

# Property & Casualty Policy Forms

#### **Rachelle Carter**

Director, Policy Forms August 4, 2016

LDI Louisiana Department of Insurance LOUISIANA INSURERS' CONFERENCE ANNUAL LOUISIANA INSURANCE COMPLIANCE SEMINAR & LEGISLATIVE REVIEW August 3-5, 2016 | Hotel Monteleone New Orleans

LIC is Charting the Course



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John Lala, Insurance Specialist 2

Warren Byrd, Deputy Commissione

Charles Hansberry, Assistant Commissioner





# **Topics of Discussion**

# Legislative Changes Frequent Submission Errors Most Common Compliance Issues









ACT 274 (HB 184) Effective 8-1-2016

 Adds a requirement to the Homeowners Insurance Policy Coverage Disclosure Summary

 Claims that fall within the deductible and do not result in a payment to the insured or on behalf of the insured may be used by the insurer to increase policy premium or as part of the basis for cancellation

≻La. R.S. 22:1332(B)(7)



ACT 278 (HB 476) Effective 8-1-2016

- Changes the Certificate of Insurance (COI) approval process
- COI forms promulgated by insurers, ACORD, ISO and AAIS may be used
- Insurers no longer file COIs for approval and the LDI approval number is no longer required
- Previous requirements for COIs remain the same
- ≻La. R.S. 22:890



#### ACT 596 (HB 935) Effective 1-1-2017

 Requires insurers to provide written notice to policyholders of policy coverage reductions at renewal

 Policyholder notices that are not made part of the policy are not required to be filed for approval

≻La. R.S. 22:41.1

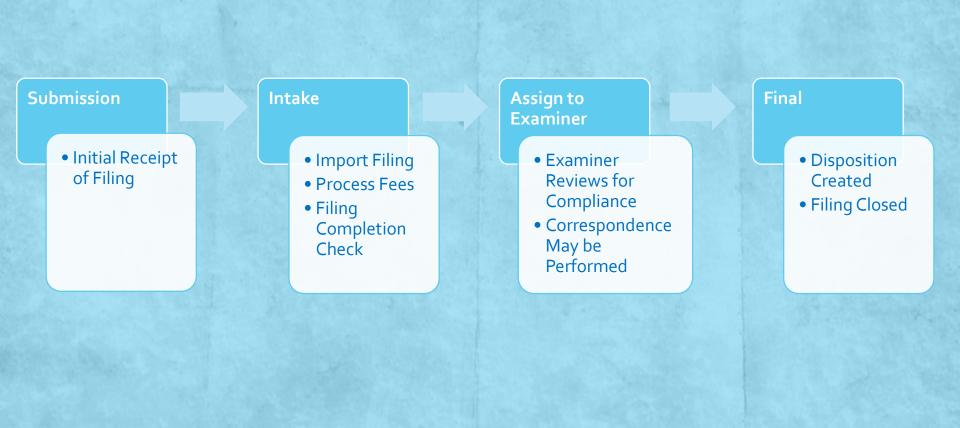
# **Frequent Submission Errors**







# **Filing Process**





# **Frequent Submission Errors**

Filing Fees
Statement of Compliance
New programs
Adoptions



# Frequent Submission Errors Filing Fees

\$100 per product, per insurance company

\$25 per endorsement filing, per insurance company

 \$20 per filing adoption of each advisory organization's reference or item filing (designation number), per company



# **Frequent Submission Errors Filing Fees**

#### PRODUCT

 Fees are \$100 for <u>each</u> stand alone policy and/or coverage part within the same program, per company

 Any endorsements, applications and declaration pages submitted in conjunction with the product are included in the \$100 per product fee

