

**REPORT OF
MARKET CONDUCT EXAMINATION
OF**

MID-CONTINENT INSURANCE COMPANY
Somerset, Pennsylvania

**AS OF
May 28, 2008**

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

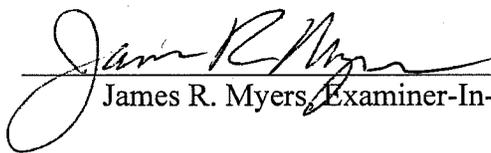


**INSURANCE DEPARTMENT
MARKET CONDUCT DIVISION**

Issued: July 14, 2008

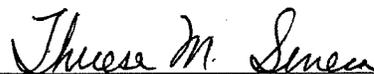
VERIFICATION

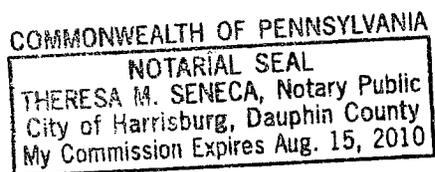
Having been duly sworn, I hereby verify that the statements made in the within document are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I understand that false statements made herein are subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. §4903 (relating to false swearing).


James R. Myers, Examiner-In-Charge

Sworn to and Subscribed Before me

This 15 Day of May, 2008


Notary Public



MID-CONTINENT INSURANCE COMPANY

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BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

ORDER

AND NOW, this 6th day of July, 2007, in accordance with
Section 905(c) of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department Act, Act of May 17, 1921,
P.L. 789, as amended, P.S. § 323.5, I hereby designate Randolph L. Rohrbaugh, Deputy
Insurance Commissioner, to consider and review all documents relating to the market
conduct examination of any company and person who is the subject of a market conduct
examination and to have all powers set forth in said statute including the power to enter
an Order based on the review of said documents. This designation of authority shall
continue in effect until otherwise terminated by a later Order of the Insurance
Commissioner.



Joel S. Ario
Insurance Commissioner



CONSENT ORDER

AND NOW, this 14th day of July, 2008, this Order is hereby issued by the Insurance Department of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania pursuant to the statutes cited above and in disposition of the matter captioned above.

1. Respondent hereby admits and acknowledges that it has received proper notice of its rights to a formal administrative hearing pursuant to the Administrative Agency Law, 2 Pa.C.S. § 101, et seq., or other applicable law.

2. Respondent hereby waives all rights to a formal administrative hearing in this matter, and agrees that this Consent Order shall have the full force and effect of an order duly entered in accordance with the adjudicatory procedures set forth in the Administrative Agency Law, supra, or other applicable law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

3. The Insurance Department finds true and correct each of the following Findings of Fact:

- (a) Respondent is Mid-Continent Insurance Company, and maintains its address at 124 North Center Avenue, Somerset, Pennsylvania 15501.

- (b) A market conduct examination of Respondent was conducted by the Insurance Department covering the period from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006.

- (c) On May 28, 2008, the Insurance Department issued a Market Conduct Examination Report to Respondent.

- (d) A response to the Examination Report was provided by Respondent on June 25, 2008.

- (e) The Examination Report notes violations of the following:
 - (i) Section 671-A of Act 147 of 2002 prohibits producers from transacting business within this Commonwealth without written appointment as required by the Act (40 P.S. § 310.71).

 - (ii) Section 903(a) of the Insurance Department Act, No. 285 (40 P.S. § 323.3), which requires every company subject to examination keep all records and documents relating to its business in such manner as may be required in order that the Department may verify whether the company has complied with the laws of this Commonwealth;

- (iii) Section 1725 of Act 1990-6, Title 75, Pa.C.S. § 1725, which requires every motor vehicle insurance policy to contain a notice whether the policy covers collision damage to rental vehicles, and any limitations on such coverage. The notice shall be written in clear, plain language and shall be printed on the first page of the policy in boldface capital letters;

- (iv) Section 1793(b) of Act 1990-6, Title 75, Pa. C.S. § 1793, which requires the insurer to provide to the insured a surcharge disclosure plan. The insurer providing the surcharge disclosure plan shall detail the provisions of the plan and shall deliver the plan to each insured at least once annually. Additionally, the surcharge information plan shall be given to each prospective insured at the time application is made for motor vehicle insurance coverage;

- (v) Section 1799.3(d) of Act 1990-6, Title 75, Pa.C.S. § 1799, which requires insurers who make a determination to impose a surcharge, rate penalty or driver record point assignment, to inform the named insured of the determination and specify the manner in which the surcharge, rate penalty or driver record point assignment was made and clearly identify the amount of the surcharge or rate penalty on the premium notice for as long as the surcharge or rate penalty is in effect;

- (vi) Section 5(a)(4) of Act 205 (40 P.S. § 1171.5), which defines as an unfair method of competition or unfair or deceptive acts or practices as entering into any agreement to commit, or by any concerted action committing, any act of boycott, coercion or intimidation resulting in or tending to result in unreasonable restraint of, or monopoly in, the business of insurance;
- (vii) Section 5(a)(9) of Act 205 (40 P.S. §1171.5), which defines an unfair act or practice as: (9) cancelling any policy of insurance covering owner-occupied private residential properties or personal property of individuals that has been in force for 60 days or more or refusing to renew any such policy unless the policy was obtained through material misrepresentation, fraudulent statements, omissions or concealment of fact material to the acceptance of the risk or to the hazard assumed by the company; or there has been a substantial change or increase in hazard in the risk assumed by the company subsequent to the date the policy was issued; or there is a substantial increase in hazards insured against by reason of willful or negligent acts or omissions by the insured; or the insured has failed to pay any premium whether such premium is payable directly to the company or its agent or indirectly under any premium finance plan or extension of credit; or for any other reasons approved by the Commissioner pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the Commissioner. No cancellation or refusal to renew by any person shall be effective unless a written notice of the cancellation or refusal to renew is

received by the insured whether at the address shown in the policy or at a forwarding address;

(viii) Section 5(a)(9)(ii) of Act 205 (40 P.S. § 1171.5) prohibits any cancellation or refusal to renew to become effective in a period of less than thirty days from the date of delivery or mailing;

(ix) Section 5(a)(11) of the Unfair Insurance Practices Act, No. 205 (40 P.S. § 1171.5), which requires a complete record of all complaints received during the preceding four years;

(x) Section 1 of Act 86 (40 P.S. § 3401), which requires a policy of insurance covering property or casualty risks in this Commonwealth shall provide for not less than 30 days advance notice to the named insured of an increase in renewal premium;

(xi) Section 2 of Act 86 (40 P.S. § 3402), which states canceling in midterm a policy of insurance covering commercial property and casualty risks is prohibited for any reason other than those enumerated under this section;

(xii) Section 3(a)(5) of Act 86 (40 P.S. § 3403), which requires that a nonrenewal notice shall state the specific reasons for nonrenewal identifying the condition, factor or loss experience which caused the nonrenewal. The

notice shall provide sufficient information or data for the insured to correct the deficiency;

- (xiii) Section 3(a)(6) of Act 86 (40 P.S. § 3403), which requires notices of mid-term cancellation and nonrenewal to meet the following requirements: A mid-term cancellation or nonrenewal notice shall state that, at the insured's request, the insurer shall provide loss information to the insured for at least three years or the period of time during which the insurer has provided coverage to the insured, whichever is less;

- (xiv) Section 4(a) of Act 86 (40 P.S. § 3404), which requires that unearned premium must be returned to the insured not later than 10 business days after the effective date of termination where commercial property or casualty risks are cancelled in mid-term by the insurer;

- (xv) Section 4(b) of Act 86 (40 P.S. § 3404), which requires that unearned premium be returned to the insured not later than 30 days after the effective date of termination where commercial property or casualty risks are cancelled in mid-term by the insured;

- (xvi) Sections 4(a) and 4(h) of the Casualty and Surety Rate Regulatory Act, No. 246 (40 P.S. § 1184), which requires every insurer to file with the Insurance Commissioner every manual of classifications, rules and rates,

every rating plan and every modification of any rating plan which it proposes to use in this Commonwealth and prohibits an insurer from making or issuing a contract or policy with rates other than those approved;

- (xvii) Title 31, Pennsylvania Code, Section 113.88, which requires the reason given for cancellation shall be clear and complete. It shall be stated so that a person of average intelligence and education can understand it. Phrases such as “losses” or “underwriting reasons” are not sufficiently specific reasons for cancellation.

