



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**THE NM OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INSURANCE
ISSUES ADVICE FOR WILDFIRE EVACUEES**

Santa Fe, NM – Are you at risk of evacuation due to the current wildfires in New Mexico? Have you been evacuated or lost your home to wildfire? The Office of the Superintendent of Insurance suggests that everyone remember these five tips:

1. Keep your important papers (birth certificates, insurance policies, bank records, health insurance cards, passwords) in a fireproof box by your door, and carry the box with you if you have to leave your home.
2. Take photos of your important documents and save them on your phone in case your documents are destroyed. Take a video of the inside and outside of your home to use as an inventory in the event of loss.
3. As soon as you are evacuated, or if your home has been damaged, contact your homeowner's insurance carrier to file a claim. Your homeowner's policy can pay for Additional Living Expenses ("ALE") while you are unable to live in your home. Keep your receipts to document your expenses.
4. Include a list of your medications in the fireproof box as well as one week supply of medication.
5. Contact your health insurance carrier if you need to replace prescription medication or see a new medical provider due to evacuation or a temporary relocation.

"We share in the heartache of the terrible losses that our communities are experiencing in this wildfire season. We will do what we can to help," said Superintendent Russell Toal. "We will be in Ruidoso on Thursday afternoon to help victims of the McBride fire with any insurance issues or questions." If you need assistance, OSI staff will be in Ruidoso on Thursday from 1 to 5 at the Convention Center, 111 Sierra Blanca Drive.

Please contact the Office of the Superintendent of Insurance if you need help. Website: www.osi.state.nm.us; telephone: (855) 4ASKOSI [(855) 427-5674].

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