

# NC DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE NEWSLETTER



FEB 2023



## COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

We are off to a flying start at the NC Department of Insurance at the start of 2023, with lots of new happenings to share. Our department is working hard to expand our presence and reach across the state.

We recently opened our new southeastern regional office in Whiteville on Feb. 1. This office will help to provide access to many of the important services we provide to those who live in that corner of the Tarheel state.

Later this year, we will be christening our new regional office in Gastonia, and we are currently on the hunt for a new location for a future field office in the western part of the state.

In just a few weeks, we'll be stepping up our annual efforts to help curtail drug addiction, including opioid addiction, through the Operation Medicine Drop program. Operation Medicine Drop is making a difference by safely disposing of opioids and other medications to keep the public and the environment safe. Our OMD program partners with law enforcement, fire departments, hospitals and pharmacies across the state. We'll also be participating in several drug take-back events.

In April, we will once again work with the Independent Insurance Agents of North Carolina to raise awareness of distracted driving dangers at minor league baseball games. We did four of these events last year that were a big success and we've expanded to eight this year.

Also, in 2023 we plan to highlight improvements in fire departments with State of the Fire Service events. In the last five years, more than 700 out of 1,215 fire departments have seen improved ISO ratings.

Finally, our Fraud Control Group continues to work tirelessly to combat insurance fraud and raise awareness about the expensive havoc fraud wreaks on our society.

It's these programs and more that show 2023 is off to a great start as we work together to make our industry more competitive and consumer friendly for all 10.5 million North Carolinians.

Thank you for all that you do.



MIKE CAUSEY, INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

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# FROM THE DEPUTY'S DESK

## JACQUELINE R. OBUSEK NCDOT CHIEF DEPUTY COMMISSIONER



The North Carolina Department of Insurance has adopted the NAIC Suitability in Annuity Transactions Model Regulation that took effect on Jan. 1, 2023.

The purpose of this regulation is to require producers to act in the best interest of the consumer when recommending an annuity. It is also intended to require insurers to establish and maintain a system to supervise recommendations, so that consumers' insurance needs and financial objectives are effectively addressed at the time of the transaction.

A producer must have adequate knowledge of an annuity product and must comply with the insurer's standards for product training before soliciting the sale of a product. A producer may rely on insurer-provided, product-specific training standards and materials to comply.

To be authorized to sell, solicit or negotiate annuity contracts a producer must do both of the following:

1. Hold a life line of authority.
2. Complete a one-time four hour training course within the first six months of 2023.

Training must include the following topics:

- Types and various classifications of annuities;
- Identification of the parties to an annuity;
- How product-specific annuity contract features affect consumers;
- The application of income taxation of qualified and non-qualified annuities;
- The primary use of annuities; and
- Appropriate standards of conduct, sales practices, replacement and disclosure requirements.

Producers who completed an annuity training course before Jan. 1 must complete either:

- A new four (4) hour training course; or
- A one (1) hour training course on appropriate sales practices, replacement and disclosure requirements within 6 months after Jan. 1, 2023.

Producers can receive continuing education (CE) credit for these training courses if the provider and the course are approved by the Department.

Insurers offering annuity contracts must verify that its producers completed the training before being allowed to sell, solicit or negotiate annuity contracts, by obtaining course certificates of completion or other database or vendor reports. Insurers shall maintain these records and make that verification available to the Department upon request.

The satisfaction of these training requirements in any state shall be deemed to satisfy the training requirements in North Carolina.

If you have any questions, please contact the Agent Services Division at (919) 807-6800.

**North Carolina made changes to several license types in 2022.** The first change went into effect in July 2022. NC statutes were amended to eliminate the requirement for a Broker's license in North Carolina for both resident and non-resident licensees. With this statutory change, the requirement that NC resident brokers maintain a bond was eliminated. North Carolina resident licensees may notify their bond company to cancel the Broker bond effective immediately.

The second change went into effect in December 2022. This change eliminated the titles of Self-Employed Insurance Adjusters and Company/Independent Firm Adjuster. These two license types will now be simply titled "Adjuster." This change only affects those two license types. We continue to offer the Hail Adjuster and Public Adjuster license types.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, you can email [ASD@ncdoi.gov](mailto:ASD@ncdoi.gov) or call (919) 807-6800.

