



NEWS RELEASE

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INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OFFERS TIPS FOR STORM VICTIMS

Atlanta – After severe weather throughout the day across Georgia, Insurance Commissioner Ralph Hudgens recommends that victims of the storms take the following steps to ensure protection of their property:

- Contact your insurance agent immediately if you have had damage to either your house or car; do not delay. Your agent should provide you with claims forms and arrange for an insurance adjuster to visit your property.
- Try to make a list of all your property and valuables you believe were damaged or destroyed. Take photographs of damage to submit with your claim.
- Secure your property. For example, if your roof was damaged or blown off, cover the affected area with a tarp or plywood to protect your property from further damage. Keep receipts of materials used for repairs; your insurance company will reimburse you for repair costs.
- If damage is so severe you have to leave, remove valuable items if there's nowhere in the home to lock them up.
- Remember, homeowner's policies permit insurance companies to write checks for additional living expenses to victims on the spot. Contact your agent for details.
- Hail damage to cars will be covered by the comprehensive portion of your auto policy.

If you have questions about your policy, or if you are experiencing difficulty reaching your company, call Commissioner Hudgens' Consumer Services Hotline at 1-800-656-2298. Phone lines are now open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.