

Cherokee Nation Code Annotated

Title 12: Civil Procedure

Chapter 8: Uniform Arbitration Act

§ 1314. Immunity of arbitrator—Competency to testify—Attorney fees and costs

Cite as: 12 CNCA § 1314

A. An arbitrator or an arbitration organization acting in that capacity is immune from civil liability to the same extent as a Judge of a Court of this Nation acting in a judicial capacity.

B. The immunity afforded by this section supplements any immunity under other law.

C. The failure of an arbitrator to make a disclosure required by 12 CNCA § 1312 does not cause any loss of immunity under this section.

D. In a judicial, administrative, or similar proceeding, an arbitrator or representative of an arbitration organization is not competent to testify, and may not be required to produce records as to any statement, conduct, decision, or ruling occurring during the arbitration proceeding, to the same extent as a Judge of a Court of this Nation acting in a judicial capacity. This subsection does not apply:

1. to the extent necessary to determine the claim of an arbitrator, arbitration organization, or representative of the arbitration organization against a party to the arbitration proceeding; or

2. to a hearing on a petition to vacate an award under 12 CNCA § 1323(A)(1) or (2) if the petitioner establishes prima facie that a ground for vacating the award exists.

E. If a person commences a civil action against an arbitrator, arbitration organization, or representative of an arbitration organization arising from the services of the arbitrator, organization, or representative or if a person seeks to compel an arbitrator or a representative of an arbitration organization to testify or produce records in violation of subsection (D) of this section, and the Court decides that the arbitrator, arbitration organization, or representative of an arbitration organization is immune from civil liability or that the arbitrator or representative of the organization is not competent to testify, the Court shall award to the arbitrator, organization, or representative reasonable attorney fees and other reasonable expenses of litigation.

Historical Data

LA 25–03, eff. September 30, 2003.