



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE (CDI)

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE OVERVIEW



- Enforce regulations on most lines of insurance and maintain insurer solvency
- Sets standards for agents and brokers licensing
- Resolve consumer insurance complaints
- Performs market conduct reviews of insurance companies
- Investigates and prosecutes insurance fraud



HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE

TYPES OF INSURERS

- Admitted Market
- Non-Admitted Market
- California Fair Plan

NOT COVERED IN TRADITIONAL HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE

- Flood Insurance
- Earthquake Insurance
- Difference in Conditions Policy

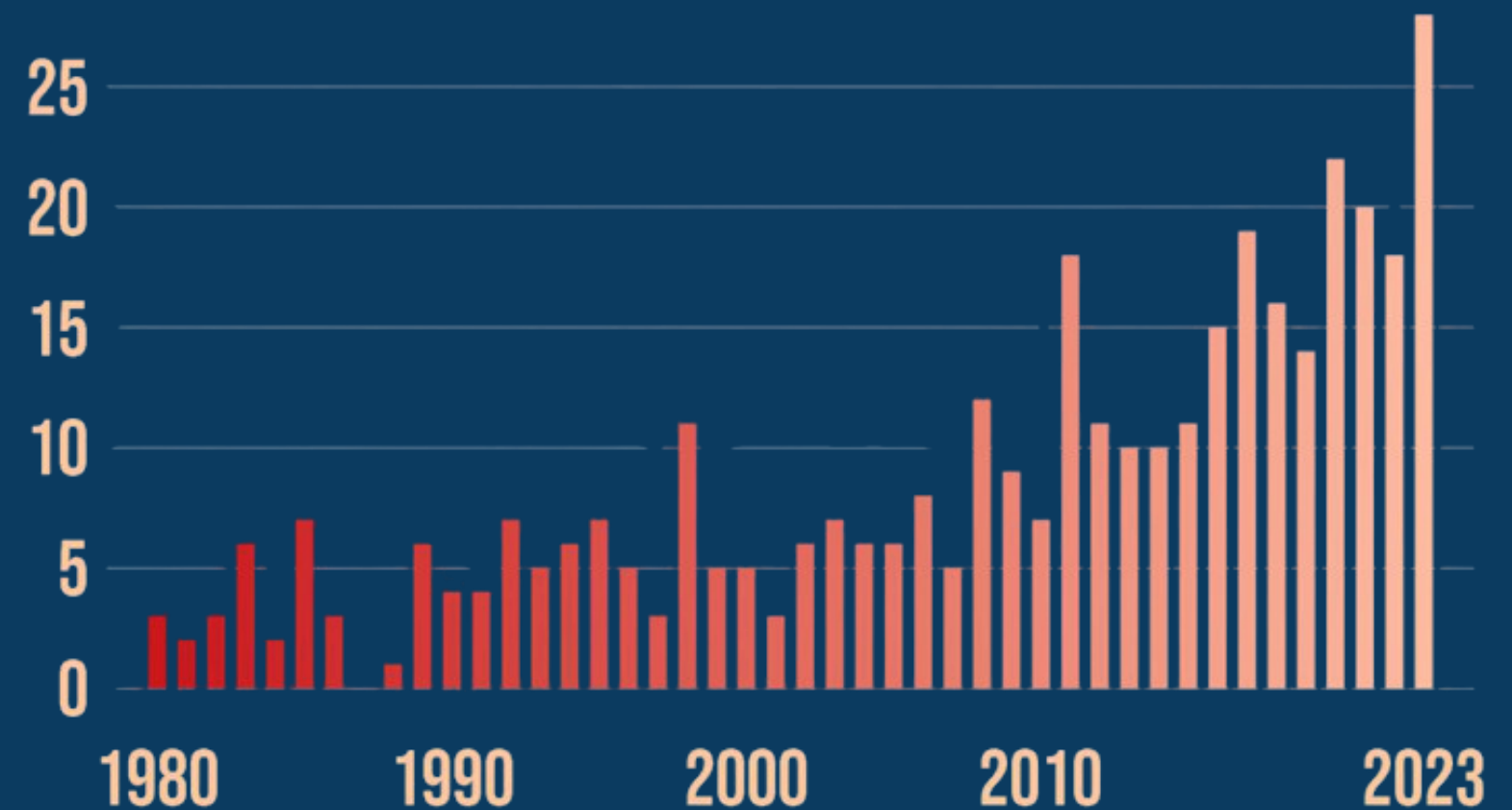


INSURANCE MARKET

- Prop 103 was the last Insurance reform – over 30 years ago
- Growing climate change threats
- Historic inflation
- Cost of reinsurance
- Fewer Insurance options
- Accelerated growth of the FAIR plan

U.S. BILLION-DOLLAR DISASTERS

Annual number of events



No disasters in 1987. Data as of 1/9/2024.
Source: NOAA/NCEI

CLIMATE  CENTRAL

SAFER FROM WILDFIRES (2022)

Mandates insurers offer premium discounts for homeowners implementing wildfire mitigations while rewarding risk reduction.



SUSTAINABLE INSURANCE STRATEGY (2023–2024)

Uses catastrophe modeling for precise wildfire risk pricing, factoring in mitigation at property, community, and landscape scales to ensure market stability.



CALIFORNIA SAFE HOMES GRANT PROGRAM (2025)

Grants for low-income homeowners in high fire hazard severity zones to fund defensible space and home hardening.

SAFER FROM WILDFIRES

PROTECT THE STRUCTURE, IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS & THE WHOLE COMMUNITY



PROTECT YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS:

- Class A Fire-rated roof
- 5-foot ember-resistant zone
- Noncombustible 6-inch area at the bottom of exterior walls
- Ember and fire-resistant vents
- Upgraded windows (double-paned or added shutters)
- Enclosed eaves



PROTECT IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS:

