

502-897-1876 / 1-800-637-7319 4211 Norbourne Blvd., Louisville, KY 40207-4048 P.O. Box 6709, Louisville, KY 40206-0709 www.risceo.com

# RHODE ISLAND REAL ESTATE LICENSEE ERRORS AND OMISSIONS (E&O) PROGRAM

Administered by Rice Insurance Services Center (RISC), A Division of Accretive Specialty Insurance Solutions, LLC

and Issued by Continental Casualty Company

RISC is pleased to continue to offer real estate E&O insurance to Rhode Island licensees. Our experienced team's top priority is exceptional customer service for real estate licensees. The insurance carrier is Continental Casualty Company, a CNA insurance company rated "A" Excellent by A.M. Best.

**Enroll timely to help avoid a gap in coverage, uncovered claims, penalties, and fines –** We offer online enrollment at <u>www.risceo.com</u>. Licensees who enroll online may download a certificate of coverage immediately. Licensees who enroll by mail should do so by <u>Friday, April 12,</u> <u>2024</u> to ensure adequate time to receive a certificate of coverage by the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation (RIDBR) license renewal deadline of April 30, 2024. All active individual licensees must certify coverage with their RIDBR license renewal. It is your responsibility to provide verification to the RIDBR and other commissions and entities as they may require.

Principal brokers should verify each of their firm's licensees has appropriate coverage. We send an enrollment form to all active licensees to the addresses provided by the RIDBR. Licensees may purchase insurance from another provider, provided coverage meets the RIDBR's minimum requirements.

BASIC POLICY \$234 for 2-Year Policy Period		
Limits of Liability	\$100,000 per claim / \$500,000 aggregate with a \$1,000 damage deductible and \$1,000 claim expense deductible.	
Automatically Includes		
Defense Outside Limits	There is NO LIMIT on the amount of defense costs the carrier will pay in connection with claims covered under the basic policy.	
Firm Coverage	Real estate firm included in the definition of insured for vicarious liability for covered claims.	
Retroactive / Prior Acts Coverage	Insures prior transactions, provided you have maintained continuous real estate E&O insurance from the date of the professional services to the date the claim is first made.	
Lock Box Coverage	\$5,000 per claim / \$10,000 aggregate (damages) with no limit on defense costs.	
Optional Endorsements Available		
Fair Housing / Discrimination	\$2,500 per claim / \$5,000 aggregate (defense costs only).	\$30
Environmental	\$2,500 per claim / \$5,000 aggregate (defense costs only).	\$30
Regulatory Complaints	\$2,500 per regulatory complaint / \$5,000 aggregate (defense costs only).	\$30
Property Management	Adds specified property management services to the professional services insured by the policy.	\$200
Appraisal	Adds services as a licensed appraiser to the professional services insured by the policy.	\$200
Conformity	Conforms the licensee's coverage under the Rhode Island group policy to comply with another mandated state's E&O requirements where the licensee has an active license. Eligibility Requirement: licensee must be actually domiciled in Rhode Island or treated as domiciled in Rhode Island under the policy terms	\$30
Important Information About Services Outside of Rhode Island		

#### Important Information About Services Outside of Rhode Island

This program is designed for Rhode Island real estate licensees. Policyholders domiciled in Rhode Island are insured for errors and omissions committed anywhere the policyholder holds an active real estate license, provided the services would require a real estate license if performed in Rhode Island. Policyholders domiciled outside of Rhode Island are insured for Rhode Island transactions only. However, out-of-state policyholders will be treated as domiciled in Rhode Island if their principal real estate license (as defined in the policy) is affiliated with a real estate office located in Rhode Island and they reside within 50 miles of the Rhode Island state line. If a claim results in or from a lawsuit, the lawsuit must be brought within the US, its territories or possessions.

#### Firm Excess Policies – Subject to Underwriting Approval

We offer firm excess policies (written by Continental) with up to \$3,000,000 aggregate limits are available on an underwritten basis. Our excess policies meet most franchise requirements for higher limits and additional insured language. As the excess policy is issued to the firm, all the firm's licensees must participate in the excess program. All the firm's licensees must also purchase and maintain coverage through RISC's underlying program for the firm to qualify for an excess policy. The excess policy is only triggered once all applicable limits of liability available under the individual licensees' insurance through the underlying policy are exhausted. Excess policy premium is in addition to the premium for the individual licensees' insurance through the underlying policy. To obtain a premium quote for a firm excess policy, the firm's principal broker will need to submit an excess application.

#### **Risk Reduction Material**

Available on our website. We incorporate our knowledge of the policy and extensive claims handling experience into educational articles and videos.

Visit www.risceo.com to enroll online, view sample policy and endorsement forms, and obtain additional information. Feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns. We are always happy to hear from Rhode Island licensees.

