

### LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

# How Can We Help You?

#### **Tim Temple**

Commissioner of Insurance

#### What is the Department of Insurance?

The Department of Insurance is a state agency created by the Louisiana Legislature and headed by a statewide elected commissioner of insurance. One of the major functions of the department is to make sure you get the insurance coverage you are paying for. The department constantly monitors and regulates the insurance industry to make certain your insurance will be there when you need it.

## How does the department regulate the insurance industry?

The licensing process is the key way the Department of Insurance regulates insurers. To write insurance in the state, an insurance company must file an application with the Department of Insurance requesting permission to write specific kinds of insurance under specific guidelines. Background checks are done on the people involved in the company to make sure they meet the high standards the department has set for the insurance industry.

The Office of Licensing for the Department of Insurance takes care of licensing both companies and agents. To remain in business, companies must file quarterly and annual reports for review by the department.

#### When do I contact the Department of Insurance?

The Department of Insurance can help you verify information about an insurance company or producer. You can also contact the department when you have a problem or question you can't resolve with an insurance producer or company. Each year, the department assists consumers in receiving additional insurance payments. The department can also assist you when you want to report insurance fraud. The Louisiana Department of Insurance is tasked with balancing the needs of insurance consumers with the insurance industry's need to operate competitively. The LDI works diligently to protect the interest of policyholders while promoting a flourishing insurance market that benefits all residents and businesses in the great state of Louisiana. It is our mission to make sure insurance is available, affordable and accountable in Louisiana, and every action I take as Commissioner is targeted at achieving those goals.

As part of that mission, the LDI creates publications to provide consumers, the insurance industry, and other stakeholders with educational information about insurance-related matters in Louisiana.

I hope you find this publication informative, and I encourage you to contact us with questions or concerns at 1-800-259-5300 or Idi.la.gov.

Sincerely,

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Tim Temple Commissioner of Insurance

#### Who at the department can help me?

The Consumer Complaint Division within the Office of Consumer Services investigates complaints with an unbiased perspective to determine whether the insurer or producer performed in compliance with the law and with the terms and conditions of the policy. The division works with other offices in the department to answer questions, assist with complaints, and report to the appropriate official the violation of any rules, regulations or laws by entities regulated by the department.

The Consumer Complaint Division can also help you with auto and property insurance questions, as well as with other areas such as health, life and long-term care insurance policy questions.

If your family needs information on a deceased relative's life insurance policy bought in Louisiana, visit the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) website to find a life insurance policy search form. This free online tool activates a confidential process that searches the files of all life insurance companies licensed to do business in the state to locate the policy. If a company finds the requested policy, it notifies the family.

The Office of Consumer Advocacy and Diversity can help you by providing you with educational and informational programs and presentations. Consumer Advocacy and Diversity staff frequently participates in events and speaking engagements throughout Louisiana to explain the services and resources available through the department. This office also houses the Division of Diversity and Opportunity. This division assists small, minority, and disadvantaged insurance agents, producers and individuals by providing support and education.

The Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIP) can help you with questions you or your family have about Medicare and seniorrelated health insurance issues, including the Medicare Prescription Drug Program.

#### Frequently Used Phone Numbers

#### **General Information:**

800.259.5300

**Consumer Services:** 225.219.0619

**Consumer Advocacy:** 225.219.4775

**Senior Health (SHIIP):** 225.342.5301

**Agents Licensing:** 

225.342.0860

**Company Licensing:** 225.342.1251

Insurance Rating: 225.342.5203

Property & Casualty:

225,342,5203

Life & Annuity:

225,342,1226

Health: 225.219.4770

#### **Reporting Insurance Fraud**

If you suspect that an agent or company is engaging in fraudulent activity, contact the Office of Insurance Fraud at 225.342.4956.

## Louisiana Department of Insurance

Address: Post Office Box 94214 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9214 Phone: 800.259.5300 Fax: 225.342.078 Website: www.ldi.la.gov Email: public@ldi.la.gov

#### LDIConnect App