# REGULATORY ACTIONS

NC License/NPN#	Action	Date of Action
<b>PRODUCERS</b>		
Russell H McClain Jr License #: 7627082	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Life, Credit Agent	7/25/2022
James Samuel Bekor License #:10720110	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Property, Casualty	7/26/2022
John William Mayo License #: 17426250	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Accident & Health	8/3/2022
Marissa Marie Schultz License #: 19715842	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Property, Casualty	8/4/2022
Julio Jose Rubio License #: 17613686	Voluntary Surrender Life	8/5/2022
William Brault License #: 20281111	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Property, Casualty	8/8/2022
Janeth Viridiana Fuentes-Portillo License #: 17875536	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Life, Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	8/8/2022
Bryan Olimpo Baez License #: 19939913	Voluntary Surrender Life	8/11/2022
Kenneth Allen Bruning Jr License #: 20089030	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Life	8/15/2022
Ryan William Dauphin License #: 8287849	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Property, Casualty	8/15/2022
Otto Ramon Bohon jr License #: 10180740	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Life, Variable Life & Variable Annuity	8/16/2022
Broderick Tyrel Tillman License #: 20389702	License Denial Life	8/16/2022
Christopher Demarco License #: 17330145	Voluntary Surrender Life, Accident & Health, Property, Casualty	8/17/2022
Karina Araujo Martinez License #: 19661675	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Property, Casualty	8/18/2022
Kevin Amil Perry License #: 8450391	Voluntary Surrender Life, Accident & Health, Property, Casualty, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care, Variable Life & Variable Annuity	8/24/2022
Nathan Cosby License #: 17584208	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Property, Casualty	8/26/2022
Jason A Witthun License #: 7327184	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Property, Casualty, Surplus Lines	8/26/2022
William Justice License #: 6556305	License Revocation Life, Accident & Health, Property, Casualty, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	8/29/2022

<b>NC License/NPN#</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Date of Action</b>
Robert A Sagar License #: 1995811	License Denial Nonresident Life	8/29/2022
Zachary Aidi License #: 19911455	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Life, Accident & Health	9/8/2022
Stephani Michelle Criner License #: 19972693	Voluntary Surrender Accident & Health	9/8/2022
Ryan McCarthy License #: 18721105	License Denial Property, Casualty	9/8/2022
Brian Daniel Parker License #: 834595	License Denial Nonresident Life	9/8/2022
Gregory M Russell License #: 12243839	License Denial Life	9/9/2022
Carl Brelinger License #: 10995784	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Personal Lines	9/12/2022
Amanda Seugh Humphrey License #: 20445142	License Denial Accident & Health	9/16/2022
Michael L. Thomas License #: 20430592	License Denial Life	9/20/2022
Loretta A. Morris License #: 16850954	License Revocation Nonresident Property, Casualty	9/20/2022
Sergio Jassiel Ortiz License #: 9251454	License Revocation Nonresident Life, Accident & Health	9/26/2022
Ujahnae Shekinah Logan License #: 19300386	License Revocation Nonresident Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	9/27/2022
Giammoda Miller License #: 16781513	License Revocation Nonresident Life, Accident & Health, Property, Casualty, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	9/27/2022
Matthew Wade Staten License #: 4800224	License Revocation Nonresident Life, Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	9/27/2022
Justin Lashey License #: 17596816	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Property, Casualty	9/28/2022
Terrance McAdoo License #: 18147148	Voluntary Surrender Life, Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	9/28/2022
Nicholas R Palumbo License #: 2282576	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Life, Accident & Health	10/3/2022
Nitesh S. Patel License #: 593740	License Revocation Nonresident Life, Accident & Health	10/5/2022
Samanatha Montoya Contreras License #: 18602184	Voluntary Surrender Property, Casualty	10/6/2022

NC License/NPN#	Action	Date of Action
Edgardo K Asuncion Licnse #: 1989306	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Life, Accident & Health, Variable Life & Variable Annuity	10/10/2022
Leslie M Fontenot License #: 20246808	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	10/10/2022
ChontaLatrice Hurd License #: 19724109	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Life	10/10/2022
Billyjack Vaughn Johnson License #: 18998280	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Life, Accident & Health	10/12/2022
Otto Ramon Bohon Jr License #: 10180740	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Life, Variable Life & Variable Annuity	10/14/2022
Glynis Aundrea Snell Licese #: 3693427	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Life, Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	10/19/2022
Nicholas Alexander Vouras License #: 19959732	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Life, Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	10/24/2022
Kelly David Robertson License #: 19694363	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Life, Accident & Health	10/25/2022
Thomas Ward Stratton License #: 255627	Voluntary Surrender Life, Accident & Health, Variable Life & Variable Annuity	10/25/2022
Didier Desrouleux License #: 10684167	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Life, Accident & Health	10/27/2022
Victor Charles Washington License #: 9036899	Consent Order Nonresident Life, Accident & Health	10/27/2022
Joaquin A. Sandino License #: 9411504	Voluntary Surrender Property, Casualty	10/28/2022
Richard Burns License #: 18797993	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident	10/31/2022
William J. Jones License #: 20093947	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Life, Accident & Health	11/4/3/2022
Tony L. Hayes License #: 11121404	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Life, Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	10/31/2022
Gwendolyn M. Nolan License #: 6555110	Voluntary Surrender Property, Casualty	11/8/2022
Matthew A. Stein License#: 17060793	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Life, Accident & Health	11/10/2022
Carla Jo Yanase License #: 2715357	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Property, Casualty	11/10/2022
Brian Albee License #: 7438621	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Life, Property, Casualty	11/15/2022
Austin Wayne Allen License #: 8667651	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Property, Casualty	11/15/2022

