

Orlando Business Journal - October 3, 2005  
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# ORLANDO Business Journal

## LATEST NEWS

Orlando Business Journal - 12:45 PM EDT Monday

### Committee tasked with simplifying homeowners' insurance

The state says it has created a 10-member committee to develop a standard homeowner's insurance policy for Floridians that is both easy to understand and offers comprehensive coverage.

Many victims of the 2004 hurricanes, the state says, were not adequately protected because they either did not understand the complex language in their insurance policies or had not updated their policy limits to keep pace with increasing property values.

The committee must issue its recommendation to the legislature by Jan. 15.

The first committee meeting is scheduled to be in room 110 of the Senate office building from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Oct. 4. The other scheduled meeting dates are Oct. 28, Nov. 17 and Dec. 6. A final meeting is to be Jan. 4.

The members of the standard personal lines advisory committee are:

- Chairman, Rick Mahler, deputy chief of staff, Department of Financial Services
- Joel P. Curran, chief underwriting officer and senior manager, Towerhill Insurance Group
- Jim Graganella, president/chief executive officer, Capital Preferred & Southern Fidelity Insurance Cos.
- Hector Fortune, agent, Fortune Insurance
- Bruce A. Baker, agent, USI Insurance Services of Florida
- Rick Suarez, of Miami, proprietor of Ready Windows, as a consumer advocate
- Arnold Whisenant, of Jacksonville, retired, as a consumer advocate
- Steve Burgess, with the state of Florida, as a consumer advocate
- Dr. Elizabeth Beard Goldsmith, a Florida State University professor
- Richard C. Koon, senior management analyst and director of policy forms for the Office of Insurance Regulation

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