

State of Idaho
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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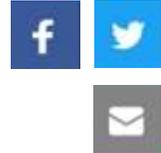
DEAN L. CAMERON
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Idaho Department of Insurance News Release

For immediate release: March 20, 2020

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Lincoln County insurance producer ordered to cease and desist

BOISE, ID – On March 18, 2020, the Director of the Idaho Department of Insurance issued an Order to Cease and Desist against Charlotte Jane Sheppard of Lincoln County.

On March 6, 2020, a Hearing Officer found that Ms. Sheppard violated Idaho Code § 41-1016(1)(d) and (h) on numerous occasions and issued a preliminary order revoking Ms. Sheppard's Idaho insurance producer license and imposing a \$51,000 fine. The preliminary order will become final as of the close of business Friday, March 20, 2020.

Ms. Sheppard was also charged with grand theft in the Fifth Judicial District Court in Lincoln County. On March 9, 2020, she entered a plea of guilty, which was accepted by the District Court, and is awaiting sentence. A sentencing hearing has been set for May 19, 2020.

Based on information that Ms. Sheppard was continuing to transact insurance and was using premium funds in her agency's fiduciary account to pay personal expenses, the Department of Insurance ordered Ms. Sheppard to stop accepting any payments for insurance premiums or other like payments and to cease all insurance business within the state of Idaho. The order further directs insurers to cease accepting insurance business from Ms. Sheppard and directs the bank at which the fiduciary account is held to prevent Ms. Sheppard from accessing and removing premium funds.

"This is one of the most egregious cases I have ever seen," said Director Dean Cameron. "Most agents do an excellent job caring for their clients, having their best interests at heart. Ms. Sheppard is an unfortunate exception, putting her financial needs ahead of her clients."

For those who have done business with Ms. Sheppard, the following is recommended:

- Do not send premium payments to Ms. Sheppard. Instead, contact your insurance company directly to inquire where to send payments.

- Contact your insurance company directly to assure payments match the company’s record of payments—please contact the Department of Insurance if they do not.
- Ask the insurance carrier to reassign your insurance policy to another reputable agent in your area.
- For any assistance needed, please reach out to our Consumers Affairs office at (800) 721-3272 or consumeraffairs@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 serve and protect Idahoans by equitably, effectively and efficiently administering the Idaho Insurance Code and the International Fire Code. For more information, visit doi.idaho.gov.

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