

FLOOD FACTS

A newsletter for agents of American Bankers Insurance Company of Florida / American Reliable Insurance Company.



ASSURANT
Specialty
Property

February 2007

Claims Information

American Bankers Insurance
Company of Florida
American Reliable Insurance
Company

Flood Claim Center
8655 E Via De Ventura
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Phone
1-800-245-1505

Fax
1-800-224-4170

Hours of operation:
Mon-Fri 5:30am-5:00pm PST

Claim status, please call:
1-800-245-1505

**If you need help to submit a
claim via AccessFlood, call the
Flood Service Center at 1-800-
423-4403.**

www.floodsmart.gov
An official site of the National
Flood Insurance Program
(NFIP)

WATERMARK is published 3
times a year by the National
Flood Insurance Program
(NFIP). The current issue and
selected back issues of
Watermark are available at:
[www.fema.gov/business/nfip/
wm.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/wm.shtm)

2007 Holiday Schedule – Flood Service Center

Closed - February 19 – President's Day

Continuing Education Training - Update

The following States are **requiring** agents/producers to take a Flood Insurance Training Class to **renew their license**:

Delaware	Louisiana	Maryland	*New Jersey
Minimum training 2 hours	Minimum training 3 hours	Minimum training 2 hours	Minimum training 3 hours

New Jersey – For producers selling Flood Coverage, requires 3 hours one-time only for flood training.

North Carolina - Each person holding a property and liability, personal lines, or adjuster license shall complete a continuing education course on flood insurance and the National Flood Insurance Program within two years after January 1, 2008, and every four years thereafter. The course shall comprise three ICECs and shall be approved by the Commissioner.

The following States are **requiring** agents and/or producers who sell flood insurance to take a one-time Flood Insurance Training Class which may also apply to towards the fulfillment of the agent/producers continuing education requirements:

<u>Alaska</u>	<u>Arizona</u>	<u>Arkansas</u>	<u>California</u>
<u>Florida</u>	<u>Hawaii</u>	<u>Iowa</u>	<u>Kansas</u>
<u>Kentucky</u>	<u>Maine</u>	<u>Massachusetts</u>	<u>Missouri</u>
<u>Nebraska</u>	<u>Nevada</u>	<u>Ohio</u>	<u>Pennsylvania</u>
<u>Rhode Island</u>	<u>South Dakata</u>	<u>Tennessee</u>	<u>Texas</u>
<u>Utah</u>	<u>Washington</u>	<u>West Virginia</u>	

For more information on the State's requirements, please go to
www.fema.gov/business/nfip/state_action.shtm

Flood Facts Available at www.abicarciflood.com.

Effective **January 2007** the Flood Facts is available on the new website at
www.abicarciflood.com. A copy will no longer be sent to individuals via email.

Contact Information

New Business Applications, Rollovers, Endorsements, Cancellations and Other Correspondence

American Bankers Insurance Company of Florida

American Reliable Insurance Company

Flood Service Center

PO Box 4337

Scottsdale, AZ 85261-6099

Overnight Mail

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American Reliable Insurance Company

Flood Service Center

8655 E Via De Ventura

Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Flood Service Center

Phone

1-800-423-4403

Fax

1-714-712-3842

E-mail

flood.service.center@assurant.com

Hours of Operation

Mon-Fri 5:30am-4:30pm MST

Lockbox Address for Renewal Payments Only

American Bankers Insurance Company of Florida

American Reliable Insurance Company

PO Box 8437

Philadelphia, PA 19101

2007 Holiday Schedule

Our office will be closed:

February 19 – President's Day

May 28 – Memorial Day

July 4 – Independence Day

September 3 – Labor Day

November 22 – Thanksgiving Day

November 23 - Day after Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving

December 24 – Christmas Eve

December 25 – Christmas Day

December 31 – New Year's Eve

TRAINING OPTIONS:

American Bankers Insurance Company of Florida and American Reliable Insurance Company offer two different Flood Insurance Training Classes for our agents and producers:

- The Fundamentals of Flood Insurance class is 4 hours (4 CE Credits) in most states
- Advanced Flood Insurance class that is 4 hours (4 CE Credits).

For more information on our CE Classes, please contact, Patty Latshaw @ 800-423-4403 x520 or by email: Patricia.Latshaw@Assurant.com.

Reminder! New Elevation Certificate Requirement

FEMA's new Elevation Certificate (EC) was approved for use, effective February 13, 2006, through February 28, 2009. **Elevations certified on or after January 1, 2007, must be submitted on the new form and must include two photographs.** The new form has been revised and now requires the certifier to provide the **square footage of the enclosed area below the elevated floor and at least two photographs** of the building, if the EC is being used to obtain flood insurance.