- (xviii) Title 31, Pennsylvania Code, Section 146.6, requires that every insurer shall complete investigation of a claim within 30 days after notification of the claim, unless such investigation cannot reasonably be completed within 30 days, and every 45 days thereafter, the insurer shall provide the claimant with a reasonable written explanation for the delay and state when a decision on the claim may be expected;

- (xix) Title 31, Pennsylvania Code, Section 146.7(a)(1), which requires within 15 working days after receipt by the insurer of properly executed proofs of loss, the first-party claimant shall be advised of the acceptance or denial of the claim by the insurer. No insurer shall deny a claim on the grounds of a specific policy provision, condition or exclusion unless reference to such provision, condition or exclusion is included in the denial. The denial must

be given to the claimant in writing and the claim file of the insurer shall contain a copy of the denial;

(xx) Title 18, Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, Section 4117(k), which requires all applications for insurance and all claim forms shall contain or have attached thereto the following notice: “Any person who knowingly and with intent to defraud any insurance company or other person files an application for insurance or statement of claim containing any materially false information or conceals for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any fact material thereto commits a fraudulent insurance act, which is a crime and subjects such person to criminal and civil penalties”; and

(xxi) Title 75, Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, Section 1822, which requires not later than May 1, 1990, all applications for insurance, renewals and claim forms shall contain a statement that clearly states, in substance, the following: Any person who knowingly and with intent to injure or defraud any insurer files an application or claim containing any false, incomplete or misleading information shall, upon conviction, be subject to imprisonment for up to seven years and payment of a fine of up to \$15,000.00.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

4. In accord with the above Findings of Fact and applicable provisions of law, the Insurance Department makes the following Conclusions of Law:

- (a) Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department.

- (b) Respondent's violations of Section 671-A of Act 147 of 2002 are punishable by the following, under Section 691-A of Act 147 of 2002 (40 P.S. § 310.91):
 - (i) suspension, revocation or refusal to issue the certificate of qualification or license;
 - (ii) imposition of a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) for every violation of the Act;
 - (iii) an order to cease and desist; and
 - (iv) any other conditions as the Commissioner deems appropriate.

- (c) Respondent's violations of Sections 5(a)(4), 5(a)(9) and 5(a)(11) of the Unfair Insurance Practices Act, No. 205 (40 P.S. §§ 1171.5) are punishable by the following, under Section 9 of the Unfair Insurance Practices Act (40 P.S. § 1171.9):

- (i) cease and desist from engaging in the prohibited activity;
 - (ii) suspension or revocation of the license(s) of Respondent.

- (d) In addition to any penalties imposed by the Department for Respondent's violations of the Unfair Insurance Practices Act (40 P.S. §§ 1171.1 – 1171.5), the Department may, under Sections 10 and 11 of the Unfair Insurance Practices Act (40 P.S. §§ 1171.10, 1171.11) file an action in which the Commonwealth Court may impose the following civil penalties:
 - (i) for each method of competition, act or practice which the company knew or should have known was in violation of the law, a penalty of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00);
 - (ii) for each method of competition, act or practice which the company did not know nor reasonably should have known was in violation of the law, a penalty of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00).

- (e) Respondent's violations of Sections 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Act 86 (40 P.S. §§ 3401, 3402, 3403 and 3404), are punishable under Section 8 (40 P.S. § 3408) of this act by one or more of the following causes of action:
 - (i) Order that the insurer cease and desist from the violation.
 - (ii) Impose a fine or not more than \$5,000 for each violation.

(f) Respondent's violations of Sections 4(a) and (h) of the Casualty and Surety Rate Regulatory Act, No. 246 (40 P.S. § 1184) are punishable under Section 16 of the Casualty and Surety Rate Regulatory Act:

(i) imposition of a civil penalty not to exceed \$50 for each violation or not more than \$500 for each such wilful violation;

(ii) suspension of the license of any insurer which fails to comply with an Order of the Commissioner within the time limited by such Order, or any extension thereof which the Commissioner may grant.

(g) Respondent's violations of Title 31, Pennsylvania Code, Sections 146.6 and 146.7 are punishable under Sections 9, 10 and 11 of the Unfair Insurance Practices Act (40 P.S. §§ 1171.9, 1171.10 and 1171.11), as stated above.

ORDER

5. In accord with the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Insurance Department orders and Respondent consents to the following:

(a) Respondent shall cease and desist from engaging in the activities described herein in the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law.

- (b) Respondent shall file an affidavit stating under oath that it will provide each of its directors, at the next scheduled directors meeting, a copy of the adopted Report and related Orders. Such affidavit shall be submitted within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order.

- (c) Respondent shall comply with all recommendations contained in the attached Report.

- (d) Respondent shall pay Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$12,500.00) to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in settlement of all violations contained in the Report.

- (e) Payment of this matter shall be made by check payable to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Payment should be directed to Ginny Marquart, Administrative Assistant, Bureau of Enforcement, 1227 Strawberry Square, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120. Payment must be made no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this Order.

6. In the event the Insurance Department finds that there has been a breach of any of the provisions of this Order, based upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein may pursue any and all legal remedies available, including but not limited to the following: The Insurance Department may enforce the provisions of this Order in the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania or in any other court of law or

equity having jurisdiction; or it may enforce the provisions of this Order in an administrative action pursuant to the Administrative Agency Law, supra, or other relevant provision of law.

7. Alternatively, in the event there has been a breach of any of the provisions of this Order, the Department may declare this Order to be null and void and, thereupon, reopen the entire matter for appropriate action pursuant to the Administrative Agency Law, supra, or other relevant provision of law.

8. In any such enforcement proceeding, Respondent may contest whether a breach of the provisions of this Order has occurred but may not contest the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law contained herein.

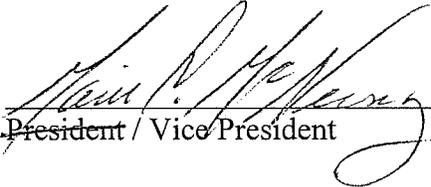
9. Respondent hereby expressly waives any relevant statute of limitations and application of the doctrine of laches for purposes of any enforcement of this Order.

10. This Order constitutes the entire agreement of the parties with respect to the matters referred to herein, and it may not be amended or modified except by an amended order signed by all the parties hereto.

11. This Order shall be final upon execution by the Insurance Department. Only the Insurance Commissioner or a duly authorized delegee is authorized to bind the Insurance Department with respect to the settlement of the alleged violations of law

contained herein, and this Consent Order is not effective until executed by the Insurance Commissioner or a duly authorized delegee.

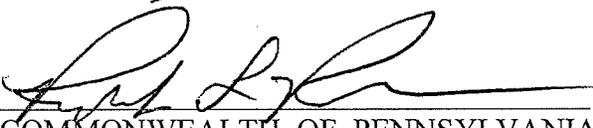
BY: MID-CONTINENT INSURANCE
COMPANY, Respondent



President / Vice President



Asst. Secretary / Treasurer



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
By: Randolph L. Rohrbaugh
Deputy Insurance Commissioner

I. INTRODUCTION

The market conduct examination was conducted at Mid-Continent Insurance Company's office located in Somerset, Pennsylvania, from March 3, 2008, through March 28, 2008. Subsequent review and follow-up was conducted in the office of the Pennsylvania Insurance Department.

Pennsylvania Market Conduct Examination Reports generally note only those items to which the Department, after review, takes exception. However, the Examination Report may include management recommendations addressing areas of concern noted by the Department, but for which no statutory violation was identified. This enables Company management to review those areas of concern in order to determine the potential impact upon Company operations or future compliance. A violation is any instance of Company activity that does not comply with an insurance statute or regulation. Violations contained in the Report may result in imposition of penalties.

In certain areas of review listed in this Report, the examiners will refer to "error ratio." This error ratio is calculated by dividing the number of policies with violations by the total number of policies reviewed. For example, if 100 policies are reviewed and it is determined that there are 20 violations on 10 policies, the error ratio would be 10%.

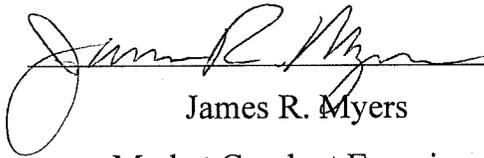
Throughout the course of the examination, Company officials were provided with status memoranda, which referenced specific policy numbers with citation to each section of law violated. Additional information was requested to clarify apparent violations. An exit conference was conducted with Company personnel to discuss the various types of violations identified during the examination and review written summaries provided on the violations found.

