

AGENT SERVICES

July 16, 2010

To: All Public Adjusting Companies

Re: **Public Adjusting Company Numbers**

In October 2009, Agent Services Division notified all public adjusting companies of the following changes to the public adjuster state license fee collection and company appointment process implemented effective January 30, 2010:

- The public adjuster fee collection was changed to require a total of \$125 to be paid at the time of application submission. The registration fee is \$50 and the license fee is \$75 for a total of \$125 for public adjusters. This \$125 fee is collected with application submission to the Agent Services Division, application through the National Insurance Producer Registry (NIPR), and by our resident licensing vendor Pearson VUE at the time of examination. Agent Services Division no longer bills public adjusting companies the \$75 license fee for each newly licensed adjuster representing their company.
- Agent Services Division sent notification to public adjusters in January 2010 that they should complete an annual renewal application through NIPR and pay the annual \$75 license fee directly via credit card or electronic check.
- Agent Services Division no longer requires appointments to a public adjusting company for public adjuster licenses.

Public adjusting companies are not a licensed entity in North Carolina. The Department assigned a company number to your entity upon request for billing purposes only. As public adjusting companies are no longer required for billing purposes due to the above changes, Agent Services Division has now made all the public adjusting company numbers inactive.

Effective 7/1/2010, both resident and non-resident business entities acting as a public adjuster in North Carolina are required to obtain a license as a public adjuster. North Carolina G.S. 58-33A-5 defines a business entity as a corporation, association, partnership, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, or other legal entity. The business entity is required to designate a licensed public adjuster to be responsible for the business entity's compliance with North Carolina insurance laws and regulations.

Resident business entities acting as a public adjuster are also required to submit fingerprints for each "key person" for a criminal history background check. A "key person" is considered an owner, officer, partner, director, or any other individual who will be in a position to influence the operating decisions of the business entity.

If your public adjusting company meets the definition of a business entity and is acting as a public adjuster in North Carolina, please submit an application for licensure as a Corporation/Partnership business entity using the NAIC Uniform Business Entity Application. Apply on line at www.nipr.com. Effective 10/1/2010, a specific public adjuster business entity license type will be available and all existing Corporations/Partnerships with a licensed public adjuster designated as DRLP will automatically convert to this new license type. Resident public adjuster business entities must also submit fingerprints electronically for each key person; therefore, resident public adjuster business entity applications will pend. Once the background check is received for each key person of the public adjuster business entity, a license decision will be made. Resident fingerprint submission instructions and required forms are located on the Department's website www.ncdoi.com under applications and forms for insurance licensing.

A Public Adjuster Frequently Asked Questions document on these changes effective 7/1/2010 has been posted on the Department's website www.ncdoi.com in the following location http://www.ncdoi.com/asd/asd_faq.asp

If you have any questions, please contact the Agent Services Division at (919) 807-6800.

Sincerely,

Agent Services Division