

FACT...

- 1. Fake insurance policies are scams designed to steal your money.**
- 2. Fake insurance can touch anyone at any time.**
- 3. Fighting fake insurance is simple. Just “Stop ... Call ... and Confirm” before you buy.**

Insurance fraud is not simply a problem for insurance companies, it's a problem for all of us — everybody loses, everybody pays.

Tips to Protect Yourself

KNOW YOUR AGENT AND COMPANY

Keep the agent's and companies' names, addresses and telephone numbers.

SHOP CAREFULLY BEFORE BUYING

Do not buy something you don't need. Understand what you are buying.

JUST SAY “NO”

If you're not interested in buying a policy, it's ok to say no. No person has the right to enter your home unless you want them there.

“TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE”

Don't be pressured into buying a policy. Principled sales persons will not rush you.

OBTAIN A WRITTEN OUTLINE OF THE COVERAGE

Read it carefully!

BE AWARE OF TELEPHONE SOLICITATIONS

Don't give out your credit card numbers, bank account numbers or other financial information over the phone.

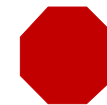
ALWAYS PAY BY CHECK



Information Provided by:
The Kansas Insurance Department
Sandy Praeger, Commissioner
420 SW 9th Street
Topeka, KS 66612

FIGHT FAKE INSURANCE
STOP. CALL. CONFIRM.

Fake insurance policies are scams designed to steal your money, and they're on the rise in every line of insurance, costing you, the consumer, billions of dollars in unpaid claims



STOP before signing anything or writing a check.



CALL the Kansas Insurance Department Consumer Assistance Hotline at 1-800-432-2484.



CONFIRM if the company is legitimate, and licensed to do business in Kansas.

Consumers and Businesses Need to Stop. Call. Confirm.


What Is The Problem?

Fake insurance policies are scams designed to steal your money. And, they're on the rise in every line of insurance—costing consumers billions in unpaid claims.

With very few exceptions, no insurance product can be sold by individual agents, brokers, or companies without the approval of a state insurance regulator. Fake insurance is any insurance plan that is intended to defraud consumers or businesses.

Just like counterfeit money, fake insurance may appear to be legitimate—but it is actually illegal and worthless. If you buy fake insurance, you'll pay premiums—but your claims won't be paid. Fake insurers often use slick marketing materials—and choose names that are similar to names of real insurers.

In the area of fake health insurance alone, the General Accounting Office reported **144 fake health insurers** sold bogus



policies to **more than 200,000 policy holders** between 2000 and 2002—resulting in **\$252 million in unpaid claims**. In the same time period, the number of fake insurers almost doubled; many operated in more than one state—and under more than one name.

Are You Vulnerable? Fake insurance can touch anyone at any time—with potentially disastrous results. Anyone is at risk—but frequent targets of unauthorized health-insurance plans are **older adults** and **small businesses or associations** looking to reduce health-insurance costs. Even reputable agents can be duped into selling fake insurance.

Fake insurance can be attractive because it's typically less expensive than legal policies—but that's because a fake policy does not provide sufficient, if any, coverage. As a result of fake insurance policies: honest people and businesses are swindled; health is endangered; premiums stay high; and goods and services cost more.

What Is The Solution? Fighting fake insurance is simple: just **“Stop. Call. Confirm.”**—before you buy.

STOP before signing anything or writing a check. If you're not absolutely sure you're dealing with a reputable, licensed insurance provider, look for these three warning signs of fake insurance: **aggressive marketing and a high-pressure, “you must sign today” sales approach** with lots of fine print and disclaimers; **premiums that are 15 percent or more under the average price** for comparable insurance products on the market; and **few coverage limitations**.

CALL The Kansas Insurance Department Consumer Assistance Hotline at 1-800-432-2484 to...

CONFIRM if the company is legitimate—and licensed to do business in Kansas. You'll not only be protecting yourself from being swindled—but you'll also be helping regulators hunt down and take action against the con artists who sell fake insurance.

**Insurance fraud is not a victimless crime...
YOU are the victim**