The courtesy and cooperation extended by the officers and employees of the Company during the course of the examination is hereby acknowledged.

The undersigned participated in this examination and in preparation of this Report.



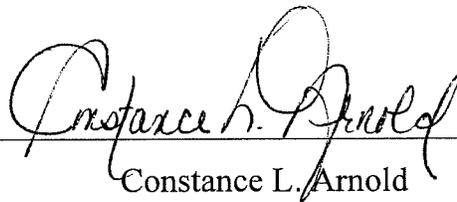
Chester A. Derk, Jr., AIE, HIA
Market Conduct Division Chief



James R. Myers
Market Conduct Examiner



M. Katherine Sutton
Market Conduct Examiner



Constance L. Arnold
Market Conduct Examiner

II. SCOPE OF EXAMINATION

The Market Conduct Examination was conducted on Mid-Continent Insurance Company, hereinafter referred to as “Company,” at their office located in Somerset, Pennsylvania. The examination was conducted pursuant to Sections 903 and 904 (40 P.S. §§323.3 and 323.4) of the Insurance Department Act and covered the experience period of January 1, 2006, through December 31, 2006, unless otherwise noted. The purpose of the examination was to determine the Company’s compliance with Pennsylvania insurance laws and regulations.

The examination focused on Company operations in the following areas:

1. Private Passenger Automobile
 - Underwriting – Appropriate and timely notices of nonrenewal, midterm cancellations, 60-day cancellations and rescissions.
 - Rating – Proper use of all classification and rating plans and procedures.
2. Property
 - Underwriting – Appropriate and timely notices of nonrenewal, midterm cancellations, 60-day cancellations, declinations and rescissions.
 - Rating – Proper use of all classification and rating plans and procedures.
3. Commercial Property
 - Underwriting – Appropriate and timely notices of nonrenewal, midterm cancellations, 60-day cancellations, declinations, rescissions and renewals.
4. Commercial Automobile
 - Underwriting – Appropriate and timely notices of nonrenewal, midterm cancellations, 60-day cancellations, declinations and renewals.

5. Claims

6. Forms

7. Advertising

8. Complaints

9. Licensing

III. COMPANY HISTORY AND LICENSING

Mid-Continent Insurance Company was incorporated July 9, 1969, under the laws of Pennsylvania. It began business on October 21, 1969.

LICENSING

Mid-Continent Insurance Company's Certificate of Authority to write business in the Commonwealth was issued on September 10, 1969. The Company is licensed in Maryland, Ohio and Pennsylvania. The Company's 2006 annual statement reflects Direct Written Premium for all lines of business in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as \$20,534,229. Premium volume related to the areas of this review were: Fire \$657,399; Homeowners Multiple Peril \$528,684; Commercial Multiple Peril (Non-liability portion) \$6,696,523; Commercial Multiple Peril (Liability portion) \$5,051,350; Inland Marine \$150,947; Private Passenger Automobile Direct Written Premium was reported as Private Passenger Auto Physical Damage \$380,222; Commercial Automobile Direct Written Premium was reported as Commercial Auto Physical Damage \$1,499,705.

IV. UNDERWRITING PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES

As part of the examination, the Company was requested to supply manuals, underwriting guides, bulletins, directives or other forms of underwriting procedure communications for each line of business being reviewed. Agency bulletins and underwriting guides were furnished for private passenger automobile, homeowners, dwelling fire and commercial lines. The purpose of this review was to identify any inconsistencies which could be considered discriminatory, specifically prohibited by statute or regulation, or unusual in nature. No violations were noted.

V. UNDERWRITING

A. Private Passenger Automobile

1. 60-Day Cancellations

A 60-day cancellation is considered to be any policy, which was cancelled within the first 60 days of the inception date of the policy.

The primary purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 68, Section 2003 (40 P.S. §991.2003), which establishes conditions under which action by the insurer is prohibited. These files were also reviewed for compliance with Act 68, Section 2002(b)(3) [40 P.S. §991.2002(b)(3)], which requires an insurer who cancels a policy of automobile insurance in the first 60 days, to supply the insured with a written statement of the reason for cancellation.

The universe of 17 private passenger automobile files identified as being cancelled in the first 60 days of new business was selected for review. All 17 files were received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

2. Midterm Cancellations

A midterm cancellation is any policy that terminates at any time other than the normal twelve-month policy anniversary date.

The primary purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 68, Section 2003 (40 P.S. §991.2003), which establishes conditions under which action by the insurer is prohibited, and Section 2006 (40 P.S. §991.2006), which establishes the requirements which must be met regarding the form and conditions of the cancellation notice.

From the universe of 152 private passenger automobile files identified as midterm cancellations by the Company, 50 files were selected for review. All 50 files were received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

3. Nonrenewals

A nonrenewal is considered to be any policy that was not renewed, for a specific reason, at the normal twelve-month policy anniversary date.

The purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 68, Section 2003 (40 P.S. §991.2003), which establishes conditions under which action by the insurer is prohibited, and Section 2006 (40 P.S. §991.2006), which establishes the requirements which must be met regarding the form and conditions of the cancellation notice.

The universe of 1 private passenger automobile policy nonrenewed during the experience period was selected for review. The file was received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

4. Rescissions

A rescission is any policy, which was void *ab initio*.

The primary purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 68, Section 2003 [40 P.S. §991.2003], which establishes conditions under which action by the insurer is prohibited. The review also determined compliance with the rescission requirements established by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in *Erie Insurance Exchange v. Lake*.

The universe of 2 private passenger automobile policies identified as being rescinded during the experience period was selected for review. Both files

were received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

B. Property

1. 60-Day Cancellations

A 60-day cancellation is considered to be any policy, which was cancelled within the first 60 days of the inception date of the policy.

The primary purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 205, Unfair Insurance Practices Act, Section 5(a)(7)(iii) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(7)(iii)], which prohibits an insurer from canceling a policy for discriminatory reasons and Title 31, Pennsylvania Code, Section 59.9(b), which requires an insurer who cancels a policy in the first 60 days to provide at least 30 days notice of the termination.

The universe of 31 property policies which were cancelled within the first 60 days of new business was selected for review. The policies consisted of homeowner and owner occupied dwelling fire. All 31 files were received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

2. Midterm Cancellations

A midterm cancellation is any policy termination that occurs at any time other than the twelve-month policy anniversary date.

The primary purpose of the review was to determine personal lines compliance with Act 205, Unfair Insurance Practices Act, Section 5(a)(9) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(9)], which establishes the conditions under which cancellation of a policy is permissible along with the form requirements of the cancellation notice.

From the universe of 161 property policies which were cancelled midterm during the experience period, 69 files were selected for review. The property policies consisted of homeowners and owner occupied dwelling fire. All 69 files were received and reviewed. The 13 violations noted were based on 13 files, resulting in an error ratio of 19%.

The following findings were made:

13 Violations Act 205, Section 5(a)(9)(ii) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(9)(ii)]

Requires that a cancellation notice shall state the date, not less than thirty days after the date of delivery or mailing on which such cancellation or refusal to renew shall become effective. The Company failed to provide 30 days notice of cancellation for nonpayment of premium on owner occupied dwelling policies.

3. Nonrenewals

A nonrenewal is considered to be any policy, which was not renewed, for a specific reason, at the normal twelve-month anniversary date.

The primary purpose of the review was to determine personal lines compliance with Act 205, Unfair Insurance Practices Act, Section 5(a)(9) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(9)], which establishes the conditions under which cancellation of a policy is permissible along with the form requirements of the nonrenewal notice.

The universe of 9 property policies which were nonrenewed during the experience period was selected for review. The property policies consisted of homeowner and owner occupied dwelling fire. All 9 files were received

and reviewed. The 4 violations noted were based on 4 files, resulting in an error ratio of 44%.

The following findings were made:

4 Violations Act 205, Section 5(a)(9) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(9)]

Prohibits canceling any policy of insurance covering owner-occupied private residential properties or personal property of individuals that has been in force for sixty days or more or refusing to renew any such policy unless the policy was obtained through material misrepresentation, fraudulent statements, omissions or concealment of fact material to the acceptance of the risk or to the hazard assumed by the company; or there has been a substantial change or increase in hazard in the risk assumed by the company subsequent to the date the policy was issued; or there is a substantial increase in hazards insured against by reason of willful or negligent acts or omissions by the insured; or the insured has failed to pay any premium when due or for any other reasons approved by the Commissioner. The Company nonrenewed the 4 files noted for an improper reason. The reason for nonrenewal for all 4 files was “losses”.

