Bulletin 88-2

Computer estimate for motor vehicle repairs

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Many insurance companies are using computer generated estimates to determine claim payments for motor vehicle repairs. If a company uses a computer estimate, then there must be repair shops in the local area that will accept, and do, the repair based on the computer estimate. A computer estimate used as the basis for settlement of a claim without a local repair accepting the estimate will, in the absence of mitigating circumstances, be construed as a violation of SDCL 58-33-67.

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