

EXHIBIT A

NOTICE OF PROTECTION PROVIDED BY THE

NORTH DAKOTA LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE GUARANTY ASSOCIATION

This notice provides a brief summary of the North Dakota Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association ("the Association") and the protection it provides for policyholders. This safety net was created under North Dakota law, which determines who and what is covered and the amounts of coverage.

The Association was established to provide protection in the unlikely event that your life, annuity or health insurance company becomes financially unable to meet its obligations and is taken over by its Insurance Department. If this should happen, the Association will typically arrange to continue coverage and pay claims, in accordance with North Dakota law, with funding from assessments paid by other insurance companies. (For purposes of this notice, the terms "insurance company" and "insurer" include health maintenance organizations (HMOs).)

The protections provided by the Association are based on contract obligations up to the following amounts:

1. Life Insurance
 - a. \$300,000 in death benefits
 - b. \$100,000 in cash surrender or withdrawal values
2. Health Insurance
 - a. \$500,000 for health benefit plans (see definition below)
 - b. \$300,000 in disability income insurance benefits
 - c. \$300,000 in long-term care insurance benefits
 - d. \$100,000 in other types of health insurance benefits
3. Annuities
 - a. \$250,000 in the present value of annuity benefits, including net cash surrender and net cash withdrawal values

The maximum amount of protection for each individual, regardless of type of coverage is \$300,000; however, may be up to \$500,000 with regard to health benefit plans.

"Health benefit plan" is defined in North Dakota Century Code Section 26.1-38.1-02(10) and generally includes hospital or medical expense policies, contracts or certificates, or HMO subscriber contracts that provide comprehensive forms of coverage for hospitalization or medical services, but excludes policies that provide coverages for limited benefits (such as dental-only or vision-only insurance), Medicare Supplement insurance, disability income insurance, and long-term care insurance (LTCI).

Benefits provided by a long-term care (LTC) rider to a life insurance policy or annuity contract shall be considered the same type of benefits as the base life insurance policy or annuity contract to which it relates.

Note: Certain policies and contracts may not be covered or fully covered. For example, coverage does not extend to any portion(s) of a policy or contract that the insurer does not guarantee, such as certain investment additions to the account value of a variable life insurance policy or a variable annuity contract. If coverage is available, it will be subject to substantial limitations. There are also various residency requirements and other limitations under North Dakota law. To learn more about the above protections, as well as protections relating to group contracts or retirement plans, please visit the Association's website at www.ndlifega.org or contact:

North Dakota Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association North Dakota Insurance Department

P.O. Box 2422

600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 401

Fargo, ND 58108

Bismarck, ND 58505

COMPLAINTS AND COMPANY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

A written complaint to allege a violation of any provision of the Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association Act must be filed with the North Dakota Insurance Department, 600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 401, Bismarck, North Dakota 58505; telephone (701) 328-2440. Financial information for an insurance company, if the information is not proprietary, is available at the same address and telephone number and on the Insurance Department website at www.nd.gov/ndins.

Insurance companies and agents are not allowed by North Dakota law to use the existence of the Association or its coverage to sell, solicit, or induce you to purchase any form of insurance or HMO coverage. When selecting an insurance company, you should not rely on Association coverage. If there is any inconsistency between this notice and North Dakota law, then North Dakota law will control.