

United States Department of Agriculture

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

Risk Management Agency

20250-0801

TO: All Reinsurance Companies

All Risk Management Field Offices

All Other Interested Parties

1400 Independence Avenue, SW Stop 0801 Washington, DC

FROM: David C. Hatch /s/ David C. Hatch 3/9/2005

Acting Deputy Administrator for Insurance Services

SUBJECT: Prohibition of Agent Involvement in Loss Adjustment Activities

Section IV.F.4.a.i.-vi of the Standard Reinsurance Agreement (SRA) prohibits agents from being involved in loss adjustment activities. The Risk Management Agency (RMA) has determined that an agent accompanying a loss adjuster while a claim is being worked violates the conflict of interest provisions of the SRA. Beyond receiving notice of a loss or production information from an insured and forwarding the notice or production information to the approved insurance provider, an agent is prohibited from any other involvement in the claims process. The SRA does not authorize the agent to have any interaction with the loss adjuster during the loss adjustment process.

RMA directs each approved insurance provider to review its procedures regarding agent/loss adjuster interaction to identify and correct any procedure that might allow any interaction between the agent and loss adjuster or otherwise violate the conflict of interest provision of the SRA. RMA also directs each approved insurance provider to notify its agents and loss adjusters that any interaction between an agent and a loss adjuster during the loss adjustment process is a prohibited practice and provide a copy of this notification to RMA's Reinsurance Services Division.

