

ALLEGATIONS OF FRAUD CAN BE REPORTED DIRECTLY TO OUR DIVISION OFFICE, PHONE, OR EMAIL

Georgia CID Regions

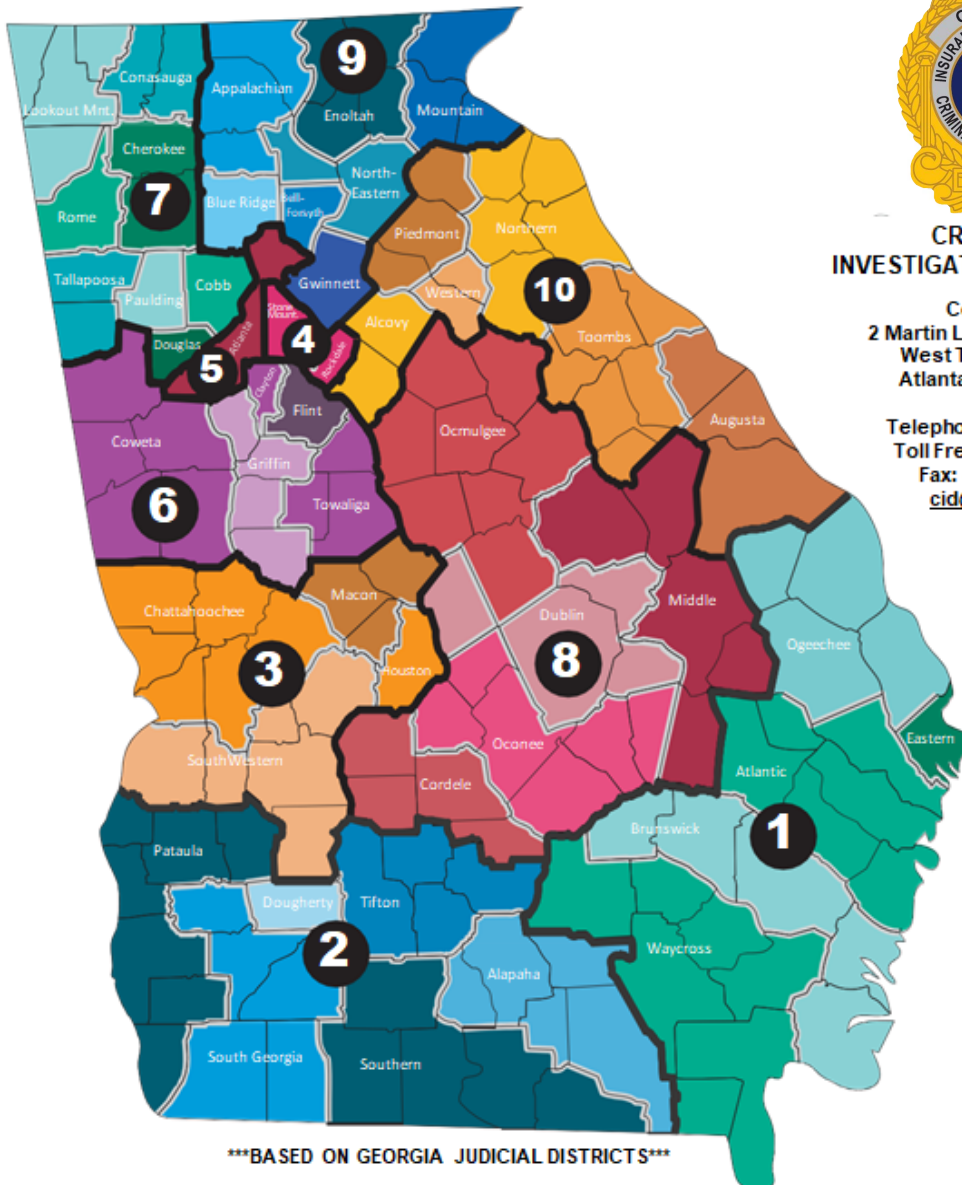
GEORGIA INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

Contact us:
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
West Tower, Suite 720
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Telephone: 404-656-2070
Toll Free: 800-656-2298
Fax: 404-657-9831
cid@oci.ga.gov



BASED ON GEORGIA JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

CONSUMER TIPS

USE CAUTION

- When buying from a door-to-door salesperson or when signing blank insurance claim forms.
- When receiving calls after an accident; It could be an attempted fraud scheme.
- If a life insurance sales pitch comes when there is no need to change coverage, such as a marriage, a new child or similar life change.
- If an agent offers to replace your old life insurance policy, which has high cash value, with a "better" one.