4. Declinations

A declination is any application that is received and the Company declines to write the coverage.

The primary purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 205, Unfair Insurance Practices Act, Section 5(a)(7)(iii) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(7)(iii)], discriminatory reasons.

The universe of 9 personal property applications declined during the experience period was selected for review. All 9 files were received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

5. Rescissions

A rescission is any policy, which was void *ab initio*.

The primary purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 205, Section 5(a)(9) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(9)], which establishes conditions under which cancellation of a policy is permissible along with the form requirements of the rescission notice.

The universe of 9 property policies that were identified by the Company as being rescinded during the experience period was selected for review. The property policies consisted of homeowner and owner occupied dwelling fire. All 9 files were received and reviewed. The violation noted resulted in an error ratio of 11%.

1 Violation Insurance Department Act, Section 903(a) [40 P.S. §323.3]

Requires every company subject to examination to keep all books, records, accounts, papers, documents and any or all computer or other recordings relating to its business in such manner and for such time as may be required in order that the Department may readily verify whether the Company has complied with the laws of this Commonwealth. The file

noted was incomplete. A copy of the rescission notice to the insured was not found in the file.

C. Commercial Property

1. 60-Day Cancellations

A 60-day cancellation is considered to be any policy, which was cancelled within the first 60 days of the inception date of the policy.

The primary purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 86, Section 7 (40 P.S. §3407), which requires an insurer, who cancels a policy that is in effect less than 60 days, to provide 30 days notice of termination no later than the 60th day unless the policy provides for a longer period of notification.

From the universe of 151 commercial property policies cancelled within the first 60 days of new business, 31 files were selected for review. The files consisted of commercial package, commercial fire and tenant occupied dwelling fire. All 31 files were received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

2. Midterm Cancellations

A midterm cancellation is any policy termination that occurs at any time other than the twelve-month policy anniversary date.

The purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 86, Section 2 (40 P.S. §3402), which prohibits cancellation except for specified reasons and Section 3 (40 P.S. §3403), which establishes the requirements, which must be met regarding the form and condition of the cancellation notice.

From the universe of 1,040 commercial property policies cancelled midterm during the experience period, 55 files were selected for review. The commercial property files consisted of commercial package, commercial inland marine, commercial fire and tenant occupied dwelling fire. All 55 files were received and reviewed. The 12 violations noted were based on 11 files, resulting in an error ratio of 20%.

The following findings were made:

2 Violations Act 86, Section 2 [40 P.S. §3402]

Grounds for cancellation. Canceling in midterm a policy of insurance covering commercial property and casualty risks is prohibited for any reason other than those enumerated under this section. The 2 files noted were cancelled for other than permitted reasons.

1 Violation Act 205, Section 5(a)(4) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(4)]

Unfair Methods of Competition and Unfair or Deceptive Acts or Practices Defined. Entering into any agreement to commit, or by any concerted action committing, any act of boycott, coercion or intimidation resulting in or tending to result in unreasonable restraint of, or monopoly in, the business of insurance. The Company cancelled the policy for lack of supporting business.

5 Violations Act 86, Section 4(a) [40 P.S. §3404(a)]

Requires that unearned premium be returned to the insured not later than 10 business days after the effective date of termination where commercial property or casualty risks are

cancelled in mid-term by the insurer. The Company did not return the unearned premium to the insured within 10 business days after the effective date of termination for the 5 files noted.

4 Violations Act 86, Section 4(b) [40 P.S. §3404(b)]

Requires that unearned premium be returned to the insured not later than 30 days after the effective date of termination where commercial property or casualty risks are cancelled in mid-term by the insured. The Company did not return the unearned premium to the insured within 30 days after the effective date of termination for the 4 files noted.

3. Nonrenewals

A nonrenewal is considered to be any policy that was not renewed, for a specific reason, at the normal twelve-month policy anniversary date.

The review was conducted to determine compliance with Act 86, Section 3 (40 P.S. §3403), which establishes the requirements that must be met regarding the form and condition of the nonrenewal notice.

The universe of 38 commercial property policies nonrenewed during the experience period was selected for review. The commercial property policies consisted of tenant occupied dwelling fire, commercial fire, commercial inland marine and commercial package. All 38 files were received and reviewed. The 13 violations noted were based on 13 files, resulting in an error ratio of 34%.

The following findings were made:

2 Violations Act 86, Section 3(a)(5) [40 P.S. §3403(a)(5)]

Requires that a nonrenewal notice shall state the specific reasons for the nonrenewal. The reasons shall identify the condition, factor or loss experience, which caused the nonrenewal. The notice shall provide sufficient information or data for the insured to correct the deficiency.

AND

Title 31, Pa. Code, Section 113.88

The reason given for nonrenewal shall be clear and complete. It shall be stated so that a person of average intelligence and education can understand it. Phrases such as “losses” or “underwriting reasons” are not sufficiently specific reasons for nonrenewal. The Company did not provide a specific reason for nonrenewal for the 2 files noted.

11 Violations Act 205, Section 5(a)(4) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(4)]

Unfair Methods of Competition and Unfair or Deceptive Acts or Practices Defined. Entering into any agreement to commit, or by any concerted action committing, any act of boycott, coercion or intimidation resulting in or tending to result in unreasonable restraint of, or monopoly in, the business of insurance. The 11 files noted contained a nonrenewal notice which required supporting business, which is prohibited.

4. Renewals

A renewal is considered to be any policy, which was previously written by the Company and renewed on the normal twelve-month anniversary date.

The purpose of the review was to measure compliance with Act 86, Section 1 (40 P.S. §3401), which requires 30 days advance notice of an increase in renewal premium.

From the universe of 5,613 commercial property policies renewed during the experience period, 80 files were selected for review. The commercial property policies consisted of tenant occupied dwelling fire, commercial fire, commercial inland marine and commercial package. All 80 files were received and reviewed. The 3 violations noted were based on 3 files, resulting in an error ratio of 4%.

The following findings were made:

3 Violations Act 86, Section 1 [40 P.S. §3401]

This section provides that notwithstanding any other provision of law, a policy of insurance covering commercial property or casualty risks in this Commonwealth shall provide for not less than 30 days advance notice to the named insured of an increase in renewal premium. This section does not apply to policies written on a retrospective rating plan.

The Company did not provide at least 30 days advance notice to the named insured of an increase in renewal premium for the 3 files noted.

5. Declinations

A declination is any application that is received and the Company declines to write the coverage.

The primary purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 205, Section 5 [40 P.S. §1171.5], which defined unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices.

From the universe of 857 commercial property declinations reported by the Company during the experience period, 41 files were selected for review. The commercial property files consisted of commercial package, commercial fire, commercial inland marine and tenant occupied dwelling fire. Of the 41 files requested, 40 files were received and reviewed. The 6 violations noted were based on 6 files, resulting in an error ratio of 15%.

1 Violation Insurance Department Act, Section 903(a) [40 P.S. §323.3]
Requires every company subject to examination to keep all books, records, accounts, papers, documents and any or all computer or other recordings relating to its business in such manner and for such time as may be required in order that the Department may readily verify whether the Company has complied with the laws of this Commonwealth. The file noted was not produced by the Company.

5 Violations Act 205, Section 5(a)(4) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(4)]
Unfair Methods of Competition and Unfair or Deceptive Acts or Practices Defined. Entering into any agreement to commit, or by any concerted action committing, any act of boycott, coercion or intimidation resulting in or tending to result in unreasonable restraint of, or monopoly in, the business of insurance. The Company refused to write the 5 files noted because they were monoline policies.

6. Rescissions

A rescission is any policy, which was void *ab initio*.

The primary purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 86.

The universe of 6 commercial property policies identified as rescissions by the Company was selected for review. All 6 files were received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

D. Commercial Automobile

1. 60-Day Cancellations

A 60-day cancellation is considered to be any policy, which was cancelled within the first 60 days of the inception date of the policy.

The primary purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 86, Section 7 (40 P.S. §3407), which requires an insurer, who cancels a policy that is in effect less than 60 days, to provide 30 days notice of termination no later than the 60th day unless the policy provides for a longer period of notification.