# **Filing Fees**

#### PRODUCT

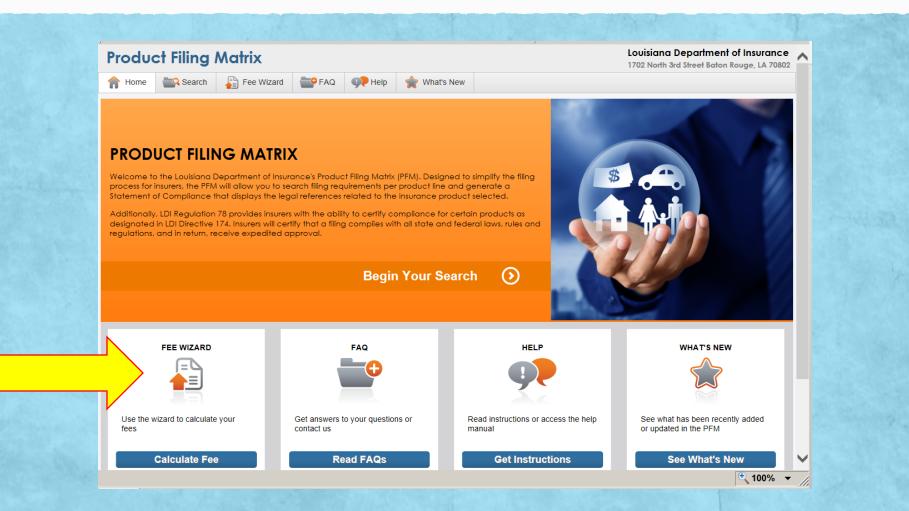
 If you are submitting policies and/or coverage parts that are not stand alone (cannot be sold separately), note this in the Filing Fee Tab or the General Information Tab

#### **ENDORSEMENT FILINGS**

 The fees are \$25 per filing (not per endorsement) per company

#### CONFIDENCE CONFID

# **Frequent Submission Errors Filing Fees**





# **Frequent Submission Errors** Statement of Compliance (SOC)

# Incorrect SOCBlank SOC



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Company Tracki Filing Submissio		Policy Holder Type:	
	of Compliance Form CANNOT BE	FILED for this product type.	
Form Filing Requirements	Description	Form -	Section / Page #
La. R.S. 22:§860 A	Warranties and misrepresentations by the insured made in the negotiation of a contract cannot be deemed material or void the contract unless such is made with the intent to deceive.		
La. R.S. 22:§864 B(1)	A policy shall specify the names of the parties to the contract. The insurer's name and if not a life insurer, the type of organization shall be clearly shown in the policy.		
La. R.S. 22:§864 B(2)	A policy shall specify the subject of the insurance.		
La. R.S. 22:§864 B(3)	A policy shall specify the risks insured against.		
La. R.S. 22:§864 B(4)	A policy shall specify the time at which the insurance thereunder takes effect and the period during which the insurance is to continue.		
La. R.S. 22:§864 B(5)	A policy shall include a statement of the premium. If other than life, accident or health, or title insurance, the premium rate should also be specified.		

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# Frequent Submission Errors New Programs

 Initial/New Program filings should also include declaration pages, applications (if made part of policy), and any policy jackets or any signature page

New Programs must have a new rate filing that corresponds

# Frequent Submission Errors Adoptions

#### **ADOPTION FILINGS – WITH FILING AUTHORITY**

 Companies that have granted the Rating Organization filing authority, using same effective date, or for an initial/new program, do NOT require adoption filing fees

 Filing fees for declaration pages, applications, or other independent forms still apply



# **Frequent Submission Errors Adoptions**

#### WITH FILING AUTHORITY - DELAYED

 Companies that have granted the Rating Organization filing authority, but using a later effective date, adoption filing fees DO apply

 \$20 per advisory organization's reference or item filing (designation number), per company

 Filing fees for declaration pages, applications, or other independent forms apply separately

# Frequent Submission Errors Adoptions

#### **ADOPTION FILINGS – W/OUT FILING AUTHORITY**

 Companies that have NOT granted the Rating Organization filing authority, adoption filing fees DO apply

\$20 per each advisory organization's reference or item filing (designation number), per company

 Filing fees for declaration pages, applications, or other independent forms apply separately



### **RUH-ROH!**





Arbitration

#### Duty to Defend

#### Misrepresentations & Warranties

#### Pollution/Pollutants



 UM/UIM Exclusions in Umbrella/Excess
 Filings



#### Arbitration

Binding mandatory arbitration clauses are not allowed

- Language that deprives the Louisiana courts of the jurisdiction of action against an insurer is prohibited
- Policy language should state voluntary and non-binding

LDI Directive 173 and La. R.S. 22:868A
 For UM coverage see La. R.S. 22:1295(5)



#### **Misrepresentations & Warranties**

 Representations and warranties cannot be <u>deemed</u> material, and misrepresentations cannot void the policy or defeat coverage unless:

