May 14, 2019

CIRCULAR LETTER NO.: CC-2019-1948-D

TO ALL PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURERS, PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT ADJUSTERS, EMERGENCY ADJUSTERS, PRODUCERS, AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES, AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC

AUTHORIZATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE EMERGENCY PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT ADJUSTER SPECIAL PERMIT GRANTED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF CN-2017-223-D DUE TO THE IMPACT OF HURRICANES IRMA AND MARÍA IN PUERTO RICO

Dear Sirs and Madams:

Given the impact of Hurricanes Irma and María on the island and after the Governor decreed a general catastrophe, the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance, (hereinafter the OCI), issued Ruling Letter CN-2017-223-D, which established the procedures and requirements for granting a special permit for emergency public and independent adjusters. The purpose of this was to grant permits to persons who wished to act as adjusters in the claim adjustment process to address the sudden high volume of claims related to the catastrophe.

Since most of the surge in the volume of claims caused by Hurricanes Irma and María has been addressed, it is hereby announced that the granting and effect of the special permits for Emergency Adjuster is suspended, as set forth below:

I. APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL PERMIT AS AN EMERGENCY ADJUSTER

A. SUSPENSION OF NEW AUTHORIZATIONS

As of the date of this circular letter, the OCI will not be granting any Public and Independent Adjuster Special Permits to persons who submit new applications.

B. EXTENSION OF EFFECTIVE DATE OF SPECIAL PERMIT

As provided in Section V of CN-2017-223-D, any person who currently holds a special permit as an Emergency Adjuster, whether as a Public or Independent Adjuster, and still has claims before his or her consideration may request an extension of the term of this permit by filing an application with the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance. In such a case, the extension of time will not be beyond December 31, 2019, if the extension is approved.
In addition, the amount of $250 shall be paid as fees for the “Emergency Adjuster Special Permit.”

II. PUBLIC OR INDEPENDENT ADJUSTER APPLICATION

Any person who currently holds a special permit as an Emergency Adjuster and who wishes to continue making adjustments after December 31, 2019, must complete the Public or Independent Adjuster Application at www.nipr.com and take the Adjuster licensing examination, provided the person meets the requirements of Section 951p of the Puerto Rico Insurance Code 26 L.P.R.A..

Very truly yours,

Javier Rivera-Ríos, LUTCF
Commissioner of Insurance