



South Carolina Department of Insurance

NIKKI R. HALEY
Governor

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Director

MEDIA ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Ann Roberson
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Coastal Property Insurance Marketplace Annual Public Information Session and Public Hearing

Columbia, SC – Hurricane season begins June 1 and now is the time for everyone to review their insurance policies and prepare for the upcoming storm season. “All South Carolinians should take time and review their insurance policies to ensure that their coverage meets their needs,” advises Ray Farmer, Director of the South Carolina Department of Insurance.

To help residents prepare, The South Carolina Department of Insurance is hosting the annual public information session and hearing regarding the status of the coastal property insurance market. The session and hearing will be held on Thursday, May 9, 2013 from 5:30-8:10 p.m. at Mark Clark Hall, Buyer Auditorium located on the grounds of The Citadel. The meeting agenda for the evening will include presentations from experts in their fields of study to include Bill Read, former Director of the National Hurricane Center, J. Smith Harrison, Director of the South Carolina Wind and Hail Underwriting Association, Martin F. Simons and Derek Chapman, consulting actuaries, Nick Kremydas, Executive Director of the South Carolina Realtors Association and Mark Tilken of State Farm Insurance Companies. “Mitigation experts from The Institute for Business and Home Safety and South Carolina Department of Insurance representatives will also be available to assist consumers with their insurance related questions. We encourage consumers to attend,” Director Farmer said.

This is also a good time to compare coverage and prices to determine the best value. A consumer’s insurance agent should be able to assist with this comparison. Questions concerning coverage issues should be directed to the South Carolina Department of Insurance Market Assistance Program at 800-768-3467 (toll free only in SC) or by e-mail to jmcdonald@doi.sc.gov.

Following the meeting, a public input session and hearing will be held from 7:10-8:10 p.m. All public comments will be limited to five minutes. Members of the public interested in making comments must sign up by 5:00 p.m., May 7, 2013. You may sign up by e-mailing Ann Roberson at aroberson@doi.sc.gov. Written comments may be submitted until June 1, 2013. Attached please find a proposed agenda.

**WHAT: South Carolina Department of Insurance Coastal Property Insurance Marketplace
Information Session and Public Hearing**

WHEN: Thursday, May 9, 2013
5:30-7:10 p.m. Information Session
7:10-8:10 p.m. Public Input Session and Hearing

WHERE: Buyer Auditorium
Mark Clark Hall
The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina
171 Moultrie Street, Charleston, SC 29409

For additional information please contact Ann Roberson, 803-737-6207 or aroberson@doi.sc.gov.