ALWAYS

- Receive the written policy within 60 days after you have paid your first premium.
- Compare prices and options before purchasing insurance.
- Make sure you receive and review your detailed billings for all services.
- Check with our office to ensure you are dealing with a licensed agent and insurance company.
- Protect your insurance identification numbers as you would a credit card number.
- Carefully review the premium schedule, benefits and restrictions, i.e. pre-existing conditions.

NEVER

- Write a check for a premium payment to an agent. Checks should be written to the insurance company or insurance agency.

INSURANCE FRAUD

OCI CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION



Office of Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire
Protect | Enforce | Educate | Inform

JOHN F. KING
Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire

Two Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
West Tower, Suite 702
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Learn how to **FIGHT BACK** Against Fraud

The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) is a law enforcement branch operating within the Office of Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire. CID is responsible for investigating criminal acts of suspected insurance fraud perpetrated by individual citizens, insurance agents, insurance companies and businesses.

Help CID fight insurance fraud by educating yourself using our publications and resources. You can also help by reporting suspected insurance fraud to OCI's website or by calling (1-800-656-2298).

Insurance fraud is not a victimless crime. It is estimated that insurance fraud costs the United States \$80 billion dollars or more a year, which is ultimately passed down to consumers. The Coalition Against Insurance Fraud (CAIF) estimates this fraud costs each family approximately \$950 annually.

Identity Theft

Identity thieves obtain your personal information, including your Social Security number, credit card and bank information to open accounts, get car loans, and more, all in your name. Even if you don't lose physical money, you can still suffer from financial difficulty and frustration due to ruined credit ratings.

FIGHT BACK!

- **Protect your personal information!**
- **Be cautious when providing your Social Security number to anyone.** If someone asks you for your SSN to set up or verify an account, ask if some other identifier can be used instead.
- **Shred unwanted credit card applications, transaction slips, and other documents with personal information.**
- **Protect your credit card.** Try not to let your card out of your sight. When it's unavoidable, such as when you're dining out, use cash instead.
- **Check your mailbox daily.** When traveling, have the post office hold your mail or ask a trusted friend to get your mail.

Unlicensed Entity Fraud

Unlicensed entities are companies who are not licensed in Georgia to sell insurance. Many are blatant con games. Your best option is to deal only with licensed companies and agents.

FIGHT BACK!

- **Verify before you buy.** Call the Office of Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire (OCI) Helpline at 1-800 656-2298, or visit OCI's website to find out if an insurance company and agent are licensed.
- **Check the complaint history of a company or agent by calling the Consumer Helpline.**
- **If you suspect insurance fraud, call OCI at 1-800 656-2298 or email OCI's CID Unit at cid@oci.ga.gov**

Workers' Compensation Fraud

Workers' compensation insurance covers medical expenses and lost wages if you are injured on the job or become ill because of conditions at your workplace. Employees who fake-on-the-job injuries, don't report second incomes or delay their return to work are committing claimant fraud. Premium fraud includes falsifying payrolls to reduce premiums.

FIGHT BACK!

- **Be honest.** It's a felony to make false, fraudulent or misleading statements in order to obtain or deny benefits.
- **If you see abuse, report it—everyone pays for workers' comp fraud with higher premiums and reduced benefits.**
- **Call the State Board of Workers Compensation Enforcement Division at (404) 657-7285 or email them at ReportFraud@SBWC.GA.GOV**

Auto Fraud

Personal injury protections (PIP) is automobile insurance coverage that pays for your personal injury and other limited expenses, regardless of who is at fault in an accident. Common fraud schemes include intentionally causing a minor accident, then filing false claims through a disreputable clinic, or working with an unscrupulous doctor who files fraudulent injury claims for procedures that are never performed.

FIGHT BACK!

- **Drive defensively and take every precaution to avoid being in an accident.**
- **If you do have an accident, use a cell phone or other camera to document the damage.**
- **Note how many passengers were in the other car, including names, addresses, phone, and driver license numbers, and the car's license plate.**
- **Make sure police are called and get a written report.**
- **If anyone pressures you to go to an unknown clinic, doctor, chiropractor, or lawyer, or if you think a crime has been committed, call the CID Fraud Hotline.**



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Insurance and Safety Fire

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COMMISSIONER JOHN F. KING

