

State of Idaho
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

700 West State Street, 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0043
Phone (208)334-4250
Fax (208)334-4398
Website: <http://www.doi.idaho.gov>

DEAN L. CAMERON
Director

Idaho Department of Insurance News Release

For immediate release, October 20, 2016

Contact: Tricia Carney 208-334-4312 or 208-850-2342

Tricia.carney@doi.idaho.gov

Fifth Annual Idaho Fraud Conference

BOISE ID – Idaho Department of Insurance investigators joined forces with the U.S. Attorney's Office to present a two-day conference for insurance adjusters, special investigators, and other professionals who work with insurance fraud cases. More than 125 attendees participated in the conference on October 18-19.

"Our goal in hosting this annual Idaho Fraud Conference is to help insurance fraud and arson investigators in their fight against fraud," says Department of Insurance Investigations Supervisor Lori Braseth. "Experts with a wide range of experience shared in-depth research and investigative techniques. These techniques will serve to protect Idaho consumers as they are utilized by investigators throughout Idaho."

Conference presenters included Matthew Logan, Certified Cyber Intelligence Investigator and Certified Social Media Intelligence Analyst; Knute Sandahl, Idaho State Fire Marshal; Neal Custer, Professional Certified Investigator, Certified Fraud Examiner; Anthony Hall, Assistant U.S. Attorney; Patti Vaughn, Idaho Industrial Commission; Craig Fairfield, National Insurance Crime Bureau; Nathaniel White, Special Agent, FBI; and Kevin Maloney, Assistant U.S. Attorney.

Conference attendees were able to learn information that was specific to their particular field of work. Rick Finis, Wildland Fire Investigator with Idaho Department of Lands, registered for the conference hoping to learn more about using social media as an investigative tool. "Across the country, investigators are beginning to find leads into suspicious fires through social media," he said. "One of our investigators in northern Idaho recently got a lead through Facebook. These kinds of tools are helpful in my investigations. The information I learned from this conference was very valuable."

Mike Cornia, Insurance Adjuster at Idaho Intermountain Claims, was surprised to learn about how many different kinds of insurance fraud are rampant. "The conference gave me a lot of information that I was unaware of," he said. "The real eye-openers for me were computer fraud and open sourcing and how I could find additional help. That was great. I just can't believe how

many ways you can manipulate information. The fire presentation was very good. The conference was extremely good.”

Anyone who has questions about or suspects insurance fraud or arson is encouraged to contact the Idaho Department of Insurance or the Idaho State Fire Marshal’s Office at www.doi.idaho.gov.

About the Department of Insurance

The Idaho Department of Insurance has been regulating the business of insurance in Idaho since 1901. The mission of the Department is to equitably, effectively and efficiently administer the Idaho Insurance Code and the International Fire Code. For more information, visit www.doi.idaho.gov.

#