



Commissioner Donna Lee H. Williams

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

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THE DELAWARE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT JOINS EUROPEAN REGULATORS IN INTERNATIONAL EFFORT TO SETTLE HOLOCAUST VICTIM INSURANCE CLAIMS

DOVER, DE – The Delaware Department of Insurance, in partnership with the International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims (ICHEIC), announced today an opportunity for Delaware residents to benefit from a comprehensive international effort to resolve outstanding claims on insurance policies held by victims of the Holocaust.

“This Commission was formed to establish a just process to expeditiously address the issue of unpaid policies issued to victims of

the Holocaust. The Insurance Commissioners of the United States have been guided by the principle that we want to be able to say that we have done everything possible to reach all potential claimants and pay Holocaust-related insurance claims in a fair and expeditious manner," Delaware Insurance Commissioner Donna Lee H. Williams stated.

"The members of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners strongly support this claims resolution initiative and thank Chairman Lawrence Eagleburger for all his hard work, leadership, and persistence," said current NAIC President George Nichols, III. "The success of this process is that it will bring closure to one of the most tragic episodes in world history in a timely manner."

For more than 60 years, the victims of the Holocaust and their heirs have been seeking justice. "With the launch of this claims resolution process, we can begin to correct that decades old injustice with respect to insurance policies," said Glenn Pomeroy, North Dakota Insurance Commissioner and a former NAIC President.

Holocaust survivors and heirs can contact the International Commission or any State Insurance Department to seek information or assistance. There is no charge to claimants to file, and it is not

necessary to retain a lawyer. All claims must be filed by February 1, 2002, and will be resolved within two years of filing.

Commissioner Williams has outlined the following procedures for potential claimants in Delaware:

Families of those who are believed to have held active dowry, education, and life insurance policies that were affected by the Holocaust can submit claims to the International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims. As part of the program:

- The ICHEIC and participating insurers will accept claims for review and comparison to a list of known outstanding policies that has been compiled from existing documentation.
- The process will include a review of pertinent documentation and interviews with families to determine legitimate claims in need of settlement.
- Additionally, the ICHEIC and participating insurers have established a \$90 million humanitarian fund to provide additional support for claimants.

The ICHEIC has set up a process to handle claims fairly and make it as easy as possible to make a claim. Individuals who believe

they may have unpaid insurance claims can request a claims packet

one of four ways:

- 1) Write to the International Commission, P.O. Box 1163, Wall Street Station, New York, NY 10268;
- 2) Visit the ICHEIC web site at www.ICHEIC.org ;
- 3) In the United States, contact the International Commission via a toll-free hotline at 1-800-957-3203;
- 4) In Delaware, contact the Department of Insurance toll-free at 1-800-282-8611.

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ICHEIC – The International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims was established in October of 1998 by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) in conjunction with several European insurance companies, European regulators, representatives of several Jewish organizations, and the State of Israel. The Commission is charged with establishing a just process that will expeditiously address the issue of unpaid insurance policies issued to victims of the Holocaust.

NAIC – The National Association of Insurance Commissioners is the nation’s oldest association of state government officials, consisting of insurance regulators from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and four U.S. territories. The NAIC is located on the World Wide Web at www.naic.org.