(1) the statement is false

(2) it was made with the intent to deceive and

(3) it is material to the risk



#### **Misrepresentations & Warranties**

- For a policy to be void, the misrepresentation must be made with the intent to deceive when applying for coverage
- After the contract is formed, misrepresentations are grounds to deny coverage and reasons for cancellation, but until cancellation is effective, the insurer must supply coverage and pay legitimate claims

La. R.S. 22:887, La. R.S. 22:1266, and La. R.S. 22:1267



#### **Pollution/Pollutants**

LDI Advisory Letter 97-01, LDI Advisory Letter 01-01 and Addendum, and LDI Directive 137

 This Department views pollutants as substances that damage the natural environment when accidentally spilled, leaked, or discharged.



#### **Pollution/Pollutants**

 Pollutants are the wastes or by-products which result from business, industrial or manufacturing operations. It's the stuff left over that you can't do anything with but throw away, either by dumping it into a waterway, discharging it into the air, or putting it in a pit in the ground. Under state and federal law you must have a permit to transport, store or otherwise dispose of pollutants.



#### **Pollution/Pollutants**

 If the damage is due to a covered cause of loss, the presence of pollutants on the premises does not convert the covered claim to a non-covered claim. The insurer should pay to replace or repair the area damaged by a covered cause of loss.



#### **Pollution/Pollutants**

 The pollution exclusion is applicable when damage is due to the presence of "pollutants" but not just because something escapes and makes a big mess.

 For example: A milk truck could tip over and leak milk into a catfish pond and all the fish could die, but that doesn't trigger the pollution exclusion because milk is a "product" and not a by-product.



#### **Pollution/Pollutants**

 Products (as opposed to by-products) that get into floodwaters, even if harmful (i.e., household cleaning products, such as bleach), are **not** "pollutants" for purposes of triggering the pollution exclusion.

 For example, oil is not considered a pollutant. The general rule is that "floodwater" is not a "pollutant" notwithstanding the fact that floodwater is usually full of unhealthy matter.



#### **Pollution/Pollutants**

 In general, issue separate pollution exclusions with exceptions to policies to comply with advisory letters.

 Only issue separate <u>total</u> pollution exclusions to those insureds who meet the underwriting justification as indicated in the advisory letters.

 Provide an explanation regarding the above with submission of pollution exclusions.



Duty to Defend ≻La. R.S. 22:1269D

 An insurer's duty to defend ends when the limit of liability has been exhausted by the payment of a judgment or settlement, not when the insurer's limit of liability has been exhausted.

 Insurers cannot simply tender their limit of liability before a settlement or judgment is reached, and thus, relieve themselves of their duty to defend the insured.



#### **Duty to Defend**

 Certain types of policies are allowed to provide for defense costs within the limits of liability or split limits with a separate limit for defense costs. Such policies can state the duty to defend ends upon the exhaustion of the limits.

 If the policy is excess, the insurer does not have a duty to defend, but retains a right to associate in the defense of the insured.



#### **Duty to Defend**

- A provision that states that the duty to defend ends upon the payment of judgments, settlements <u>or medical</u> <u>expenses</u> is not approvable.
- Language stating the insurer has no duty to defend any suit or settle any claim for loss or damage that is not covered under the terms of the policy is not approvable.
- The insured might be forced to defend claims when the extent of coverage is in dispute, or in those instances when a covered claim is coupled with an uncovered claim.



#### Uninsured Motorists (UM) Exclusions -Umbrella/Excess Policies

 Insurers are required to offer UM coverage under an umbrella or excess policy when that policy covers "liability arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of any motor vehicle"

La. R.S. 22:1295, Southern American ins. Co. v. Dobson, 441 So. 2d 1185 (La. 1983)

La. R.S. 22:1295 and LDI Bulletin No. 08-02

Duncan v. U.S.A.A. Ins. Co., 950 So. 2d 544 (La. 2006)



# **Office Contact Information**



Office of Property & Casualty

**Policy Forms Division** 

- (225) 342-5203
- **(800) 259-5300**
- www.ldi.la.gov

#### Product Filing Matrix (PFM):

<u>http://ia.ldi.state.la.us/product</u> <u>matrix/</u>





# **Closing Summary**

#### **Rachelle** Carter

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Louisiana Department of Insurance











Use PFM's Fee Wizard

- Use help documents on PFM
- If endorsement filing, provide approved policy information



