

## MISSISSIPPI INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

MIKE CHANEY Commissioner of Insurance State Fire Marshal

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## MISSISSIPPI INSURANCE DEPARTMENT BULLETIN 2014-3

TO:

TO INSURANCE CARRIERS WRITING COMMERCIAL PROPERTY,

HOMEOWNERS, DWELLING FIRE AND COMMERCIAL AND PERSONAL

**AUTOMOBILE POLICIES** 

FROM:

MIKE CHANEY

COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

DATE:

MAY 6, 2014

SUBJECT:

PREMIUM PAYMENTS FOR POLICYHOLDERS IN IMPACTED AREAS

On Monday, April 28, 2014, many Mississippians suffered significant losses due to severe thunderstorms, tornadoes and flash flooding. On April 30, 2014, President Obama issued a major disaster declaration for the following counties: Itawamba, Lee, Lowndes, Madison, Rankin, Wayne and Winston.

To assist Mississippians struggling to overcome these obstacles, the Mississippi Insurance Department ("Department") is requesting insurers work with policyholders in the impacted areas regarding the payment of premiums. This request shall apply to commercial property, homeowners, dwelling fire and commercial and personal automobile policies. Insurers are encouraged to allow for extensions or set up payment plans for the payment of premiums for policyholders residing in storm impacted areas. Insurers are also encouraged to contact their policyholders in the impacted areas and to work with them in providing relief where the circumstances so justify. Policyholders are advised that this is not a waiver of payment.

Insurers are directed not to cancel/non-renew policies in the affected areas that are attributed to a failure to pay premiums. If a policy is to be cancelled or non-renewed for any other allowable reason, the cancellation or non-renewal may be made pursuant to statutory notice requirements. However, the Department requests that insurance companies take into consideration that persons in the heavily impacted areas may be unable to receive a notice of cancellation or non-renewal due to relocation or delayed postal service in that area.

Issued this the 6th day of May, 2014.

MIKE CHANEY
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE