

CHAPTER 336

UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE

336.9-203 Attachment and enforceability of security interest; proceeds; formal requisites.

336.9-401 Place of filing; erroneous filing; removal of collateral.

336.9-402 Formal requisites of financing statement; amendments; mortgage as financing statement.

336.9-411 Computerized filing system.

336.9-203 ATTACHMENT AND ENFORCEABILITY OF SECURITY INTEREST; PROCEEDS; FORMAL REQUISITES.

(1) Subject to the provisions of section 336.4-210 on the security interest of a collecting bank, sections 336.9-115 and 336.9-116 on security interests in investment property and section 336.9-113 on a security interest arising under the article on sales, a security interest is not enforceable against the debtor or third parties with respect to the collateral and does not attach unless:

(a) the collateral is in the possession of the secured party pursuant to agreement, the collateral is investment property and the secured party has control pursuant to agreement, or the debtor has signed a security agreement which contains a description of the collateral and, in addition, when the security interest covers timber to be cut, a description of the land concerned;

(b) value has been given; and

(c) the debtor has rights in the collateral.

(2) A security interest attaches when it becomes enforceable against the debtor with respect to the collateral. Attachment occurs as soon as all of the events specified in subsection (1) have taken place unless explicit agreement postpones the time of attaching.

(3) Unless otherwise agreed a security agreement gives the secured party the rights to proceeds provided by section 336.9-306.

(4) A transaction, although subject to this article, is also subject to Minnesota Statutes, Sections 48.153 to 48.157; Chapters 52, 53, and 56; and Sections 168.66 to 168.77, 222.13 to 222.16, and 334.01 to 334.06, and in the case of conflict between the provisions of this article and any such statute, the provisions of such statute control. Failure to comply with any applicable statute has only the effect which is specified therein.

History: 1999 c 105 s 1

336.9-401 PLACE OF FILING; ERRONEOUS FILING; REMOVAL OF COLLATERAL.

(1) The proper place to file in order to perfect a security interest is as follows:

(a) When the collateral is consumer goods, or motor vehicles which are not covered by a certificate of title, then in the office of the county recorder in the county of the debtor's residence if the debtor is an individual who is a resident of this state but if the debtor is an individual who is not a resident of this state or is a corporation, partnership or other organization then in the office of the secretary of state;

(b) When the collateral is equipment to be used in farming operations, or farm products, or accounts or general intangibles arising from or relating to the sale of farm products by a farmer, or crops growing or to be grown, then in the office of the county recorder in the county of the debtor's residence if the debtor is an individual or organization with residence in this state, but if the debtor is not a resident of this state, then in the office of the secretary of state; security interests covering crops growing or to be grown that are to be filed with the county recorder under this paragraph must be filed in the Uniform Commercial Code division of the recorder's office;

(c) When the collateral is timber to be cut or is minerals or the like (including oil and gas) or accounts subject to subsection (5) of section 336.9-103, or when the financing state-

ment is filed as a fixture filing (section 336.9-313) and the collateral is goods which are or are to become fixtures, then in the office where a mortgage on the real estate would be filed or recorded;

(d) In all other cases, in the office of the secretary of state.

(2) A filing which is made in good faith in an improper place or not in all of the places required by this section is nevertheless effective with regard to any collateral as to which the filing complied with the requirements of this article and is also effective with regard to collateral covered by the financing statement against any person who has knowledge of the contents of such financing statement.

(3) A filing which is made in the proper place in this state continues effective even though the debtor's residence in this state or the use of the collateral, whichever controlled the original filing, is thereafter changed.

(4) The rules stated in section 336.9-103 determine whether filing is necessary in this state.

(5) Notwithstanding the preceding subsections, the proper place to file in order to perfect a security interest in collateral, including fixtures, of a transmitting utility is the office of the secretary of state. Such a filing shall not be deemed a separate filing from the filings required by other laws, if applicable, set forth in subsection (3) of section 336.9-302. This filing constitutes a fixture filing (section 336.9-313) as to the collateral described therein which is or is to become fixtures.

(6) For the purposes of this section, the residence of an organization is its place of business if it has one or its chief executive office if it has more than one place of business.

(7) "Motor vehicle" means any device propelled or drawn by any power other than muscular power in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway, excepting building and road construction equipment and vehicles that are inventory of licensed dealers.

