

Division of Insurance

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Winter 2016

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Department of Labor and Regulation Updates Website

The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) has launched a redesigned, mobile responsive website at <u>dlr.sd.gov</u>. The site also debuts the agency's new logo.

The latest features include an events calendar with search capability, sliders to highlight announcements and resources, and mega menus for more direct links to forms, online applications and program information.

"Our new website will provide better customer service through greater



functionality and intuitive design," said state Labor and Regulation Secretary Marcia Hultman. "Further technological enhancements to our job search system will be implemented early next year."

Job seekers and employers can learn about workforce services available, including the SDWORKS jobs database, education and training opportunities, labor market information and state labor laws.

Public information on DLR's occupational licensing boards and commissions is also available, in addition to regulations and consumer protection guidance for the banking, insurance and securities industries.

DLR promotes economic opportunity and financial security for individuals and businesses. View detailed descriptions of the various divisions and programs, along with the appropriate contact information, in the <u>staff directory</u>.

2017 Legislative Session

The Division is currently preparing for the 2017 Legislative Session officially slated to begin at Noon on Jan. 10, 2017. Additional information about the upcoming legislative session is available on the Legislative Research Council website at http://www.sdlegislature.gov/.

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Nationwide Life Insurance Policy Locator

The South Dakota Division of Insurance and the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) announces the availability of a national service that provides consumers with search capabilities to help find a deceased person's lost life insurance policies and annuities.



The NAIC's <u>Life Insurance Policy Locator</u>, available at https://eapps.naic.org/life-policy-locator/#/welcome, provides nationwide access for assistance with finding life insurance policies and annuities.

The national service streamlines and simplifies the process for companies as well as consumers looking for a deceased person's lost life insurance policy or annuity.

When making a request through the locator, the consumer will be asked to provide information about the decedent as well as contact information for the requestor. Consumer requests are encrypted and secured to maintain confidentiality. Participating insurers will compare submitted requests with available policyholder information and report all matches to state insurance divisions through the locator. Companies will then contact beneficiaries or their authorized representatives.

Additional information to aid consumers searching for a deceased's life insurance benefit is available in the NAIC Consumer Alert: Lost Life Insurance Benefit available at http://www.naic.org/documents/consumer_alert_locate_lost_life_insurance_benefit.htm.

If you have any questions or concerns about your insurance, please contact the Division of Insurance at 605.773.3563 or by email at insurance@state.sd.us.

Market Conduct Annual Statement beginning in 2017

The South Dakota Division of Insurance ("Division") will participate in the Market Conduct Annual Statement ("MCAS") beginning in 2017.

A licensed company is required to file MCAS if it writes at least \$50,000 of gross premium in the life, annuity, private passenger auto or homeowners lines of business in South Dakota. Companies with any in-force Long-Term Care policies of certain types will also be required to file MCAS data. There is no premium threshold for Long-Term Care business.

Companies writing at least \$50,000 of gross premium in Health will be required to file MCAS data starting in 2018 for the 2017 data year.

Additional filing information can be found in <u>Bulletin 16-04</u> issued by the Division on May 5, 2016. MCAS general information and FAQs are available at <u>www.naic.org/industry_market_conduct_statement.htm</u>.

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Marsy's Law

A recent constitutional amendment passed by voters in the Nov. 8 election is impacting information previously made available to the public. Amendment S, also known as Marsy's Law, provides certain rights for crime victims and their families.

One area highlighted in the amendment includes the right "to prevent the disclosure of information or records that could be used to locate or harass the victim or the victim's family." Ensuring compliance with this right caused many state and local government entities to restrict the release of information in conjunction with accident records and crime report logs.

In response to amendment implementation questions, South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley formed a 25-member task force to review any ambiguity in the amendment.

On Dec. 5, Jackley issued an official opinion regarding the release of information by state and local government entities regarding motor vehicle crash reports and certain elements about crime occurrence, including locations and names in report logs and law enforcement radio traffic. The official opinion can be reviewed here.

Some governmental entities have adopted a formal information release policy to meet the requirements of the constitutional amendment. The issued release can be read here.

Additional information on Marsy's Law is available on the Attorney General's website at http://atg.sd.gov/victim/marsyslaw.aspx. Questions on Marsy's law can be directed to the Attorney General's office or the local government entity

Recent Administrative Rule Changes & Bulletins Administrative Rule Changes (Effective Date - Dec. 5, 2016)

Rules 20:06:59:01 – Adopts the Valuation Manual of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners to be used for principle-based reserving.

The Division of Insurance wishes a happy and prosperous New Year to all!