Martiny (SB 319) **Act No. 771**

Prior law provided that when a bail bond fixes an appearance date, the defendant appears as ordered, and notice of the next appearance date is given to the defendant, no additional notice of that appearance date is required to be given to the defendant or the personal surety or the commercial surety or the agent or bondsman who posted the bond for the commercial surety.

Prior law provided that when a bail bond does not fix the appearance date, written notice of the time, date, and place the defendant is first ordered by the court to appear shall be given to the defendant or his duly appointed agent and his personal surety or the commercial surety or the agent or bondsman who posted the bond for the commercial surety.

Prior law provided that if the defendant appears as ordered and the proceeding is continued to a specific date, the defendant and the personal surety or the commercial surety or the agent or bondsman who posted the bond for the commercial surety need not be given notice of the new appearance date.

New law clarifies that prior law applies in instances where the defendant and surety or agent or bondsman who posted the bond for the surety has been given notice of the initial hearing.

Prior law provided that if the defendant fails to appear as ordered, or the proceeding is not continued to a specific date, the defendant or his duly appointed agent, the personal surety or the agent or bondsman who posted the bond for the commercial surety shall be given notice of the new appearance date. New law retains prior law.

Effective August 1, 2012.

(Amends C.Cr.P. Art. 344(C))