

NCBAA
Commissioner's Column
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Department of Insurance Notifications

I am excited to talk about some convenient tools that improve our service to you — our bail bond licensees. The Department currently provides access to numerous, free online licensee services that allow you to perform many licensing functions yourself, like update your license address and review your license status. These online license services are available round-the-clock and provide you an efficient way to manage your license.

In 2009, the Agent Services Division also created a bondsman e-mail distribution list to send licensed bondsmen and bail bond runners important notifications regarding licensing matters, compliance issues and legislative information. E-mail provides an efficient way to send timely notifications to our licensees and it's budget-conscious and environmentally-friendly. The following are some of the notifications that have been sent to through the bondsman notification list:

- New bail bond license design
- Budget appropriations legislation that increased bail bond license fees
- Revised bail bond application and forms
- New bail bond license qualifications
- US Bank custodial account contact changes
- License renewal instructions
- Revised renewal application

In order to receive these important e-mail notifications, bondsmen and bail bond runners should provide the Department with a valid e-mail address — all licensees were required by law to provide an email address by Jan. 1, 2010. Just like with other contact information, bondsmen and runners are required to update their e-mail address within 10 days of making a change. If you fail to provide the proper notification of changes required by law (N.C.G.S. 58-2-69(b)), you may be assessed a \$50 administrative fee.

Once you've provided your e-mail, you will automatically be added to our distribution list. I strongly encourage all bondsmen and runners to provide the Department with their updated e-mail address through the following online options:

- Bondsmen and bail bond runners that also have a residence, business, or mailing address change can provide an e-mail address when they update their address through NIPR's address change service, <https://pdb.nipr.com/ACR/SignIn>
- Bondsmen and bail bond runners can provide an e-mail address update only through the Department's online submission form in the following location:
http://www.ncdoi.com/ASD/CompanyContactForm/asd_CompanyContactEmailOnly_form.asp

The Department is also expanding our current lines of communication with optional e-mail notifications through the SBS Connect service beginning Oct. 1. SBS Connect is an online service provided by State Based Systems (SBS). SBS is an electronic system developed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) in partnership with state insurance departments. SBS Connect will guide you through the process of setting up a free account and establishing a password, and once you are enrolled with SBS Connect, it is quick and easy to sign up for optional e-mail notifications for changes to your license.

This service is free, and provides optional electronic notifications for the following license events:

- Original license approval
- License renewal
- License status change
- Address change
- Name change

The Department is committed to streamlining and improving licensing processes through electronic processing options and communication tools. Call Agent Services Division at 919-807-6800 if you have any questions.

Please use a separate box/area for this reminder:

Reminder: If a licensed bondsman or runner requires a duplicate hard plastic, photo bail bond license either as a replacement or to have a current photo on your license, the licensee must complete the Duplicate Photo License Request Process through the Department of Insurance's testing vendor Pearson VUE. Complete instructions are on the Department's website at www.ncdoi.com/asd/asd_change_bailbondsman.asp.