<b>NC License/NPN#</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Date of Action</b>
William Pabon License #: 1095273	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	11/17/2022
Tiffany Leigh Quattlebaum License #: 19903829	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Property, Casualty, Surplus Lines	11/22/2022
Sandra K. Quinn License #: 8288857	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Life, Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	11/29/2022
Heather Obrad-Bartholomew License #: 20082918	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	11/29/2022
Alan D. Sheketoff License #: 1999312	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Life, Accident & Health	11/29/2022
Thomas M. Denoma License #: 2208704	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Life, Accident & Health, Property, Casualty	11/30/2022
Mark Anthony Chiaramonte License #: 19363842	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Personal Lines	12/1/2022
Thelma Vaughan License #: 18864093	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	12/1/2022
Demarcus Q Silver License #: 9339302	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Life	12/2/2022
Yalonda Ivy License #: 17271505	License Revocation Nonresident Life, Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	12/6/2022
Lindsay Marie Lippl License #: 15650481	License Suspension Nonresident Property, Casualty	12/6/2022
Keyome Marie Beachem License #: 17525550	Voluntary Surrender Personal Lines	12/7/2022
Phillip Giordano License #: 9769812	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Life, Accident & Health	12/12/2022
Douglas Earl Swaney II License #: 18624517	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Life, Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	12/15/2022
Karl Angelo Rodriguez License #: 17145634	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Life	12/16/2022
Sadia Redden License #: 20064057	Voluntary Surrender Nonresident Accident & Health, Medicare Supplement/Long Term Care	12/20/2022

## **BUSINESS ENTITIES**

Appalachian Underwriters Inc License #: 3893743	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Corporation, Surplus Lines Business Entity	6/30/2022
Optimum Financial Brokerage, Inc License #: 16993077	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Corporation	7/7/2022
Boomerang Title Inc. License #: 8909597	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Corporation	7/8/2022
Ironshore Insurance Services LLC License #: 9628159	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Corporation	8/18/2022

NC License/NPN#	Action	Date of Action
Blue Ridge Specialty LLC License #: 18314028	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Corporation, Surplus Lines Business Entity	8/24/2022
SJ Abrams & Co Inc License#: 13954	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Corporation	8/30/2022
Orchid Underwriters Agency, LLC License#: 15485539	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Corporation, Surplus Lines Business Entity	8/31/2022
TTEC Healthcare Solutions Inc License #: 16993077	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Corporation	11/3/2022
Lifeworks (US) Ltd License #: 11674698	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Corporation	11/8/2022
SureCo Insurance Solutions LLC License #: 16977168	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Corporation	12/14/2022

## COLLECTION AGENCIES

Credit Bureau Systems, Inc. License #: 119500647	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Foreign Collection Agency	9/29/2022
Paramount Assets Protection Services, LLC License #: 119507709	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Foreign Collection Agency	2/15/2022
Citco Loan Services (USA), Inc. License #: 516942177	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Foreign Collection Agency	10/17/2022
Macordia, LLC License #: 119506588	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Foreign Collection Agency	10/26/2022
NewRez LLC License #: 119505586	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Foreign Collection Agency	11/8/2022
NewRez LLC License #: 119505577	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Foreign Collection Agency	11/8/2022
NewRez LLC License #: 119505587	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Foreign Collection Agency	11/8/2022
NewRez LLC License #: 119507260	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Foreign Collection Agency	11/8/2022
Grimley Financial Corporation License #: 513647021	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Foreign Collection Agency	11/17/2022
NewRez LLC License #: 119507640	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Foreign Collection Agency	11/22/2022

## ADJUSTERS

Shaun C Brown License #: 8458270	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Adjuster	8/11/2022
Michael A. Hauser License #: 8268712	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Adjuster	7/27/2022
Juan F Barreto License #: 11548625	Voluntary Settlement Agreement Nonresident Adjuster	8/18/2022

**NC License/NPN#****Action****Date of Action**

Jaquetta Colbert-Gore  
License #: 2315137

Voluntary Settlement Agreement  
Nonresident Adjuster

8/26/2022

Amber L. Mitchell  
License #: 11755555

Voluntary Settlement Agreement  
Nonresident Adjuster

11/15/2022

Shandra Cotton-Brown  
License #: 20226507

Voluntary Settlement Agreement  
Nonresident Adjuster

11/22/2022

**MOTOR CLUBS**

Travelers Motor Club, Inc.  
License #: 119498231

Voluntary Settlement Agreement  
Foreign Motor Club

10/10/2022

Auto Help Line of America, Inc.  
License #: 119498262

Voluntary Settlement Agreement  
Foreign Motor Club

12/20/2022