History: 1999 c 105 s 2

336.9-402 FORMAL REQUISITES OF FINANCING STATEMENT; AMENDMENTS; MORTGAGE AS FINANCING STATEMENT.

(1) A financing statement is sufficient if it gives the name of the debtor and the secured party, is signed by the debtor, gives an address of the secured party from which information concerning the security interest may be obtained, gives a mailing address of the debtor, gives the social security number of the debtor or, in the case of a debtor doing business other than as an individual, the internal revenue service taxpayer identification number of the debtor, and contains a statement indicating the types or describing the items, of collateral. A financing statement may be filed before a security agreement is made or a security interest otherwise attaches. When the financing statement covers timber to be cut or covers minerals or the like (including oil and gas) or accounts subject to subsection (5) of section 336.9-103, or when the financing statement is filed as a fixture filing (section 336.9-313) and the collateral is goods which are or are to become fixtures, the statement must also comply with subsection (5). A copy of the security agreement is sufficient as a financing statement if it contains the above information and is signed by the debtor. A carbon, photographic or other reproduction of a security agreement or a financing statement is sufficient as a financing statement if the security agreement so provides or if the original has been filed in this state.

(2) A financing statement which otherwise complies with subsection (1) is sufficient when it is signed by the secured party instead of the debtor when it is filed to perfect a security interest in

(a) collateral already subject to a security interest in another jurisdiction when it is brought into this state, or when the debtor's location is changed to this state. Such a financing statement must state that the collateral was brought into this state or that the debtor's location was changed to this state under such circumstances; or

(b) proceeds under section 336.9-306 if the security interest in the original collateral was perfected. Such a financing statement must describe the original collateral; or

(c) collateral as to which the filing has lapsed within one year; or

(d) collateral acquired after a change of name, identity or corporate structure of the debtor (subsection (7)); or

(e) a lien filed pursuant to chapter 514; or

(f) collateral which is subject to a filed judgment.

(2a) Except for documents filed under clauses (e) and (f), the reason for the omission of the debtor signature must be stated on the front of the financing statement.

(3) A form substantially as follows is sufficient to comply with subsection (1):

Name of debtor (or assignor)

.....

Address

.....

Debtor's Social Security Number or I.R.S. Tax I.D. Number

.....

Name of secured party (or assignee)

.....

Address

.....

1. This financing statement covers the following types (or items) of property: (Describe)

.....

2. (If applicable) The above goods are to become fixtures on

(Describe real estate)..... and this financing statement is to be filed for record in the real estate records. (If the debtor does not have an interest of record) The name of a record owner is

3. (If products of collateral are claimed)

Products of the collateral are also covered.

Use whichever signature line is applicable.

Signature of debtor (or assignor)

.....

Signature of secured party (or assignee)

.....

(4) A financing statement may be amended by filing a writing signed by both the debtor and the secured party. If the sole purpose of the amendment is to change the name or address of the secured party, only the secured party need sign the amendment. A writing is sufficient if it sets forth the name and address of the debtor and secured party as those items appear on the original financing statement or the most recently filed amendment, the file number and date of filing of the financing statement. An amendment does not extend the period of effectiveness of a financing statement. If any amendment adds collateral, it is effective as to the added collateral only from the filing date of the amendment. In this article, unless the context otherwise requires, the term "financing statement" means the original financing statement and any amendments.

(5) A financing statement covering timber to be cut or covering minerals or the like (including oil and gas) or accounts subject to subsection (5) of section 336.9-103, or a financing statement filed as a fixture filing (section 336.9-313) where the debtor is not a transmitting utility, must show that it covers this type of collateral, must recite that it is to be filed for record in the real estate records, and the financing statement must contain a description of the real estate sufficient if it were contained in a mortgage of the real estate to give constructive notice of the mortgage under the law of this state. If the debtor does not have an interest of record in the real estate, the financing statement must show the name of a record owner. No description of the real estate or the name of the record owner thereof is required for a fixture filing where the debtor is a transmitting utility. Notwithstanding the foregoing a general description of the real estate is sufficient for a fixture filing where a railroad is the record owner of the real estate on which the fixtures are or are to be located; and for the purposes of this

subsection, the requirement of a general description is satisfied if the fixture filing (1) identifies the section, township and range numbers of the county in which the land is located; (2) identifies the quarter-quarter of the section that the land is located in; (3) indicates the name of the record owner of the real estate; and (4) states the street address of the real estate if one exists.

