



South Carolina Department of Insurance

NIKKI R. HALEY
Governor

RAYMOND G. FARMER
Director

MEDIA ADVISORY

May 20, 2014
For Immediate Release

Contact: Ann Roberson
Phone: 803-737-6207

Coastal Property Insurance Marketplace Annual Public Information Session and Public Hearing

Columbia, SC – As you begin to make your summer plans, now is the time for all South Carolinians to review their insurance policies and prepare for the upcoming storm season. “Hurricane season begins June 1st and continues until November 30th. Everyone should take this time to review their insurance policies and update their family emergency plans”, advises Ray Farmer, Director of the South Carolina Department of Insurance. To assist residents with their plans, 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 29, 2014 from 5:30- 7:30 p.m. in Buyer Auditorium at Mark Clark Hall located on the grounds of The Citadel.

The meeting agenda will include presentations concerning the status of the South Carolina Wind and Hail Underwriting Association as well as an update regarding the recent changes to The National Flood Insurance Program. Additionally, information about the importance of mitigation and how homeowner’s can strengthen their homes making them more resilient to the severe winds associated with hurricanes and damaging storms will be provided. “This evening’s presentations include important information from experts in their fields of study and we encourage residents to attend,” Director Farmer said. South Carolina Department of Insurance representatives will also be available to assist consumers with their insurance related questions.

As you prepare for the season, it 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 a comparison. Questions concerning coverage issues should be directed to the South Carolina Department of Insurance Market Assistance Program by calling Joseph McDonald, the Department’s Coastal Consumer Liaison at 1-843-577-3415 or via e-mail, jmcdonald@doi.sc.gov. Consumers may also visit the Department’s website, www.doi.sc.gov for more information.

Following the meeting, a public input session and hearing will be held from 7:00-7:30 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 27, 2014. You may sign up by e-mailing Ann Roberson at aroberson@doi.sc.gov Written comments may be submitted until June 27, 2014. Attached please find a proposed agenda.

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

WHEN: Thursday, May 29, 2014
5:30 7:00 p.m. Information Session
7:05- 7:30 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 via phone, 803-737-6207 or e-mail, aroberson@doi.sc.gov .

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Information Session and Public Hearing
Buyer Auditorium, Mark Clark Hall
The Citadel
Charleston, South Carolina
Thursday, May 29, 2014
5:30-7:30 p.m.

Meeting Agenda

Call to Order
5:30-5:35 p.m.

Raymond G. Farmer
Director, South Carolina
Department of Insurance

Presentations

2014 Severe Weather and Hurricane Forecast
5:40-5:55 p.m.

Frank Alsheimer, Meteorologist,
Science and Operations Manager, National
Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

2014 Property Insurance Market Outlook
6:00-6:10 p.m.

Raymond G. Farmer
Director, South Carolina
Department of Insurance

Status of the South Carolina Wind and Hail
Underwriting Association
6:15-6:25 p.m.

Smitty Harrison
Director, South Carolina Wind and
Hail Underwriting Association

Status of the National Flood Insurance Program
6:30-6:40 p.m.

Maria Cox-Lamm
Director, State Flood Mitigation
Program, South Carolina Department of
Natural Resources

Mitigation: What is it and how can it help?
6:45-7:00 p.m.

Trip Shealy, Engineer, Federal Alliance
of Safe Homes, and Clemson University

Public Comments/Questions

Public Comments/ Questions
7:00-7:25 p.m.

Raymond G. Farmer
Director, South Carolina
Department of Insurance

Closing Remarks
7:25-7:30 p.m.