



KANSAS INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

Vicki Schmidt, Commissioner

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Crime Prevention Month: Help stop insurance fraud

Topeka, Kan. – October is Crime Prevention Month, and the Kansas Insurance Department wants to remind Kansans of the importance of stopping insurance fraud.

Purchasing auto insurance minutes after an accident and delaying a claim or having your contracting estimate repair costs to include the deductible are just a few examples of the common types of insurance fraud. Insurance fraud is a crime and can lead to criminal prosecution.

Beyond the criminal implications, insurance fraud has a consequence on Kansas families too. According to the FBI, fraudulent property and casualty claims cost the average household up to \$700 more a year in higher premiums.

“There is a costly trickledown effect from the actions of individuals willing to commit insurance fraud,” said Commissioner Vicki Schmidt. “Financial losses, incurred from fraudulent behavior, are a shared lost between both the insurance company and the consumer.”

Knowing what fraud is, how to identify it and where to report it is incumbent upon all Kansans. Anti-fraud resources, along with the ability to file a report if you suspect fraud, are available at the Kansas Insurance Department’s website: insurance.kansas.gov.

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As part of the Kansas Insurance Department’s crime prevention efforts, the Department created insurance.ks.gov/fight-fraud/what-is-fraud.php to help individuals better understand the do’s and don’ts of the insurance purchasing and claims process.