The universe of 5 commercial automobile policies cancelled within the first 60 days of new business was selected for review. All 5 files were received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

2. Midterm Cancellations

A midterm cancellation is any policy termination that occurs at any time other than the twelve-month policy anniversary date.

The purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 86, Section 2 (40 P.S. §3402), which prohibits cancellation except for specified reasons and Section 3 (40 P.S. §3403), which establishes the requirements, which must be met regarding the form and condition of the cancellation notice.

From the universe of 44 commercial automobile policies cancelled midterm during the experience period, 10 files were selected for review. All 10 files were received and reviewed. The 4 violations noted were based on 4 files, resulting in an error ratio of 40%.

The following findings were made:

4 Violations Act 86, Section 3(a)(6) [40 P.S. §3403(a)(6)]

Requires that a cancellation notice shall state that at the insured's request, the insurer shall provide loss information to the insured for at least three years or the period of time during which the insurer has provided coverage to the insured, whichever is less. The Company did not provide an offer of loss information on the notice as required for the 4 files noted.

3. Nonrenewals

A nonrenewal is considered to be any policy that was not renewed, for a specific reason, at the normal twelve-month policy anniversary date.

The review was conducted to determine compliance with Act 86, Section 3 (40 P.S. §3403), which establishes the requirements that must be met regarding the form and condition of the nonrenewal notice.

The universe of 5 commercial automobile policies nonrenewed during the experience period was selected for review. All 5 files were received and reviewed. The 5 violations noted was based on 4 files, resulting in an error ratio of 80%.

The following findings were made:

1 Violation Act 86, Section 3(a)(5) [40 P.S. §3403(a)(5)]

Requires that a nonrenewal notice shall state the specific reasons for the nonrenewal. The reasons shall identify the condition, factor or loss experience, which caused the nonrenewal. The notice shall provide sufficient information or data for the insured to correct the deficiency.

AND

Title 31, Pa. Code, Section 113.88

The reason given for nonrenewal shall be clear and complete. It shall be stated so that a person of average intelligence and education can understand it. Phrases such as “losses” or “underwriting reasons” are not sufficiently specific reasons for nonrenewal. The Company did not provide a specific reason for nonrenewal.

4 Violations Act 86, Section 3(a)(6) [40 P.S. §3403(a)(6)]

Requires that a nonrenewal notice shall state that at the insured’s request, the insurer shall provide loss information to the insured for at least three years or the period of time during which the insurer has provided coverage to the insured, whichever is less. The Company did not provide an offer of

loss information on the notice as required for the 4 files noted.

4. Renewals

A renewal is considered to be any policy, which was previously written by the Company and renewed on the normal twelve-month anniversary date.

The purpose of the review was to measure compliance with Act 86, Section 1 (40 P.S. §3401), which requires 30 days advance notice of an increase in renewal premium.

From the universe of 207 commercial automobile policies renewed during the experience period, 15 files were selected for review. All 15 files were received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

5. Declinations

A declination is any application that is received and the Company declines to write the coverage.

The primary purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 205, Section 5 [40 P.S. §1171.5], which defined unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices.

The universe of 14 commercial automobile declinations reported by the Company during the experience period was selected for review. Of the 14 files requested, 12 files were received and reviewed. The 2 violations noted were based on 2 files, resulting in an error ratio of 17%.

The following findings were made:

2 Violations Insurance Department Act, Section 903(a) [40 P.S. §323.3]

Requires every company subject to examination to keep all books, records, accounts, papers, documents and any or all computer or other recordings relating to its business in such manner and for such time as may be required in order that the Department may readily verify whether the Company has complied with the laws of this Commonwealth. The 2 files noted were not produced by the Company.

VI. RATING

A. Private Passenger Automobile

1. New Business

New business, for the purpose of this examination, is defined as policies written for the first time by the Company during the experience period.

The primary purpose of the review was to measure compliance with Act 246, Sections 4(a) and (h) [40 P.S. §1184], which requires every insurer to file with the Insurance Commissioner every manual of classifications, rules and rates, every rating plan and every modification of any rating plan, which it proposes to use in the Commonwealth. Also, no insurer shall make or issue a contract or policy except in accordance with filings or rates, which are in effect at that time. Files were also reviewed to determine compliance with all provisions of Act 6 of 1990 and Act 68, Section 2005(c) [40 P.S. §991.2005(c)], which requires insurers to provide to insureds a detailed statement of the components of a premium and shall specifically show the amount of surcharge or other additional amount that is charged as a result of a claim having been made under a policy of insurance or as a result of any other factors.

The Company processes and issues personal automobile policies using an automated system. In order to verify the automated system, several policies were manually rated to ensure the computer had been programmed correctly. Once the computer programming had been verified, only the input data needed to be verified. By reviewing base premiums, territory assignments, rating symbols, classifications and surcharge disclosures, the examiners were able to determine compliance with the Company's filed and approved rating plans.

Private Passenger Automobile – New Business Without Surcharges

From the universe of 106 private passenger automobile policies identified as new business without surcharges, 25 files were selected for review. All 25 files were received and reviewed. The 212 violations noted were based on the universe of 106, resulting in an error ratio of 100%.

The following findings were made:

106 Violations Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1793(b)

Requires the insurer to provide to the insured a copy of their surcharge disclosure plan. The insurer providing the surcharge disclosure plan shall detail the provisions of the plan and the plan shall be delivered to each insured by the insurer at least once annually. Additionally, the surcharge information plan shall be given to each prospective insured at the time application is made for motor vehicle insurance coverage. The Company did not provide the surcharge disclosure plan to the insured at the time of application.

106 Violations Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1725

Every motor vehicle insurance policy shall contain a notice as to whether the policy covers collision damage to rental vehicles, and any limitations on such coverage. The notice shall be written in clear, plain language and shall be printed on the first page of the policy in boldface capital letters. The Company failed to place the notice on the first page of the policy in boldface capital letters.

Private Passenger Automobile - New Business With Surcharges

The universe of 4 private passenger automobile policies identified as new business with surcharges by the Company was selected for review. All 4 files were received and reviewed. The 12 violations noted were based on 4 files resulting in an error ratio of 100%.

The following findings were made:

4 Violations Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1725

Every motor vehicle insurance policy shall contain a notice as to whether the policy covers collision damage to rental vehicles, and any limitations on such coverage. The notice shall be written in clear, plain language and shall be printed on the first page of the policy in boldface capital letters. The Company failed to place the notice on the first page of the policy in boldface capital letters.

4 Violations Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1793(b)

Requires the insurer to provide to the insured a copy of their surcharge disclosure plan. The insurer providing the surcharge disclosure plan shall detail the provisions of the plan and the plan shall be delivered to each insured by the insurer at least once annually. Additionally, the surcharge information plan shall be given to each prospective insured at the time application is made for motor vehicle insurance coverage. The Company did not provide the surcharge disclosure plan to the insured at the time of application.

4 Violations Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1799.3(d)

Requires insurers who make a determination to impose a surcharge, rate penalty or driver record point assignment, to inform the insured of the determination and specify the manner in which the surcharge, rate penalty or driver record point assignment was made and clearly identify the amount of the surcharge or rate penalty on the premium notice for as long as the surcharge or rate penalty is in effect. The Company failed to provide the surcharge disclosure statement specifying the manner in which the surcharge was made and identifying the amount of surcharge for the 4 files noted.

2. Renewals

A renewal is considered to be any policy, which was previously written by the Company and renewed on the normal twelve-month anniversary date.

The purpose of the review was to measure compliance with Act 246, Sections 4(a) and (h) (40 P.S. §1184), which requires every insurer to file with the Insurance Commissioner every manual of classifications, rules and rates, every rating plan and every modification of any rating plan, which it proposes to use in the Commonwealth. Also, no insurer shall make or issue a contract or policy except in accordance with filings or rates, which are in effect at the time. Files were also reviewed to determine compliance with Act 68, Section 2005(c) (40 P.S. §991.2005(c)), which requires insurers to provide to insureds a detailed statement of the components of a premium and shall specifically show the amount of surcharge or other additional amount that is charged as a result of a claim having been made under a policy of insurance, or as a result of any other factors.