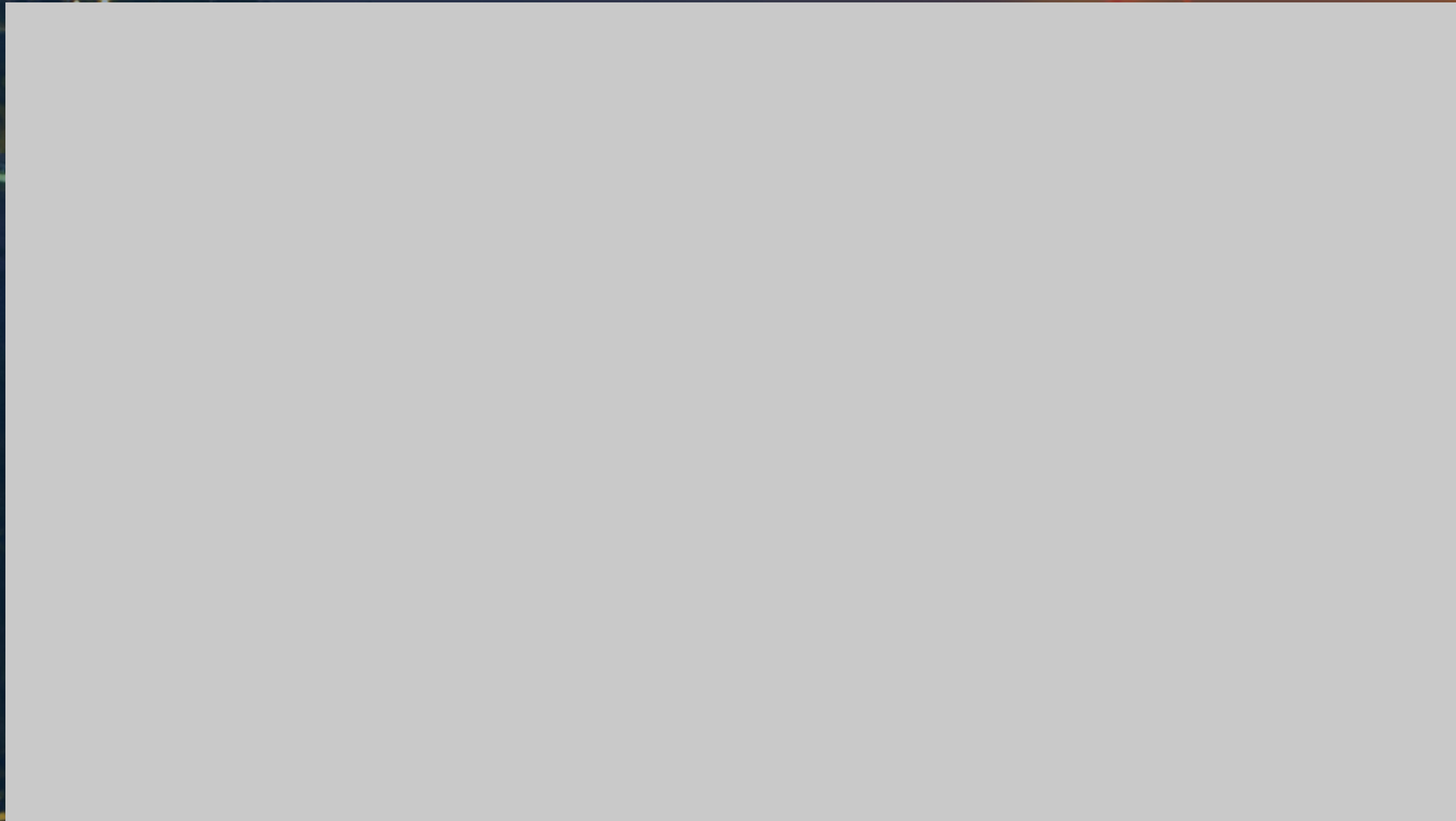
- Clear vegetation and debris from under decks
- Remove combustible sheds and other outbuildings
- Defensible space compliance (trim trees, remove brush and debris from yard)



PROTECT THE WHOLE COMMUNITY:

- Achieve community-wide risk mitigation recognition as a Firewise or Fire Risk Reduction Community
- Minimum 8 dwelling units or as large as 2,500 can create an action plan

SAFER FROM WILDFIRES



KEY POINT:

Fortify homes through the “Safer from Wildfires” program to build wildfire resilient communities.



SAFER FROM WILDFIRES



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SUSTAINABLE INSURANCE STRATEGY

MODERNIZES INDUSTRY, MAKES INSURANCE ACCESSIBLE, MAINTAINS RESILIENT MARKET & PROTECTS CONSUMERS



Major Components:

- **CATASTROPHE MODELS** use technology to provide accurate pricing options
- **MODERNIZES** Department's rate review process
- **REQUIRES** insurance companies to write in High Wildfire Severity Zones



INSURERS UPDATES

Under the Sustainable Insurance Strategy, eleven companies have committed to growing in California, with more insurers expected to follow.

1. CSAA

Effective 3/01/2026

2. USAA (4 Companies)

Effective 4/30/2026

3. California Casualty

Effective 5/1/2026

4. Mercury

Effective 7/1/2026

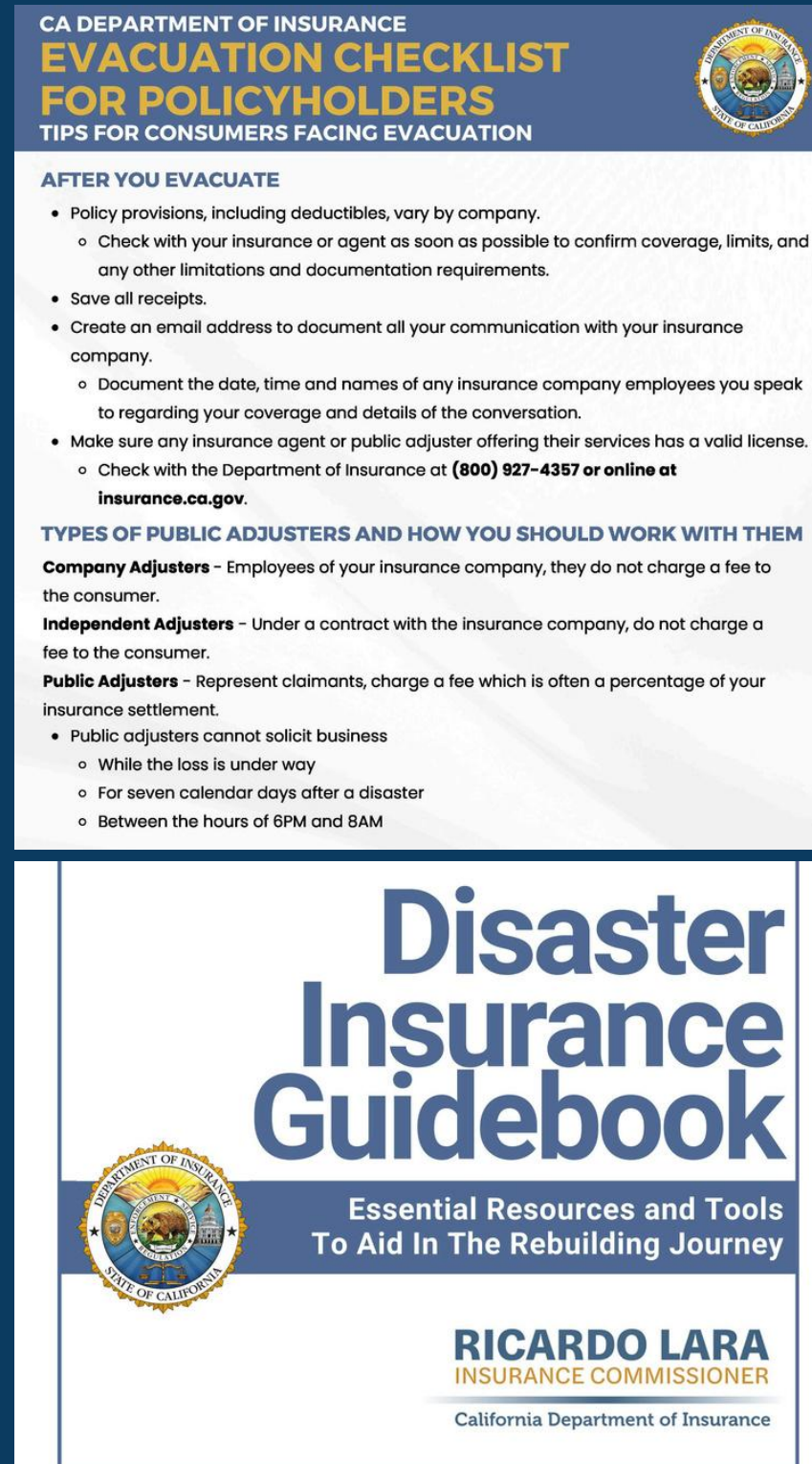
5. Pacific Specialty

Effective 7/1/2026



CDI RESOURCES

- Understanding your Policy
- Cancellation notices
- How to start a claim
- Complaints regarding your claim
- Home Inventory Guide
- Find over 100 admitted carriers
- CA Low Cost Auto Insurance Program
- Senior Gateway



CA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
EVACUATION CHECKLIST FOR POLICYHOLDERS
TIPS FOR CONSUMERS FACING EVACUATION

AFTER YOU EVACUATE

- Policy provisions, including deductibles, vary by company.
 - Check with your insurance or agent as soon as possible to confirm coverage, limits, and any other limitations and documentation requirements.
- Save all receipts.
- Create an email address to document all your communication with your insurance company.
 - Document the date, time and names of any insurance company employees you speak to regarding your coverage and details of the conversation.
- Make sure any insurance agent or public adjuster offering their services has a valid license.
 - Check with the Department of Insurance at **(800) 927-4357** or online at **insurance.ca.gov**.