Department of Insurance  Provide explanations of changes (Red-lined/Marked Copies)

 Provide detailed program information (Who, What, Where, When, Why, How)

 Reference or provide copies of Louisiana Changes endorsements



#### Tips

- Provide rating organization designation/item numbers for all adoptions and initial programs
- If new member to rating organization, provide proof of filing authority

 Reference Louisiana Changes endorsements on SOC

 Reference how policies and/or coverage parts will be sold (monoline or package only)





#### Tips

- Be aware of legislative changes
- If resubmission of disapproval, provide copy of disposition letter with outlined changes

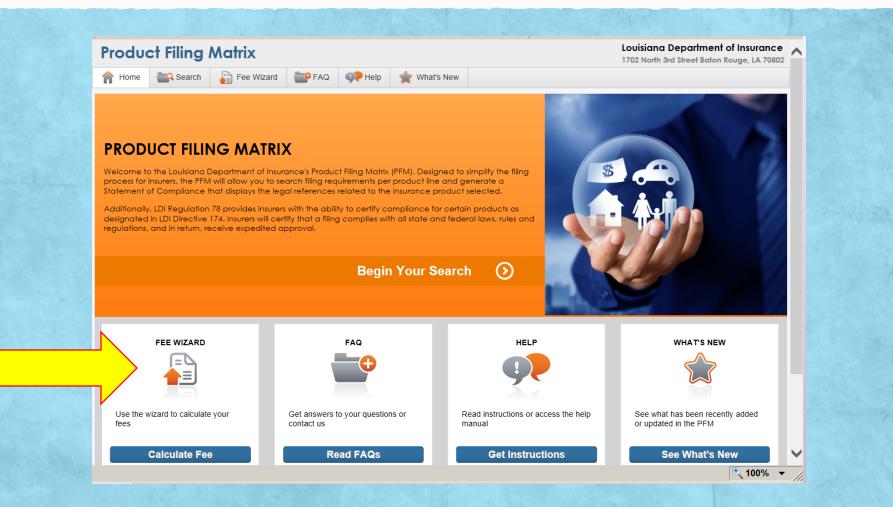
- Ensure data entered in SERFF is correct
- Respond to correspondence
- Check for Notes to Filer in SERFF



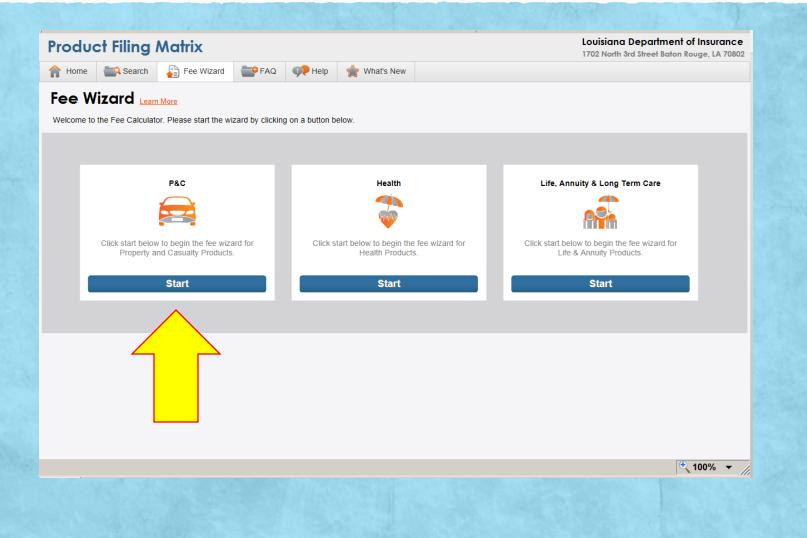














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#### LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE JAMES J. DONELON COMMISSIONER

#### FEE ASSESSMENT WIZARD

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Date: July 30, 2015

Wizard Type: Property & Casualty

Thank you for using the LDI Product Filing Matrix Fee Assessment Wizard. The wizard used the steps listed below to determine your estimated fee.

Step 1: Please choose your Filing Type.

Complete Filing

Step 2: How many companies are included in your filing?

3

- Step 3: How many policies are in your filing?
- Step 4: How will the policies be sold? Mono-Line (Stand-alone)
- Step 5: The total fee for this filing is:

\$600.00