



# State of Connecticut

## *Insurance Department*

THOMAS R. SULLIVAN  
COMMISSIONER

### **OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Connecticut Insurance Department Fines Zurich Insurance Group \$235,000**

*Hartford* — Connecticut Insurance Commissioner Thomas R. Sullivan ordered companies at Zurich Insurance Group to pay fines totaling \$235,000 for having unlicensed agents and adjusters, improperly rating commercial lines, and lack of oversight for document retention. Fines collected by the Insurance Department are remitted to the State's general fund.

"We will continue to be vigilant in enforcing Connecticut's insurance laws," said Commissioner Sullivan, "and consumers can protect themselves by verifying an agent is licensed to sell insurance in Connecticut."

The total fine amount is a result of smaller fines assessed to subsidiary companies.

Violations and fines varied by company.

Assurance Company of America, New York	\$141,500
Zurich American Insurance Company, New York	\$ 61,500
Universal Underwriters Insurance Company, Kansas	\$ 32,000

In Connecticut, Insurance companies are required by law to formally appoint and register with the state all agents who sell insurance products on their behalf. When combined, Zurich Insurance Group had 42 instances where agents were not appointed and 23 instances where individuals acted as a casualty adjuster without being licensed in accordance with Connecticut law.

Other violations included improper rating of commercial lines policies and not considering the amount attributed to one's inability to use their property, often referred to as 'loss of use' in settlements of automobile property damage liability claims.

The company complied with the stipulation and final order, and will submit a compliance report to the commissioner within 90 days.

## **ABOUT THE CONNECTICUT INSURANCE DEPARTMENT**

The mission of the Connecticut Insurance Department is to serve consumers in a professional and timely manner by providing assistance and information to the public and to policy makers, by regulating the insurance industry in a fair and efficient manner which promotes a competitive and financially sound insurance market for consumers, and by enforcing the insurance laws to ensure that consumers are treated fairly and are protected from unfair practices. For more information, visit the Connecticut Insurance Department at [www.ct.gov/cid](http://www.ct.gov/cid).

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