

# THE DISPATCH

MANAGING RISK IN THE MOVING & STORAGE INDUSTRY

With major events, such as Hurricane Ida, many people unfamiliar with the claims handling process are suddenly thrown into the unknown territory of filing an insurance claim.

Even commercial accounts can be facing their first major loss and naturally feel a great deal of anxiety with the process. Depending on the circumstances, services can be limited and the policyholder is somewhat at a loss as to what to do.

# **Taking Inventory in the Event of a Catastrophe**

For a warehouseman or a motor carrier, it's important to become familiar with the documentation a claims adjuster will request in the process of the claim investigation.

#### The documentation will consist of:

- Original Warehouse Receipt/Storage Agreement, Household Goods Bill of Lading and Freight Bill
  - Are the parties (Shipper/Consignee) and Carrier clearly identified?
  - Is the weight of the shipment properly noted at both pickup and delivery?
  - Is the valuation section of the warehouse receipt or Bill of Lading properly noted as to the customer's selection of either: \$.60 per pound or Declared Value.
- Were any separate "all risk" certificates of insurance issued to the shipper; if so are copies complete with all names and amounts of insurance clearly noted on the documents?
- ☐ Has the Shipper signed and dated the warehouse receipt or Bill of Lading?

## **Household Goods Inventory:**

- Are all items that are being stored/shipped documented on the inventory?
- ☐ Are items that are PBO (Packed by Owner) clearly noted as such?
- ☐ Were any items of extraordinary value declared and noted on the warehouse receipt, Bill of Lading or the Inventory?

### NATURAL DISASTERS ARE QUICK, UNEXPECTED, AND VERY DAMAGING.

As a mover, it's essential to understand the beginning-to-end process of what to do in the event of the claim. Knowing what to expect when the unexpected hits will be critical in helping you navigate the claims process.

What's your Claims IQ?

