

Insurance Update



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PERSONAL INSURANCE

Do I Need Renters Insurance?

If you are like most Americans, you do not think about renters insurance until it is too late. According to the Insurance Research Council, 57% of tenants do not buy renters insurance.

Renters insurance can provide peace of mind knowing you are protected against loss of personal property, along with liability coverage. While renters insurance is typically not required, the cost is reasonable and purchasing a renters policy is a wise choice.

The most common coverages provided by a renters insurance policy include:

1. Personal Property Protection.



Most renters policies will cover your clothing, electronic equipment and other belongings. There is also limited coverage for watercraft, jewelry and guns.

2. Personal Liability Coverage.

Liability coverage is standard on most renters insurance policies. For example, you could be covered in the event of a slip-and-fall accident on your property.

3. Medical Payments to Others.

If a guest sustained injuries while visiting your apartment, you may be liable for paying a portion of his medical expenses. Medical payments to others coverage is included on most renters insurance policies.

4. Additional Living Expenses.

If the home or apartment that you are renting is damaged by a fire, your renters policy could provide the money needed to pay for a hotel room or other temporary living quarters.

A renters insurance policy may also qualify you for a discount on your automobile policy. So don't delay, stop by our agency and ask us about the many benefits of purchasing a renters policy.

CLAIMS

Inland Marine Coverage: Should I Consider Getting It?

You planned your dream vacation for months and finally got to go. Memories of your trip are swimming in your head as you return home and pull into your driveway.

You unlock the door and something seems off. You notice multiple drawers are left open and have been rifled through. You run upstairs to your jewelry chest and your grandmother's ring is missing. You think to yourself, "Have I been robbed?"

Words cannot describe the feelings of confusion and violation when you

realize someone has been in your house, gone through your things and taken your belongings. The home is a place you want to feel protected and safe. Thankfully, you have an insurance policy. It may not bring the ring back, but it can help you be made whole again.

Make sure your policy has the coverage that you need in the event of the unthinkable. Homeowners policies have special limits for personal property. This includes, but is not limited to, jewelry, money, silverware, guns and trading cards.

If you know that you have items of value, call us to discuss your needs. The best protection for you may be an inland marine policy.

With an inland marine policy, you can individually schedule your property to be sure that you have adequate insurance to cover your valuables in the event of a loss.

Consider an inland marine policy, so if you find yourself in this situation, you know you are protected. Great coverage equals great peace of mind.

LIFE INSURANCE

Don't Forget About Disability Income Insurance

"In the U.S., a disabling injury occurs every 1 second"

– National Safety Council, Injury Facts 2008 Ed.

Most families have their home and vehicles, as well as their farm or business, insured. Many individuals even carry life insurance. We do this to make sure that when unexpected things happen we are protected.

What if the unexpected is a disabling injury preventing a spouse from re-

turning to work for an extended period of time? Would you have the money saved to cover such an event?

Could you get by on one income for a year? What about 5 years? Illness or accidents will keep 1 in 5 workers out of work for at least a year before the age of 65.

People need protection if they are unable to work due to a disability. A disability income policy can provide protection to an individual while he or she is disabled from injury or an illness.

This type of policy can provide peace of mind just as a homeowners or auto policy would. Many of us would not even consider driving to the grocery store in an uninsured car; however, we take for granted our ability to go to work every day and do so without protection.

Your earning power is one of your greatest assets; don't leave it unprotected.

Call our office to discuss a disability income policy with one of our agents today.



Disability income insurance can provide protection for you should you be unable to work.



Accidental trips and slip-and-fall accidents happen all too often in the workplace. If you're a business owner, you can take precautions to limit these accidents.

BUSINESS INSURANCE

Protecting Your Employees Against Slips, Trips and Falls

As a business owner, one of your primary concerns should be protecting your most valuable assets. Most people agree the earning power of the owners and employees is one of the main assets of any business.

Slips, trips and falls cause the majority of general industry accidents and 15 percent of all accidental deaths. They cause more fatalities than all other causes but motor vehicles. In the construction industry, falls are the leading cause of worker fatalities. Each year between 150 and 200 workers on average are killed and more than 100,000 are injured as a result of falls at construction sites.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has recently revised its construction industry safety standards and developed

systems and procedures designed to prevent employees from falling off, onto, or through working levels and to protect employees from being struck by falling objects. The OSHA rule clarifies what an employer must do to provide fall protection for employees, such as identifying and evaluating fall hazards and providing specific training.

Under the revised standards, employers are able to select fall protection measures compatible with the type of work being performed. Fall protection generally can be provided through the use of guardrail, safety net, personal fall arrest, positioning device and warning line systems.

There are many situations that can cause slips, trips and falls. To increase the awareness of these hazards to your

employees, we suggest the following:

- Make tripping and fall hazards an area to focus on in your regular safety meetings and inspections.
- Review each accident report to determine the cause of any slips, trips or falls and take corrective action.
- Put up safety posters warning about slip, trip and fall hazards.
- Provide training for all employees.

By eliminating workplace hazards and training employees to take work safely, most of the reported injuries and fatal accidents can be prevented. Protecting your employees against slips, trips and falls will also have a positive impact on your workers compensation expenses.