The Company processes and issues personal automobile policies using an automated system. In order to verify the automated system, several policies were manually rated to ensure the computer had been programmed correctly. Once the computer programming had been verified, only the input data needed to be verified. By reviewing base premiums, territory assignments, rating symbols, classifications and surcharge disclosures, the examiners were able to determine compliance with the Company's filed and approved rating plans.

Private Passenger Automobile – Renewals Without Surcharges

From the universe of 245 private passenger automobile policies renewed without surcharges during the experience period, 25 files were selected for review. All 25 files were received and reviewed. The 490 violations noted were based on the universe of 245 files, resulting in an error ratio of 100%.

The following findings were noted:

245 Violations Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1793(b)

Requires the insurer to provide to the insured a copy of their surcharge disclosure plan. The insurer providing the surcharge disclosure plan shall detail the provisions of the plan and the plan shall be delivered to each insured by the insurer at least once annually. Additionally, the surcharge information plan shall be given to each prospective insured at the time application is made for motor vehicle insurance coverage. The Company failed to provide the surcharge disclosure plan to the insured at the time of renewal.

245 Violations Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1725

Every motor vehicle insurance policy shall contain a notice as to whether the policy covers collision damage to rental vehicles, and any limitations on such coverage. The notice shall be written in clear, plain language and shall be printed on the first page of the policy in boldface capital letters. The Company failed to place the notice on the first page of the policy in boldface capital letters.

Private Passenger Automobile – Renewals With Surcharges

The universe of 15 private passenger automobile policies renewed with surcharges during the experience period was selected for review. All 15 files were received and reviewed. The 45 violations noted were based on the universe of 15 files, resulting in an error ratio of 100%.

The following findings were made:

15 Violations Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1725

Every motor vehicle insurance policy shall contain a notice as to whether the policy covers collision damage to rental vehicles, and any limitations on such coverage. The notice shall be written in clear, plain language and shall be printed on the first page of the policy in boldface capital letters. The Company failed to place the notice on the first page of the policy in boldface capital letters.

15 Violations Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1793(b)

Requires the insurer to provide to the insured a copy of their surcharge disclosure plan. The insurer providing the

surcharge disclosure plan shall detail the provisions of the plan and the plan shall be delivered to each insured by the insurer at least once annually. Additionally, the surcharge information plan shall be given to each prospective insured at the time application is made for motor vehicle insurance coverage. The Company failed to provide the surcharge disclosure plan to the insured at the time of renewal.

15 Violations Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1799.3(d)

Requires insurers who make a determination to impose a surcharge, rate penalty or driver record point assignment, to inform the insured of the determination and specify the manner in which the surcharge, rate penalty or driver record point assignment was made and clearly identify the amount of the surcharge or rate penalty on the premium notice for as long as the surcharge or rate penalty is in effect. The Company failed to provide the surcharge disclosure statement specifying the manner in which the surcharge was made and identifying the amount of surcharge for the 15 files noted.

B. Homeowners

1. New Business

New business, for the purpose of this examination, was defined as policies written for the first time by the Company during the experience period.

The purpose of the review was to measure compliance with Act 246, Sections 4(a) and (h) (40 P.S. §1184), which require every insurer to file with the Insurance Commissioner every manual of classifications, rules and rates, every rating plan and every modification of any rating plan, which it

proposes to use in the Commonwealth. Also, no insurer shall make or issue a contract or policy except in accordance with filings or rates, which are in effect at the time.

Homeowner Rating – New Business Without Surcharges

From the universe of 402 homeowner policies written as new business without surcharges during the experience period, 25 files were selected for review. All 25 files were received and reviewed. The violation noted resulted in an error ratio of 4%.

The following finding was made:

*1 Violation Act 246, The Casualty and Surety Rate Regulatory Act,
Section 4 (40 P.S. §1184)*

Requires every insurer to file with the Insurance Commissioner every manual of classifications, rules and rates, every rating plan and every modification of any rating plan, which it proposes to use in the Commonwealth. Also, no insurer shall make or issue a contract or policy except in accordance with filings or rates, which are in effect at the time of issue. The Company did not rate the policy with the proper protection class which resulted in an overcharge of \$76.

2. Renewals

A renewal is considered to be any policy, which was previously written by the Company and renewed on the normal twelve-month anniversary date.

The purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 246, Sections 4(a) and (h) (40 P.S. §1184), which require every insurer to file with the Insurance Commissioner every manual of classifications, rules and rates, every rating plan and every modification of any rating plan which it proposes to use in the Commonwealth. Also, no insurer shall make or issue a contract or policy except in accordance with filings or rates which are in effect at the time.

Homeowner Rating – Renewals Without Surcharges

From the universe of 935 homeowner policies renewed without surcharges during the experience period, 25 files were selected for review. All 25 files were received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

C. Dwelling Fire

1. New Business

New business, for the purpose of this examination, was defined as policies written for the first time by the Company during the experience period.

The purpose of the review was to measure compliance with Act 246, Sections 4(a) and (h) (40 P.S. §1184), which require every insurer to file with the Insurance Commissioner every manual of classifications, rules and rates, every rating plan and every modification of any rating plan, which it proposes to use in the Commonwealth. Also, no insurer shall make or issue a contract or policy except in accordance with filings or rates, which are in effect at the time.

Dwelling Fire Rating – New Business Without Surcharges

From the universe of 43 dwelling fire policies written as new business without surcharges, 10 files were selected for review. All 10 files were

received and reviewed. The violation noted resulted in an error ratio of 10%.

The following finding was made:

1 Violation Act 246, The Casualty and Surety Rate Regulatory Act, Section 4 (40 P.S. §1184)

Requires every insurer to file with the Insurance Commissioner every manual of classifications, rules and rates, every rating plan and every modification of any rating plan, which it proposes to use in the Commonwealth. Also, no insurer shall make or issue a contract or policy except in accordance with filings or rates, which are in effect at the time of issue. The Company did not rate the policy with the proper base rate which resulted in an overcharge of \$26.

2. Renewals

A renewal is considered to be any policy, which was previously written by the Company and renewed on the normal twelve-month anniversary date.

The purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Act 246, Sections 4(a) and (h) (40 P.S. §1184), which require every insurer to file with the Insurance Commissioner every manual of classifications, rules and rates, every rating plan and every modification of any rating plan which it proposes to use in the Commonwealth. Also, no insurer shall make or issue a contract or policy except in accordance with filings or rates which are in effect at the time.

Dwelling Fire Rating – Renewals Without Surcharges

From the universe of 232 dwelling fire policies renewed without surcharges, 25 files were selected for review. All 25 files were received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

VII. CLAIMS

The Company was requested to provide copies of all established written claim handling procedures utilized during the experience period. Written claim handling procedures were received and reviewed for any inconsistencies, which could be considered discriminatory, specifically prohibited by statute or regulation, or unusual in nature. No violations were noted.

The Claims review consisted of the following areas of review:

- A. Automobile Comprehensive Claims
- B. Automobile Collision Claims
- C. Automobile Total Loss
- D. Homeowner Claims
- E. Dwelling Fire

The primary purpose of the review was to determine compliance with Title 31, Pennsylvania Code, Chapter 146, Unfair Claims Settlement Practices. The files were also reviewed to determine compliance with Act 205, Section 4 (40 P.S. §1171.4) and Section 5(a)(10)(vi) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(10)(vi)], Unfair Insurance Practices Act.

A. Automobile Comprehensive Claims

The universe of 6 private passenger automobile comprehensive claims reported during the experience period was selected for review. All 6 files were received and reviewed. The 3 violations noted were based on 3 files, resulting in an error ratio of 50%.

The following findings were made:

3 Violations Title 31, Pa. Code, Section 146.6

Every insurer shall complete investigation of a claim within 30 days after notification of the claim, unless such investigation cannot reasonably be completed within 30 days, and every 45 days thereafter, the insurer shall provide the claimant with a reasonable written explanation for the delay and state when a decision on the claim may be expected. The Company did not provide timely status letters for the 3 claims noted.

B. Automobile Collision Claims

From the universe of 41 private passenger automobile collision claims reported during the experience period, 25 files were selected for review. All 25 files were received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

C. Automobile Total Loss Claims

The universe of 6 private passenger automobile total loss claims reported during the experience period was selected for review. All 6 files were received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

D. Homeowner Claims

From the universe of 69 homeowner claims reported during the experience period, 25 files were selected for review. All 25 files were received and reviewed. No violations were noted.

