particulars specified by Order of the Ministry of Justice as prescribed in Article 17, paragraph (2) of the Act are those listed as follows:

(i) the official title or position that the person holds in the company managing and collecting on monetary claims;

(ii) the fact that gives the basis for the authority of the company managing and collecting on monetary claims to manage or collect claims;

(iii) the date of occurrence of the claim to be managed or collected, the cause of occurrence of the claim, and the trade name or name of the original creditor;

(iv) the amount of the claim to be managed or collected at the time of the request of the other party, and the breakdown of this;

(v) in cases where the company managing and collecting on monetary claims deals with a debt related to a specified monetary claim which involves payment of interest beyond the upper limit of the interest rate specified in Article 1, paragraph (1) of the Interest Rate Restriction Act (Act No. 100 of 1954) (including money that is deemed to be interest pursuant to the provisions of Article 3 of that Act; the same applies below) or for which the amount of liquidated compensation for default exceeds the upper limit specified in Article 4 of the same Act, and the company requests performance of the debt from the debtor or guarantor (referred to below as the "debtor, etc.") to an extent not in violation of Article 18, paragraph (5) of the Act, the amount requested, and the breakdown and the basis for the calculation of this;

(vi) in cases where the other party is a guarantor, the particulars listed as follows:

(a) the trade name or name of the principal debtor;

(b) the date of the contract of guarantee;

(c) the scope of guarantee; and

(d) if the guarantor assumes the debt jointly and severally with the principal debtor; a statement to that effect.

(Carrying of Identification Card)

Article 11 A person engaged in carrying out the operations for conducting the management of and collection on monetary claims , in the course of carrying out those operations, must carry an identification card stating the trade name and license number of the company managing and collecting on monetary claims, and the person's own name, and present it when requested by the other party.

(Regulation on Advertising)

Article 12 The particulars specified by Order of the Ministry of Justice as prescribed in Article 18, paragraph (2) of the Act are the following:

(i) particulars concerning the scope of claims of which the company managing and collecting on monetary claims is entrusted with management or collection, or which the company acquires;

(ii) particulars concerning the trustee fee or acquisition price of the claims prescribed in the preceding item;

(iii) particulars concerning the financial resources or credit standing of the company managing and collecting on monetary claims;

(iv) particulars concerning the scope of the business; and

(v) particulars concerning the results of the business.

(Matters to Be Stated in Power of Attorney)

Article 13 The particulars specified by Order of the Ministry of Justice as prescribed in Article 18, paragraph (3) of the Act are those listed as follows:

(i) the date of creation of the power of attorney;

(ii) the trade name and location of the head office of the company managing and collecting on monetary claims;

(iii) the trade names or names of the creditor and the debtor;

(iv) the particulars listed in Article 10, item (iii);

(v) if there is a provision concerning the due date of payment, method of payment, number of installments of payment, interest, and liquidated compensation; the content of that provision;

(vi) if there is a provision on the forfeiture of benefit of time; a statement to that effect and the content of that provision; and

(vii) in the case of a power of attorney obtained from a guarantor; the trade name or name of the guarantor and the particulars listed in Article 10, item (vi).

(Regulations on Business)

Article 14 The acts specified by Order of the Ministry of Justice as prescribed in Article 18, paragraph (9) of the Act are those listed as follows:

(i) retaining the payment money that the Company managing and collecting on monetary claims has received on behalf of the entrustor party, without clearly distinguishing it from the company's own property;

(ii) collecting the credit information of the debtor, etc. for purposes other than the purpose of using it in the course of business of the Company managing and collecting on monetary claims, or using the collected credit information for purposes other than using it for the business of the Company managing and collecting on monetary claims; and

(iii) conducting the business without posting a sign prepared using Appended Form 12 at a place accessible to the public for each business place of the Company managing and collecting on monetary claims.

(Books and Documents Concerning the Business)

Article 15 (1) The books and documents concerning the business specified by Order the Ministry of Justice as prescribed in Article 20 of the Act are listed as follows:

(i) a list of particulars concerning the status of collection of claims regarding each debtor, in which are recorded the content of the claim and the status of payment;

(ii) books and documents in which are recorded, with regard to the claim of which the credit management and collection company has been entrusted with management or collection, or which the company has acquired (referred to below as the "handled claim"), the content of the contract for the relevant entrustment or acquisition, the content and the security status of the handled claim, as well as the status of management or collection (including the status of payment of collected money in the case of claims under a contract for entrustment);

(iii) books and documents in which are recorded the outline and outcome of any litigation, conciliation, settlement, compulsory execution, exercise of security right, or any other proceedings in which the company managing and collecting on monetary claims is involved as a party with regard to the handled claim;

(iv) books and documents in which are recorded the developments of negotiations with the debtor, etc. with regard to the handled claim;

(v) copy of certificates issued under Article 15 of the Act;

(vi) in cases where there is any instrument of a claim to be managed or collected, books and documents in which are recorded the situation where the company managing and collecting on monetary claims has acquired that instrument and the situation where the company has returned that instrument pursuant to the provisions of Article 16 of the Act;

(vii) in cases where the company managing and collecting on monetary claims deals with a debt related to a specified monetary claim which involves payment of interest beyond the upper limit of the interest rate specified in Article 1, paragraph (1) of the Interest Rate Restriction Act or for which the amount of liquidated compensation for default exceeds the upper limit specified in Article 4 of that same Act, and the company requests to the debtor, etc. performance of that debt to an extent not in violation of Article 18, paragraph (5) of the Act, books and documents in which are recorded the amount requested, and the breakdown and basis for the calculation of this; and

(viii) a bundle of related materials used for preparing the books and documents prescribed in the preceding item.

(2) A company managing and collecting on monetary claims must retain the books and documents prescribed in the items of the preceding paragraph for at least five years from the day on which the contract for entrustment of the handled claim is terminated or the day on which the handled claim is extinguished by reason or payment, or for any other reason.

(Form of Business Report)

Article 16 (1) The business report prescribed in Article 21 of the Act must be prepared using Appended Form 13.

(2) The business report stated in the preceding paragraph is accompanied by the financial statements and annexed detailed statements of this prescribed in Article 435, paragraph (2) of the Companies Act (Act No. 86 of 2005).

(Form of Official's Identification Card)

Article 17 The identification card prescribed in Article 22, paragraph (4) of the Act is prepared using Appended Form 14 (excluding an identification card of an official who conducts an on-site inspection or asks questions pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (2) of that Article).

(Method of Public Notice)

Article 18 Public notice of a supervisory disposition prescribed in Article 25 of the Act is to be issued in the official gazette.