



Date: August 03, 2020

To: All TPC Agents

From: Brian Junod – Director, Underwriting & Products

The Philadelphia Contributionship Announces Binding Authority Moratoriums in Virginia, Delaware, New Jersey & portions of Maryland & Pennsylvania in preparation for Hurricane Isaias

As you are likely aware, Hurricane Isaias is expected to bring damaging winds and severe flooding to the east coast over the next three to four days. **As a result of the impending storm, your agency binding authority is being temporarily suspended for risks located in the following areas:**

- **All counties located in Virginia, Delaware and New Jersey**
- **The following counties in eastern Maryland:**
 - **Anne Arundel, Baltimore (including Baltimore City), Carroll, Cecil, Charles, Harford, Kent & Prince Georges**
- **The following counties in Central & Eastern Pennsylvania, comprising an area generally east of Centre County and State College, PA:**
 - **Adams, Berks, Bradford, Bucks, Carbon, Centre, Chester, Clinton, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mifflin, Monroe, Montgomery, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Philadelphia, Pike, Schuylkill, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Wayne, Wyoming & York**

We ask that you immediately inform all of your agency personnel of this binding authority suspension. Suspension of your binding authority applies to both dwelling and homeowners forms and includes all new business submissions, endorsement transactions, policy reinstatements and changes in coverage that would be **effective August 4, 2020 through the lifting of the moratorium.**

In summary:

- The binding authority suspension does not apply to your ability to process new business or endorsement transactions effective on or after August 7, 2020 or the lifting of the moratorium whichever comes first.

- **The ability to bind Water Backup & Sump Overflow coverage or Inland Flood coverage for any inforce policies is suspended effective immediately until the lifting of the moratorium.**
- Certain changes that don't increase coverage are permissible during this time. These include mortgagee changes, mailing address changes and billing changes.

Duration

Binding authority is suspended effective immediately and is expected to be reinstated when the potential for damaging winds and heavy flooding has subsided. You will receive an announcement from the company announcing when and where binding authority has been restored.

Reinstatements

Please be reminded that in the moratorium areas described above, policies that cancel during this time of the agent binding suspension will not be reinstated. Any policy that cancels will need to be re-submitted as new business with an effective date on or after August 7, 2020. We will require that all new business underwriting guidelines are followed and a complete new business application be signed by the applicant and retained by your agency as part of your standard business practices. The signed application is required, as it serves as the insured's certification that there is no prior unrepaired damage, whether resulting from the storm or otherwise. We retain the right to inspect all rewritten policies.

Endorsements

These severe weather events often highlight for policyholders the need to carry Water Back-Up & Sump Overflow coverage and Inland Flood coverage. While we are happy to provide the appropriate and necessary coverage to our policyholders, we need to be thorough in our evaluation of which policies are acceptable for an increase in coverage under the current circumstances. Any request to endorse our Water Backup or Inland Flood coverages or to increase limits for these coverages after the lifting of the moratorium will require a *Statement of No Loss* to be signed by the policyholder prior to binding. The document can be found on our agent portal The Key, under the "Correspondence" tab. This statement will be required when endorsing existing policies until such time as we rescind this specific requirement.

For new business, policyholders continue to be required to sign the new business application, which certifies that there is no pre-existing damage from losses prior to binding.

Requests to add Water Backup & Sump Overflow or Inland Flood coverage without the proper documentation and signature will be denied. Coverage cannot be bound without this important certification.

Protection & Security

It is during events like these that our policyholders come to appreciate the protection that a carrier like The Philadelphia Contributionship brings to the table in providing for their financial security. Know that our claims staff stands ready to assist our policyholders when they need us most, and that our company stands ready to assist you - our valued agents - in helping service the needs of your customers. As always, we value the relationship our company has with your agency and we appreciate your business.