TYPES OF PUBLIC ADJUSTERS AND HOW YOU SHOULD WORK WITH THEM

Company Adjusters - Employees of your insurance company, they do not charge a fee to the consumer.

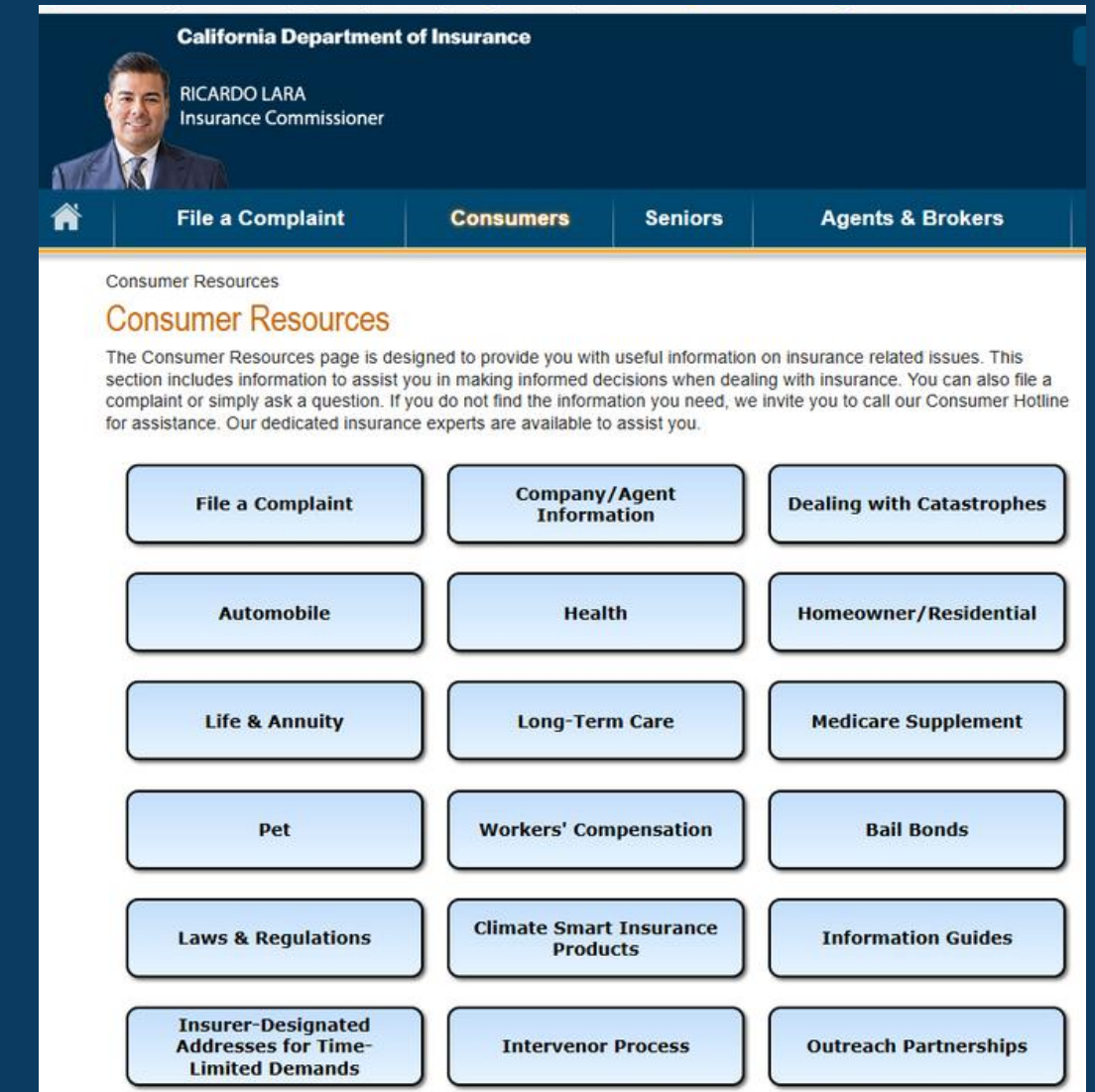
Independent Adjusters - Under a contract with the insurance company, do not charge a fee to the consumer.

