



Department of Insurance
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Announcement

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CHRISTINA URIAS
Director of Insurance

ARIZONA INSURANCE DIRECTOR WARNS INSURANCE PROFESSIONALS ABOUT SCAM

June 3, 2009 - The Arizona Department of Insurance has learned about a scam targeting licensed insurance agents and brokers in Nevada and California.

The Nevada Division of Insurance recently received reports that individuals representing themselves as employees of the Nevada Division of Insurance have been calling licensed agents and requesting payment of a penalty fee. The callers instruct the agent to provide credit card and social security information over the phone to pay the penalty and avoid cancellation of their license.

While we have not had any reports that this scam is operating in Arizona, Insurance Director Christina Urias decided to take this opportunity to remind Arizona licensees that the Arizona Department of Insurance **never** initiates telephone calls requesting credit card or social security information. The Arizona Department of Insurance only sends payment requests in writing, and only accepts credit card payments through its official Internet-based systems.

The Arizona Department of Insurance advises Arizona agents and brokers not to provide any personal information including credit card or social security numbers to a caller claiming to be a representative of the Arizona Department of Insurance. Licensees should report any such activity to the Arizona Attorney General's Consumer Information and Complaints Section: 602.542.5763 / 800.352.8431 (outside the Phoenix metro area) or consumerinfo@azag.gov.

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