E. Dwelling Fire Claims

From the universe of 22 dwelling fire claims reported during the experience period, 10 files were selected for review. All 10 files were received and reviewed. The 3 violations noted were based on 3 files, resulting in an error ratio of 30%.

The following findings were made:

1 Violation Title 31, Pa. Code, Section 146.6

Every insurer shall complete investigation of a claim within 30 days after notification of the claim, unless such investigation cannot reasonably be completed within 30 days, and every 45 days thereafter, the insurer shall provide the claimant with a reasonable written explanation for the delay and state when a decision on the claim may be expected. The Company did not provide timely status letters for the claim noted.

2 Violations Title 31, Pa. Code, Section 146.7(a)(1)

Within 15 working days after receipt by the insurer of properly executed proofs of loss, the first-party claimant shall be advised of the acceptance or denial of the claim by the insurer. The Company failed to have a copy of the denial letter in the claim file for the 2 claims noted.

VIII. FORMS

Throughout the course of the examination, all underwriting files were reviewed to identify the policy forms used in order to verify compliance with Insurance Company Law, Section 354 (40 P.S. §477b), Approval of Policies, Contracts, etc., Prohibiting the Use Thereof Unless Approved. During the experience period of the examination, Section 354 provided that it shall be unlawful for any insurance company to issue, sell, or dispose of any policy contract or certificate covering fire, marine, title and all forms of casualty insurance or use applications, riders, or endorsements in connection therewith, until the forms have been submitted to and formally approved by the Insurance Commissioner. All underwriting and claim files were also reviewed to verify compliance with Act 165 of 1994 [18 Pa. CS §4117(k)(1)] and Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1822, which requires all insurers to provide an insurance fraud notice on all applications for insurance, all claims forms and all renewals of coverage.

The following findings were made:

3 Violations Act 165 of 1994 [18 Pa. C.S. §4117(k)(1)]

Any person who knowingly and with intent to defraud any insurance company or other person files an application for insurance or statement of claim containing any materially false information or conceals for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any fact material thereto, commits a fraudulent insurance act, which is a crime and subjects such person to criminal and civil penalties.

AND

Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1822

Warning notice on application for insurance and claim forms. Not later than May 1, 1990, all applications for insurance, renewals and

claim forms shall contain a statement that clearly states in substance the following: "Any person who knowingly and with intent to injure or defraud any insurer files an application or claim containing false, incomplete or misleading information shall, upon conviction, be subject to imprisonment for up to seven years and payment of a fine of up to \$15,000." The Company did not provide the fraud warning on a dwelling application, homeowner application and a theft affidavit claim form.

Automobile Rating – Renewals Without Surcharges

245 Violations Act 165 of 1994 [18 Pa. C.S. §4117(k)(1)]

Any person who knowingly and with intent to defraud any insurance company or other person files an application for insurance or statement of claim containing any materially false information or conceals for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any fact material thereto, commits a fraudulent insurance act, which is a crime and subjects such person to criminal and civil penalties.

AND

Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1822

Warning notice on application for insurance and claim forms. Not later than May 1, 1990, all applications for insurance, renewals and claim forms shall contain a statement that clearly states in substance the following: "Any person who knowingly and with intent to injure or defraud any insurer files an application or claim containing false, incomplete or misleading information shall, upon conviction, be subject to imprisonment for up to seven years and payment of a fine of up to \$15,000." The Company did not provide the fraud warning at renewal.

Automobile Rating – Renewals With Surcharges

15 Violations Act 165 of 1994 [18 Pa. C.S. §4117(k)(1)]

Any person who knowingly and with intent to defraud any insurance company or other person files an application for insurance or statement of claim containing any materially false information or conceals for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any fact material thereto, commits a fraudulent insurance act, which is a crime and subjects such person to criminal and civil penalties.

AND

Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1822

Warning notice on application for insurance and claim forms. Not later than May 1, 1990, all applications for insurance, renewals and claim forms shall contain a statement that clearly states in substance the following: "Any person who knowingly and with intent to injure or defraud any insurer files an application or claim containing false, incomplete or misleading information shall, upon conviction, be subject to imprisonment for up to seven years and payment of a fine of up to \$15,000." The Company did not provide the fraud warning at renewal.

IX. ADVERTISING

The Company was requested to provide copies of all advertising, sales material and internet advertisements in use during the experience period.

The purpose of this review was to determine compliance with Act 205, Section 5 [40 P.S. §1171.5], which defines unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the business of insurance, as well as Title 31, Pennsylvania Code, Section 51.2(c) and Section 51.61.

The Company provided an agent's kit. No violations were noted.

X. CONSUMER COMPLAINTS

The Company was requested to identify all consumer complaints received during the experience period and provide copies of their consumer complaint logs for the preceding four years. The Company identified 80 consumer complaints received during the experience period and provided all consumer complaint logs requested. Of the 80 complaints reported, 25 files were requested, received and reviewed.

The purpose of the review was to determine compliance with the Unfair Insurance Practices Act, No. 205 (40 P.S. §1171). Section 5(a)(11) of the Act requires a Company to maintain a complete record of all complaints received during the preceding four years. This record shall indicate the total number of complaints, their classification by line of insurance, the nature of each complaint, the disposition of these complaints and the time it took to process each complaint.

The following findings were made:

5 Violations Act 205, Section 5(a)(11) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(11)]

Requires an insurer to maintain a complete record of all the complaints, which it has received during the preceding four years. This record shall indicate the total number of complaints, their classification by line of insurance, the nature of each complaint, the disposition of these complaints and time it took to process each complaint. The Company failed to maintain complete complaint registers. The registers for 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 did not indicate the classification by line of insurance.

1 Violation Act 205, Section 5(a)(9) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(9)]

Prohibits canceling any policy of insurance covering owner-

occupied private residential properties or personal property of individuals that has been in force for sixty days or more or refusing to renew any such policy unless the policy was obtained through material misrepresentation, fraudulent statements, omissions or concealment of fact material to the acceptance of the risk or to the hazard assumed by the company; or there has been a substantial change or increase in hazard in the risk assumed by the company subsequent to the date the policy was issued; or there is a substantial increase in hazards insured against by reason of willful or negligent acts or omissions by the insured; or the insured has failed to pay any premium when due or for any other reasons approved by the Commissioner. The Company nonrenewed the policy for an improper reason.

The following synopsis reflects the nature of the 25 complaints that were reviewed.

| | | | |
|---|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| • | 19 | Cancellation/Nonrenewal | 76% |
| • | 3 | Renewal | 12% |
| • | 3 | Claims | 12% |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| | 25 | | 100% |

XI. LICENSING

In order to determine compliance by the Company and its agency force with the licensing requirements applicable to Section 641.1(a) [40 P.S. §310.41(a) and Section 671-A [40 P.S. §310.71] of the Insurance Department Act No. 147, the Company was requested to furnish a list of all active producers during the experience period and a listing of all producers terminated during the experience period. Underwriting files were checked to verify proper licensing and appointment.

The following findings were made:

33 Violations Insurance Department Act, No. 147, Section 671-A

(40 P.S. §310.71)

- (a) Representative of the insurer – An insurance producer shall not act on behalf of or as a representative of the insurer unless the insurance producer is appointed by the insurer. An insurance producer not acting as a representative of an insurer is not required to be appointed.
- (b) Representative of the consumer – An insurance producer acting on behalf of or representing an insurance consumer shall execute a written agreement with the insurance consumer prior to representing or acting on their behalf that:
 - (1) Delineates the services to be provided; and
 - (2) Provides full and complete disclosure of the fee to be paid to the insurance producer by the insurance consumer.
- (c) Notification to Department – An insurer that appoints an insurance producer shall file with the Department a notice of appointment. The notice shall state for which companies within the

insurer's holding company system or group the appointment is made.

(d) Termination of appointment – Once appointed, an insurance producer shall remain appointed by an insurer until such time as the insurer terminates the appointment in writing to the insurance producer or until the insurance producer's license is suspended, revoked or otherwise terminated.

(e) Appointment fee – An appointment fee of \$12.50 will be billed annually to the insurer for each producer appointed by the insurer during the preceding calendar year regardless of the length of time the producer held the appointment with the insurer. The appointment fee may be modified by regulation.

(f) Reporting – An insurer shall, upon request, certify to the Department the names of all licensees appointed by the insurer.

The following producers were found to be writing policies but were not found in Insurance Department records as having an appointment. The Company failed to file a notice of appointment and submit appointment fees to the Department.

