



## AGENTS' BULLETIN # 2010-06-01

June 1, 2010

To: All United Insurance Agents

Re: **HURRICANE SEASON UNDERWRITING CATASTROPHE PROCEDURES**

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Once again the hurricane season is upon us. Unfortunately, an active year is forecast for 2010. We hope, as you do, that we will have no damage to life or property. As a reminder, during a Tropical Storm or Hurricane your **binding authority** for increasing amounts of property insurance on an existing risk, or the binding of any new risk, is suspended immediately upon issuance by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) of a Tropical Storm Watch, Tropical Storm Warning, Hurricane Watch, or Hurricane Warning for any coastal area of Florida. You will need to monitor the statements from the NHC so that you will know when your binding authority is suspended. Renewals will only be issued on an "as expiring" basis for coverage and perils; limits will only be increased to keep pace with established inflation factors (currently 4%). The Company normally restores binding authority as soon as the NHC lifts the storm designation for all affected Florida coastal areas.

If any exceptional circumstances exist which you believe will warrant the Company giving consideration to acceptance of additional liability, please submit the line to the Company for review. You will need to either call Customer Service (1-800-295-8016) or e-mail this request to [upc@csc.com](mailto:upc@csc.com). If acceptable to the Company, you will be authorized to bind coverage. (An example is when coverage is required in order to close on the purchase of a home – in this situation, the agent must contact the Company, and proof of the real estate closing must accompany the application along with the appropriate payment.)

A named tropical storm or hurricane is a windstorm identified as a tropical storm or hurricane by the National Hurricane Center. Since the weather service uses standard terminology to describe when a particular area is subject to a "Hurricane Watch" or "Hurricane Warning," these terms are defined below:

**HURRICANE WATCH** – an announcement for a specified area that a hurricane may occur within 48-72 hours. All people in the indicated area should take stock of their preparedness requirements, keep abreast of the latest advisories and bulletins, and be ready for quick action in case a warning is issued.

**HURRICANE WARNING** – a warning that one or more of the following dangerous effects of a hurricane are expected in specific areas within 24 hours or less:

1. Hurricane force winds (74 MPH or higher);
2. Dangerously high waters, or a combination of high water and exceptionally high waves, even though winds may be less than hurricane force.

If you have any questions, feel free to call your Marketing Representative or Customer Service.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mel Russell".

Mel Russell, CIC  
Chief Underwriting Officer & Senior Vice President