

Arkansas Insurance Department

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NEWS RELEASE

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Burglaries at Insurance Agencies Trigger Notification Requirements

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS (July 24, 2007) —State Insurance Commissioner Julie Benafield Bowman today reminded all insurance companies of the notification requirements concerning security breaches. Should such a breach occur, Ark. Code Ann. §4-110-101, *et seq.* requires disclosure to be made in the most expedient time and manner possible.

“We have received recent reports of a number of burglaries of insurance agencies taking place around the state,” said Commissioner Bowman. “Arkansas law and Arkansas Insurance Department Rules 74 and 77 outline the reporting procedures to be used if a breach in security may have affected Arkansas consumers,” Bowman continued.

Insurance agency burglaries have been reported in Cabot, Conway, and Arkadelphia. While the thieves appear to be taking mainly petty cash, it is the availability of personal information utilized by insurance companies and agents which is the Department’s concern.

Any Arkansas insurance agent who has suffered a break-in should notify the Legal Division of the Arkansas Insurance Department by calling 501-371-2820. If there is any possibility unauthorized third parties may have obtained confidential information about Arkansas insurance consumers, the notification requirements immediately come into play.

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