University City Insurance Agency, Inc.
Hershberger Insurance Agency, LLC
Steven Mamula
H.D. Compton Insurance Agency, Inc.
Robert S. Strobel Insurance, Inc.
Adam Barkow - DBA Suburban Insurance
Main Line Insurance Office, Inc.
Greater Penn Agency, Inc.
Excel Insurance Services, Inc.
Taurus Financial Services, LTD
Creative General Insurance Agency, Inc.
Alex Hunter Group, Inc.
Thomas M. Flick

Essick & Barr, LLC – DBA Madison Insurance Consultants
John T. Abram, Inc.
Business Risk Specialists, Inc.
Richard M. Coran, Inc.
Vishab & Coyle, Inc.
First Insurance Management, LLC
All Insurance, Inc.
AIA-DCAP Corp. – DBA Atlantic Insurance Agency
Lloyd, Inc. – DBA Manfred, Diller & Lloyd
Leonard C. Triggiani
Denise R. Marshall
Gateway/Pennsy Underwriters, Inc.
Larry O. Powell
D&L Business Services, Inc.
Nilien Insurance Services, Inc.
Accent Insurance Agency, Inc.
Worldwide Insurance System Enterprise, Inc. – DBA W.I.S.E.
Insurance Group
Robert L. Dworkin
David N. Rosenfeld – T/A Atlas Insurance Agency
Latin-American Business Services, Inc.

XII. RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations made below identify corrective measures the Department finds necessary as a result of the number of some violations, or the nature and severity of other statutory or regulatory violations, noted in the Report.

1. The Company must review Act 205, Section 5(a)(9) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(9)] to ensure that the violation regarding the requirement for cancellation and nonrenewal notices, as noted in the Report, does not occur in the future.
2. The Company must review and revise internal control procedures to ensure compliance relative to commercial cancellation and nonrenewal requirements of Act 86, Sections 2, 3 and 4 [40 P.S. §§3402, 3403 and 3404], so that the violations noted in the Report do not occur in the future.
3. The Company must reinforce its internal underwriting controls to ensure that all records and documents are maintained in accordance with Insurance Department Act, Section 903(a) [40 P.S. §323.3], so that violations noted in the Report do not occur in the future.
4. The Company must review Act 86, Section 1 [40 P.S. §3401], to ensure that violations regarding notification to the insured of an increase in premium do not occur in the future.
5. The Company must review Title 75, Pa. C.S. 1793(b) to ensure that violations regarding the requirement to provide the insured with a

surcharge disclosure plan at the time of application, as noted in the Report, do not occur in the future.

6. The Company must review Act 205, Section 5(a)(4) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(4)] to ensure that the violations relative to supporting coverage noted in the Report do not occur in the future.
7. The Company must review Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1725 to ensure that a notice as to whether the policy covers collision damage to rental vehicles, and any limitations on such coverage shall be printed on the first page of the policy in boldface capital letters.
8. When a surcharge is imposed on a private passenger automobile policy the Company must specify the manner in which the surcharge was made and clearly identify the amount of the surcharge and give notice to the insured. This procedure must be implemented within 30 days of the Report issue date. This is to ensure that violations noted under Act 68, Section 2005(c) [40 P.S. §991.2005(c)] and Title 75, Pa. C.S. §1799.3(d) do not occur in the future.
9. The Company must review Act 246, Section 4(a) and (h) [40 P.S. §1184] and take appropriate measures to ensure the rating violations listed in the report do not occur in the future.
10. The premium overcharges noted in the rating section of this report must be refunded to the insured and proof of such refunds must be provided to the Insurance Department within 30 days of the report issue date.

11. The Company should review and revise internal control procedures to ensure compliance with the claims handling requirements of Title 31, Pennsylvania Code, Chapter 146, Unfair Claims Settlement Practices so that the violations relating to status letters and denials, as noted in the Report, do not occur in the future.

12. The Company must ensure all producers are properly appointed, as required by Section 671-A [40 P.S. §310.71] of the Insurance Department Act No. 147, prior to accepting any business from any producer.

13. The Company must ensure that all applications, renewals and claim forms contain the required fraud warning notice.

14. The Company must review Act 205, Section 5(a)(11) [40 P.S. §1171.5(a)(11)], to ensure that the violations relative to complaint records noted in the Report does not occur in the future.

XIII. COMPANY RESPONSE



Mid/Continent Insurance CO.

124 North Center Avenue
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June 23, 2008

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
INSURANCE DEPARTMENT
Bureau of Enforcement
Attn: Chester A. Derk Jr., AIE, HIA
Market Conduct Division Chief
1227 Strawberry Square
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Examination Warrant Number: 07-M29-033

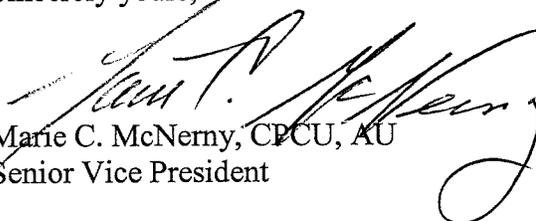
Dear Mr. Derk:

We have received and reviewed the Report of Examination of Mid-Continent Insurance Company. The market conduct examination did identify areas where remedial action was necessary, and we have taken corrective actions in all areas necessary.

The initial reports and interaction with the examiner were very helpful. We have no written submissions or rebuttals to the Examination Report in addition to those already presented to you. This letter is submitted as a response to section XII. Recommendations.

The examiner at our office, Mr. James R. Myers, was courteous and helpful as was Ms. Constance L. Arnold in all our communications by telephone and e-mail.

Sincerely yours,



Marie C. McNerny, CPCU, AU
Senior Vice President

Enclosure

RECEIVED
INSURANCE DEPT.

JUN 25 2008

BUREAU OF ENFORCEMENT



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XIII COMPANY RESPONSE

Examination of Mid-Continent Insurance Company 07-M29-033

We have no written submissions or rebuttals to the Examination Report in addition to those already presented to you. This letter is submitted as a response to section XII. Recommendations.

XII RECOMMENDATIONS

1. We have and will continue to review Act 205, Section 5(a)(9) [40 P.S. 1171.5 (a)(9)] to eliminate the violations stemming from cancellation and nonrenewal notices.
2. We have revised internal control procedures to ensure compliance with commercial cancellation and nonrenewal requirements of Act 86, Sections 2, 3 and 4 [40 P.S. 3402, 3403 and 3404] to eliminate these violations.
3. With the institution of our imaging system we have reinforced our internal controls to ensure that all records and documents are maintained in accordance with Insurance Department Act, Section 903(a) [40 P.S. 323.3].
4. We have increased our advance time to ensure that notification to the insured of an increase in premium is in compliance with Act 86, Section 1 [40 P.S. 3401].
5. We have reviewed Title 75, Pa. C.S. 1793 (b) and implemented the required surcharge disclosure plan.
6. We have eliminated all requirements for supporting coverage in accord with Act 205, Section 5 (a)(4) [40 P.S. 1171.5(a)(4)].
7. In accordance with Title 75, Pa. C.S. 1725, a notice of coverage of collision damage to rental vehicles, and limitations on such coverage will be printed on the first page of the policy in boldface capital letters.
8. In accordance with act 68, Section 205(c) [40 P.S. 991.2005(c)] and Title 75, Pa. C.S. 1799.3(d) surcharges on private passenger automobile policies will specify the manner in which the surcharge was made and identify the amount of the surcharge.
9. As required by Act 246, Section 4(a) and (h) [40 P.s. 1184] we are taking all appropriate measures to ensure there are no rating errors or violations.



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10. The premium overcharges noted have been refunded to the insured and proof of such refunds was forwarded to Ms. Constance Arnold of the Insurance Department on May 21, 2008.
11. In accordance with Title 31, Pennsylvania Code, Chapter 146, Unfair Claims Settlement Practices, we had revised our internal controls prior to the market conduct examination to ensure compliance and eliminate violations relating to status letters and denials.
12. We have corrected our producer appointments as required by Section 671-A [40 P.S. 310.71] of the Insurance Department Act No. 147.
13. We have corrected and will continue to ensure that all applications, renewals and claim forms contain the required fraud warning notice.
14. We have amended the complaint record to include the line of business and reviewed Act 205, Section 5(a)(11) [40 P.S. 1171.5(a)(11)] to ensured compliance with complaint record requirements.