

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND INSURANCE

IN THE MATTER OF THE)
TASK FORCE ON INSURANCE)
IN URBAN AREAS)

ORDER

This matter having been opened by the Commissioner of the Department of Banking and Insurance ("Commissioner") pursuant to the authority of N.J.S.A. 17:1-15i; and

IT APPEARING that there are serious and important issues surrounding the availability, affordability and adequacy of insurance coverage for individuals and small businesses in urban areas; and

IT FURTHER APPEARING that appropriate insurance coverage is of vital economic importance to individuals and businesses, and is furthermore required by law in certain instances; and

IT FURTHER APPEARING that these challenges are often due to economic and demographic factors found in urban areas, and which therefore warrant special and additional scrutiny; and

IT FURTHER APPEARING that the Commissioner wishes to provide this special and additional scrutiny with the assistance of experts in the fields of insurance and urban affairs, and with them develop recommendations for meeting these challenges; and

IT FURTHER APPEARING that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17:1-15i, the Commissioner may appoint advisory bodies to advise and assist her in carrying out the functions and duties of the Department of Banking and Insurance;

THEREFORE, IT IS on this 23rd day of April, 2003 ORDERED that:

1. The Task Force on Urban Area Insurance ("Task Force") is created and will be convened by the Commissioner to assist her in:

- i. Identifying the various factors related to insurance coverage that are specific to, or more prevalent in, urban areas in New Jersey;

ii. Developing mechanisms to gather and analyze information regarding insurance services in these areas, especially with respect to issues such as the availability of agents, quality and accessibility of customer service, and the fair treatment of consumers; and

iii. Developing strategies for improving conditions for individuals and small businesses in urban areas in New Jersey with respect to their ability to secure appropriate insurance coverage.

2. The Commissioner, or his or her designee, shall chair the Task Force and designate the Board's other members as follows:

- i. Three members representing urban agents in this State;
- ii. Two members from a Property and Casualty insurance company in this State;
- iii. Two members from a Health insurance company or a Health Carrier in this State;
- iv. Three members with academic and/or program expertise or experience in the field of Urban Affairs, including but not limited to administrators of urban redevelopment programs;
- v. The Director of the Department's Insurance Division, as an ex-officio member; and
- vi. Two public members to be determined by the Commissioner.

3. The Commissioner may replace existing members without need of further formal order.

4. Upon designation of the Task Force members, the Commissioner shall establish the date and time of the first meeting, which shall be no longer than 60 days from the date of this Order.

5. The Task Force shall meet as often as may be directed by the Commissioner, but at least four times per year, for a period of one year, unless the Commissioner extends this period.

6. The Task Force shall provide its first annual work plan to the Commissioner no later than the commencement of the second meeting, and thereafter by the last day of February of each year, if extended by the Commissioner.

/s/ Holly C. Bakke
Holly C. Bakke
Commissioner