Public Adjusters - Represent claimants, charge a fee which is often a percentage of your insurance settlement.

- Public adjusters cannot solicit business
 - While the loss is under way
 - For seven calendar days after a disaster
 - Between the hours of 6PM and 8AM

Disaster Insurance Guidebook
Essential Resources and Tools To Aid In The Rebuilding Journey

RICARDO LARA
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
California Department of Insurance



California Department of Insurance
RICARDO LARA
Insurance Commissioner

File a Complaint **Consumers** **Seniors** **Agents & Brokers**

Consumer Resources
Consumer Resources

The Consumer Resources page is designed to provide you with useful information on insurance related issues. This section includes information to assist you in making informed decisions when dealing with insurance. You can also file a complaint or simply ask a question. If you do not find the information you need, we invite you to call our Consumer Hotline for assistance. Our dedicated insurance experts are available to assist you.

File a Complaint	Company/Agent Information	Dealing with Catastrophes
Automobile	Health	Homeowner/Residential
Life & Annuity	Long-Term Care	Medicare Supplement
Pet	Workers' Compensation	Bail Bonds
Laws & Regulations	Climate Smart Insurance Products	Information Guides
Insurer-Designated Addresses for Time-Limited Demands	Intervenor Process	Outreach Partnerships

- Information Guides
- General Questions
- Home Hardening Grants

www.insurance.ca.gov



CONSUMER ALERTS

STAY
INFORMED
SIGN UP!



NEW REGULATIONS,
CONSUMER SAFETY
EDUCATION,
FRAUD PREVENTION,
UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE
BUSINESS PRACTICES,
INSURANCE ISSUES

www.surveymonkey.com/r/CDIALERT

WE CARE ABOUT WHAT YOU THINK



PLEASE GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK:

NAME

Sharon Smith

Community Relations and Outreach

[qrco.de/psurvey2](https://qrco.de/psurvey26)
[6](#)

For GENERAL QUESTIONS AND POLICY SPECIFIC INQUIRIES:

CALL 800-927-4357

www.insurance.ca.gov

LEGISLATIVE SPONSORED BILLS



INTERLOCKING LEGISLATIVE STRATEGY FOR IMPROVING POST-DISASTER RECOVERY

1

SMOKE DAMAGE RECOVERY ACT

**AB1795–Assemblymember
Gipson**

Smoke damage
restoration
standards

2

DISASTER RECOVERY REFORM ACT

**SB876– Senator
Padilla**

Coverage gaps
and policy
clarity

3

MAKE IT FAIR ACT

**AB1680–Assemblymember
Calderon**

FAIR Plan
reform and
accountability



STATEWIDE EDUCATION SERIES

TOPICS & DATES

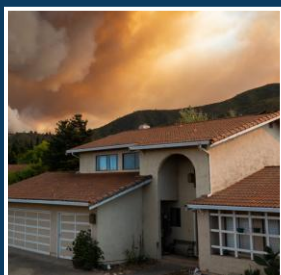
RECORDINGS



Auto Insurance



Life Annuities &
Seniors



Residential
Insurance



Share with your networks.
qrco.de/CDI2026

JOIN US :



August 19
Health
Insurance



October 21
Business
Insurance

