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[Fourth Circuit Rules for Plaintiff Over \\$40 Medical Bill](#)

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Here's an update on Samuel Juniper's lawsuit against his employer, M&G Polymers USA, LLC. If you've forgotten, Juniper successfully sued M&G last year after Aetna, M&G's health insurer, denied \$40 in charges for three venipunctures, then provided Juniper with various and conflicting reasons for the denials. I wrote about [the lawsuit in this post](#).

On October 10, [the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the Southern District of West Virginia's ruling](#) in Juniper's favor. The Fourth Circuit adopted the district court's reasoning in an unpublished *per curiam* opinion. *Juniper v. M&G Polymers USA, LLC*, 2008 WL 4538161 (4th Cir. 2008).

District Judge Robert C. Chambers had accepted Magistrate Judge Maurice G. Taylor, Jr.'s recommended decision that Juniper's motion for summary judgment be granted and M&G's be denied. The court found that the "decision [to deny the charges] was arbitrary, not supported by evidence, inconsistent with earlier interpretations of the plan and not reasonable." [Juniper v. M&G Polymers USA, LLC](#), 495 F.Supp.2d 590 (S. D. W. Va. 2007).

The ContractsProf Blog [posted about the decision](#), which it described as "David Defeats Goliath." And the *ABA Journal* reported that [Juniper intends to frame his \\$40 check](#) when he receives it.

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