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DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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SCAM ALERT

Utah Insurance Commissioner D. Kent Michie today warned Utah's licensed insurance producers to beware of a scam that has surfaced in Nevada and California targeting insurance agents and brokers.

Utah's Insurance Commissioner, D. Kent Michie received a call from the Nevada Insurance Commissioner, Scott Kipper. He informed the department that individuals representing themselves as employees of the Nevada Insurance Department have been calling insurance agencies requesting payment of penalty fees. At the same time they are requesting credit card and social security information so that payment can be made to avoid the cancellation of their insurance license.

So far the Utah Insurance Department is unaware of any such calls being made in Utah. It should be noted that at no time will the department request payment of a penalty fee by phone. It is always done by mail and will include a billing with the details of the penalty.

An insurance licensee receiving such a call requesting personal information and payment of a penalty fee is encouraged to contact a local law enforcement agency as well as the Utah Insurance Department at (801)537-9177 or (801)538-3408.

The Utah Insurance Department is a state agency whose mandate is to regulate insurance marketed and sold in Utah. Currently they license over 86,000 agents, agencies and insurers; audit domestic insurers to verify financial stability and compliance with insurance laws; take administrative actions against licensees found to be in violation of the insurance laws; take calls from consumers who have questions or complaints; and educate licensees and consumers regarding insurance. Visit our website at <http://www.insurance.utah.gov/> or call our toll free in-state number 1-800-439-3805 or local number 801-538-3077.