An electronic version of the form and instructions are available on the FEMA website <http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/elvinst.shtm>. Although the old version of the form is no longer available for distribution, existing copies may be used until the end of 2006. <http://www.fema.gov/business/nfip/elvinst.shtm>

2007 National Flood Conference

April 29-May 2

Adams Mark Hotel

Denver, Colorado

[The Adam's Mark Hotel website](#)

[The Denver Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau website](#)

Schedule at a Glance

Sunday, April 29, 2007

08:00 a.m. - 06:00 p.m.: Golf Tournament sponsored by SIMSOL & VALCO USA

09:00 a.m. - 05:00 p.m.: NFIP Regional Managers Meeting

02:00 p.m. - 06:00 p.m.: Pre-Conference Meetings - TBD

02:00 p.m. - 06:00 p.m.: Conference Registration

03:00 p.m. - 05:00 p.m.: Exhibit Hall Set-up

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December 31 – New Year's Eve

06:00 p.m. - 08:00 p.m.: Opening Reception sponsored by Pilot Catastrophe Services, Inc.

Monday, April 30, 2007

08:00 a.m. - 09:00 a.m.: Continental Breakfast

08:00 a.m. - 05:30 p.m.: Conference Registration/Information

08:30 a.m. - 09:00 a.m.: Press Conference

09:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.: Exhibit Hall Set-Up

09:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.: Opening General Session & Awards Ceremony

11:30 a.m. - 01:00 p.m.: Exhibit Hall Grand Opening & Lunch

01:00 p.m. - 02:30 p.m.: Workshops

02:30 p.m. - 02:45 p.m.: Break

02:45 p.m. - 04:15 p.m.: Workshops

05:00 p.m.: Exhibit Hall Close

Tuesday, May 1, 2007

NFIP EDUCATION DAY

07:00 a.m. - 08:00 a.m.: 5K Run & 1-Mile Fun Walk sponsored by National Lenders Insurance Council (NLIC)

07:00 a.m. - 08:30 a.m.: Continental Breakfast

07:00 a.m. - 05:00 p.m.: Exhibit Hall Open

07:00 a.m. - 05:00 p.m.: Conference Registration/Information

09:00 a.m. - 05:00 p.m.: NFIP Education Day Workshop

09:00 a.m. - 05:00 p.m.: CFM Review

09:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.: Town Halls

11:00 a.m. - 01:00 p.m.: Lunch on your Own

01:00 p.m. - 02:30 p.m.: Workshops

02:30 p.m. - 02:45 p.m.: Break

02:45 p.m. - 04:15 p.m.: Workshops

05:00 p.m.: Exhibit Hall Tear Down

Wednesday, May 2, 2007

07:30 a.m. - 08:30 a.m.: Continental Breakfast

07:30 a.m. - 04:00 p.m.: Registration/Information

08:30 a.m. - 10 a.m.: Workshops

08:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.: CFM Test

10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.: Break

10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.: Workshops

11:45 a.m. - 01:00 p.m.: Lunch on your Own

01:00 p.m. - 02:30 p.m.: Workshops

02:30 p.m. - 02:45 p.m.: Break

02:45 p.m. - 04:00 p.m.: Closing General Session

04:00 p.m. - 05:00 p.m.: Field Trip Orientation

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December 25 – Christmas Day

December 31 – New Year's Eve

Thursday, May 3, 2007

07:00 a.m. - 05:00 p.m.: Claims Adjuster Workshop

07:00 a.m.: Field Trip

09:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.: FEMA Regional Managers Meeting

AccessFlood Web Training

The Flood Service Center is committed to providing the best training programs to our agents. Have you signed up to have an AccessFlood training class? It won't take more than 1.5 hours. The class is conducted via Web training. Call to schedule a training session and let us help you write more FLOOD business.

AccessFlood: This class is approximately 1 hour (no CE Credits available) and is conducted via Live Meeting. Live Meeting is a web training tool that allows you to actively participate during the training class. To schedule a class, or if you have any questions, please contact: Holly Lindberg at 800-423-4403 x364, by email: Hollyrae.Lindberg@Assurant.com or Rebecca Burton at 800-423-4403 x353, by email: Rebecca.Burton@Assurant.com

New Watermark Website

Many of you are already familiar with the *Watermark*, National Flood Insurance Program's news magazine that is published on paper three times a year. On December 1st, the new e-*Watermark* website was launched and now provides a means to get your NFIP news faster than ever! The website is updated monthly and if you subscribe to the NFIP's e-notification service (free of charge), you will be notified when new material has been uploaded to the website. Just go to watermark.nfipstat.com to subscribe to this service and to see what's new in the world of flood insurance. You can view archived *Watermarks* and also visit links to other websites that offer materials that may assist with training and flood awareness efforts. Check it out today!

FloodSmart.gov- check it out!

Did you know that FloodSmart.gov, an official website of the National Flood Insurance Program, contains a link to invaluable resources for you as an agent to market flood insurance and protect your customers? Just go to AccessFlood, select FloodSmart from the blue Links drop-down menu or go straight to the site at <https://agents.floodsmart.gov> to register for this agents-only secure site. By registering, to name just a few benefits, you will have access to marketing tips and materials, you can enroll in the Referral Program online, and sign up to receive newsletters and updates from the NFIP. There is much more available to you- take a look today!