(6) A mortgage is effective as a financing statement filed as a fixture filing from the date of its recording if (a) the goods are described in the mortgage by item or type, (b) the goods are or are to become fixtures related to the real estate described in the mortgage, (c) the mortgage complies with the requirements for a financing statement in this section other than a recital that it is to be filed in the real estate records, and (d) the mortgage is duly recorded. No fee with reference to the financing statement is required other than the regular recording and satisfaction fees with respect to the mortgage.

(7) A financing statement sufficiently shows the name of the debtor if it gives the individual, partnership or corporate name of the debtor, whether or not it adds other trade names or the names of partners, and gives the social security number of the debtor or, in the case of a debtor doing business other than as an individual, the internal revenue service taxpayer identification number of the debtor. Where the debtor so changes a personal name or in the case of an organization its name, identity or corporate structure that a filed financing statement becomes seriously misleading, the filing is not effective to perfect a security interest in collateral acquired by the debtor more than four months after the change, unless a new appropriate financing statement is filed before the expiration of that time. A filed financing statement remains effective with respect to collateral transferred by the debtor even though the secured party knows of or consents to the transfer.

(8) A financing statement, amendment, continuation, assignment, release, or termination substantially complying with the requirements of this section is effective even though it contains minor errors which are not seriously misleading. The omission or any inaccuracy in stating the debtor's social security or federal tax identification number is not, standing alone, a seriously misleading error.

History: 1999 c 105 s 3

336.9-411 COMPUTERIZED FILING SYSTEM.

(a) The secretary of state shall develop and implement a statewide computerized filing system to accumulate and disseminate information relative to lien statements, financing statements, state and federal tax lien notices, and other Uniform Commercial Code documents. The computerized filing system must allow information to be entered and retrieved from the computerized filing system by county recorders, the department of revenue, the department of economic security, and the Internal Revenue Service.

(b) County recorders shall enter information relative to lien statements, financing statements, state and federal tax lien notices, and other Uniform Commercial Code documents filed in their offices into a central database maintained by the secretary of state. The information must be entered under the rules of the secretary of state. This requirement does not apply to tax lien notices filed under sections 268.058, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), clause (2); 270.69, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), clause (2); and 272.488, subdivision 1, but does apply to entry of the date and time of receipt and county recorder's file number of those notices.

(c) The secretary of state may allow private parties to have electronic access to the computerized filing system and to other computerized records maintained by the secretary of state on a fee basis, except that visual access to electronic display terminals at the public counters at the secretary of state's office will be without charge and available during public counter hours. If the computerized filing system allows a form of electronic access to information regarding the obligations of debtors, the access must be available 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

Notwithstanding section 13.49, private parties who have electronic access to computerized records may view the social security number information about a debtor that is of record.

(d) The secretary of state shall adopt rules to implement the computerized filing system. The rules must:

- (1) allow filings to be made at the offices of all county recorders and the secretary of state's office as required by section 336.9-401;
 - (2) establish a central database for all information relating to liens and security interests that are filed at the offices of county recorders and the secretary of state;
 - (3) provide procedures for entering data into a central database;
 - (4) allow the offices of all county recorders and the secretary of state's office to add, modify, and delete information in the central database as required by the Uniform Commercial Code;
 - (5) allow the offices of all county recorders and the secretary of state's office to have access to the central database for review and search capabilities;
 - (6) allow the offices of all county recorders to have electronic access to the computerized business information records on file with the secretary of state;
 - (7) require the secretary of state to maintain the central database;
 - (8) provide security and protection of all information in the central database and monitor the central database to ensure that unauthorized entry is not allowed;
 - (9) require standardized information for entry into the central database;
 - (10) prescribe an identification procedure for debtors and secured parties that will enhance lien and financing statement searches; and
 - (11) prescribe a procedure for phasing-in or converting from the existing filing system to a computerized filing system.
- (e) The secretary of state, county recorders, and their employees and agents shall not be liable for any loss or damages arising from errors in or omissions from information entered into the computerized filing system as a result of the electronic transmission of tax lien notices under sections 268.058, subdivision 1, paragraph (b), clause (2); 270.69, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), clause (2); 272.483; and 272.488, subdivisions 1 and 3.

History: 1999 c 133 s 9