CNA is a service mark and trade name registered with the US Patent and Trademark Office. The program referenced herein is underwritten by Continental Casualty Company, a CNA insurance company. This information is for illustrative purposes only and is not a contract. It is intended to provide a general overview of the products and services offered. Only the policy can provide the actual terms, coverages, amounts, conditions, and exclusions. This program is only available in Rhode Island. ©2024



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# RHODE ISLAND REAL ESTATE LICENSEE

**ERRORS AND OMISSIONS (E&O) PROGRAM** 

Administered by Rice Insurance Services Center (RISC), A Division of Accretive Specialty Insurance Solutions, LLC and Issued by Continental Casualty Company

#### Rely on the Most Experienced Provider in the Business.

The Rice family and their colleagues have specialized in mandated real estate E&O programs since 1989. We provide group policies in all states that have group programs and require licensees to maintain insurance. CNA has 50+ years of experience in E&O programs, including 30+ years in real estate E&O. CNA is the top provider of real estate liability insurance, delivering 100+ years of experience, industry knowledge, and financial strength to manage even the most complex risks. You can be confident we will be here for you even after you purchase coverage.

#### When a Claim is Made, Our Claims Adjusters Focus on You.

Some people assume insurance companies look for reasons to deny coverage. Our duty to find coverage where the policy supports it is our utmost concern. Most insurance providers use one entity to sell the policy and another to handle claims. Because we do both, the information we provide about the policy reflects how it will actually apply in the event of a claim. Providers who don't administer claims may not know how the carrier actually applies the policy when a claim is made.

*Did you know minor details often lead to major claims?* Leaving one blank initial line, assuming a home in a new subdivision has city sewer, and failing to urge a buyer to follow up with the lender have all resulted in claims against real estate licensees.

Did you know real estate licensees sometimes have little or no control of the root cause of a claim? For example, many real estate licensees have represented buyers who had a friend or relative (instead of a licensed inspector) look at the property to save money. When problems arise after closing, the buyers may go after the real estate licensees involved rather than blaming the friend or relative who did them a "favor."

Don't wait until you're faced with a claim to discover whether your *E&O* provider is knowledgeable and responsive (like RISC) or inexperienced and difficult reach. Many claims are frivolous, but they can still create headaches. RISC's in-house adjusters work with you through the entire process with experience and understanding.

# We Stand by You Even if there is a Claim.

You may be involved in a claim even if you did everything by the book. Some providers won't write your coverage if you have had a claim. Or if you have a claim, they may not renew your policy. There is no need to fear reporting a claim under our program. We understand having a claim does not mean you did anything wrong. Anyone can be involved in a transaction that goes sour. Never think that it can't happen to you. And we are here to help you if it does.

# Online Enrollment is Quick and Easy.

Online enrollment is available at <u>www.risceo.com</u>. When you enroll online, you will receive a certificate of coverage immediately upon completion. You will also have the option to create an account to provide access to purchase records and insurance forms at any time.

# Have Questions?

Call us at 1-800-637-7319 or visit our website at <u>www.risceo.com</u>. We look forward to hearing from you.

# All E&O Providers are Not the Same ... Neither are All E&O Policies.

**Always Review the Actual Policy Provisions!** The most accurate representation of what a policy covers is the policy itself. We recommend you review any policy you are considering and ask these questions:

**Does the policy offer unlimited defense costs? Yes.** There is no limit on the amount of defense costs under the basic policy.

**Does the policy insure transactions you do for relatives? Yes.** The policy applies to claims involving services performed for your and your spouse's relatives. This is important, since buyers and sellers often rely on a trusted relative with a real estate license.

**Does the policy apply to claims relating to all types of real property? Yes.** The policy applies to any claim relating to professional services, regardless of the type of property involved. Other policies may limit coverage to a specific type of property, such as residential, or require additional premium for coverage for other kinds of property. Even if you currently handle only residential transactions, consider whether you are willing to forgo an opportunity to work with commercial property or farmland or to risk not having coverage for a claim resulting from the transaction.

**Does the policy insure your firm for its vicarious liability for your professional services? Yes.** Claims are often made against real estate firms as a result of their licensees' negligence. The group policy applies to covered claims alleging the firm's vicarious liability for negligence in the insured licensee's professional services. Some policies issued to individual licensees may not provide coverage for the firm's vicarious liability for their actions, which may leave the firm uncovered in the event of a claim.

Are Insureds satisfied with the provider's service? Yes. Below actual compliments we've received from Rhode Island insureds:

No need to reply, simply want to communicate that I admire and appreciate how consistently efficient and helpful you are. A.B.

Thank you again for your outstanding assistance! P.C.

I greatly appreciate the quick service. S.M.

I wanted to thank you for going out of your way. [Y]our consideration and attention to detail are very much appreciated. M.S.

Thank you so very much for your courteous and prompt attention. D.S.

Many many thanks for your prompt & efficient response! S.S.

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