

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

Division of Rehabilitation and Liquidation www.myfloridacfo.com/division/receiver

Si necesita una versión en español de este aviso, visite el sitio web de la División de Rehabilitación y Liquidación www.myfloridacfo.com/division/receiver. (If you need a Spanish version of this notice, visit the Receiver's website at www.myfloridacfo.com/division/receiver)

## **NOTICE TO SSIC'S FLORIDA POLICYHOLDERS**

## **Regarding the Liquidation of Sunshine State Insurance Company (SSIC)**

Dear Policyholder:

This letter is being sent to you because records indicate that you are or have recently been a policyholder of Sunshine State Insurance Company (SSIC). On June 3, 2014, SSIC was ordered liquidated by the Second Judicial Circuit Court in Leon County, Florida. The Florida Department of Financial Services was appointed as Receiver of SSIC. A copy of the liquidation order for SSIC and other relevant information is available on the Receiver's website, www.myfloridacfo.com/division/receiver.

**POLICY CANCELLATION AND TRANSITION TO HERITAGE:** Under the liquidation order, all SSIC policies are cancelled effective 12:01 a.m. on July 3, 2014, unless otherwise terminated prior to that date. However, in order to assist you, the Receiver has entered into an agreement with Heritage Property & Casualty Insurance Company, (HPCIC), which would transition your policy to HPCIC and provide you with continued insurance coverage starting on June 27, 2014. Continued, uninterrupted coverage is particularly important during hurricane season! Highlights of the plan include the following:

- Under the transition plan, as approved by the court, SSIC Florida policies will be cancelled on June 27, 2014 and immediately reissued by HPCIC using SSIC's rates, rules and forms
- There will be no gaps in coverage and the policy forms and premium amount will be identical before and after the transition
- HPCIC will use SSIC's rates, rules and forms through the expiration of the original policy periods; at the first renewal, HPCIC will re-write the policies on its own forms but using the lessor of SSIC's or HPCIC's rates
- CSC, the company used by SSIC, will continue policy processing services for HPCIC to facilitate a seamless transition
- Policies that are set to renew from June 27, 2014 through August 26, 2014 will be deemed to renew with HPCIC
- Policyholders will not be subject to the \$100 statutory deductible which is otherwise required by the cancellation of policies in a liquidation; this is being covered by HPCIC

- Agents will not need to repay any unearned commissions; this is also being covered by HPCIC
- Deductibles and unearned commissions will need to be paid only on policies that are not transitioned to HPCIC.

HPCIC and the Receiver have sent letters to all agents regarding the transition plan and the benefits to both policyholders and agents. HPCIC is not able to offer this continued coverage on policies which cover builders' risk or under which certain types of significant loss/damage have occurred. IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH YOUR AGENT, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR AGENT IMMEDIATELY TO MAKE SURE THAT YOUR POLICY HAS SUCCESSFULLY TRANSFERRED TO HPCIC AND/OR THAT YOU DO NOT HAVE ANY LAPSE IN INSURANCE COVERAGE AFTER THE CANCELLATION OF YOUR SSIC POLICY. Your agent is best able to advise you as to your insurance options. To assist your agent and you in this process, we also have notified your agent directly of the cancellation of your policy and the transition plan to HPCIC.

**PREMIUM ISSUES:** To continue your policy through the cancellation date, please continue to send your premiums to SSIC as normal. The Florida Insurance Guaranty Association (FIGA) will pay unearned premium claims after the Receiver completes its processing of the policy records and sends the unearned premium records to FIGA. A \$100 statutory deductible will be taken from the amount owed. PLEASE NOTE: If you take advantage of the HPCIC transition plan, you will not be charged the \$100 statutory deductible. HPCIC has agreed with FIGA and the Receiver that it will cover the deductible for policyholders. FIGA will pay the unearned premium for the policyholders whose policies transition to HPCIC directly to HPCIC. Deductibles will need to be paid only on policies that are not transitioned to HPCIC.

**CLAIMS ISSUES (FOR LOSSES INCURRED PRIOR TO 12:01 A.M. ON JULY 3, 2014):** The deadline for filing claims in the SSIC receivership is 11:59:59 p.m. on June 3, 2015. With the entry of the liquidation order, the Florida Insurance Guaranty Association (FIGA) was activated to help pay outstanding claims for SSIC's property and casualty policies. The processing and payment of pending covered claims will be made by FIGA (subject to the lesser of policy limits or FIGA's maximum cap). The maximum amount FIGA will cover is \$300,000, with special limits applying to (1) damages to structure and contents on homeowners' claims and (2) condominium and homeowners' association claims. For damages to structure and contents on homeowners' claims the cap will be \$100,000 multiplied by the number of units in the association. No claim will be paid in excess of this cap. All claims are subject to a \$100 deductible over and above any deductible identified in the SSIC policy. **PLEASE NOTE: FIGA will not pay any claims occurring after June 27, 2014 for Florida policyholders whose policies transition to HPCIC.** For additional general information regarding FIGA, please visit the guaranty association's website at www.figafacts.com.

A policyholder may file a claim in the SSIC receivership for the \$100 deductible which applies on claim payments, for amounts over the FIGA coverage cap, or for other claims not covered by FIGA. Information regarding the method for filing a claim in the receivership proceeding will be available on the Receiver's website, www.myfloridacfo.com/division/receiver.

**PLEASE NOTE REGARDING CLAIMS PAYMENTS:** The Receiver is currently gathering claim files and claim data in order to forward the information to FIGA. As a result, there may be a slight delay in claim processing during this transitional period. Please continue to contact SSIC using the contact information below to check the status of an existing claim and/or to file a new claim. The Receiver's website, www.myfloridacfo.com/division/receiver, will be updated once the transition is completed. At that time, new contact information for FIGA will be posted to assist policyholders in filing a new claim or in following up on a pending claim.

**<u>CONSUMER/CLAIMS CALLS</u>** Until further notice, policyholders with questions regarding SSIC should continue to visit the company's website at www.ssic-insco.com or contact the company directly as follows:

## Sunshine State Insurance Company – Direct Contact Information:

## General Information/Claims: 1-877-563-0150

If you have questions concerning the transition plan with Heritage Property & Casualty Insurance Company, you may contact your agent or call HPCIC directly at: 1-855-323-8040.

**<u>CONTACTING THE RECEIVER</u>**: Please contact the Receiver by using the "Contact Us" form at the Receiver's website, www.myfloridacfo.com/division/receiver if you have any non-claims related questions regarding the receivership (for claims questions, please refer to the phone numbers provided under Claims Issues). You may also contact the Florida Department of Financial Services, as Receiver, at (850) 413-3081 or toll free at 1-800-882-3054 (in Florida only).

Your anticipated cooperation and assistance in these matters is greatly appreciated.