HOW TO LIMIT RISK

Implement a risk management program of internal policies and procedures that may prevent or reduce the possibility of loss and limit the amount of loss.

Purchase the appropriate insurance policies and endorsements to provide protection against risk exposures.

WORKING WITH AN AGENT

When working with a licensed insurance agent, consider inviting your agent to visit the place of worship so that he or she can better assess your potential risk exposure and properly advise you on your coverage needs. You and your agent should read through the policy together to make sure you understand your potential risk exposure.

RISK MANAGEMENT TIPS

• Make sure the church parking lot is well lit to prevent against auto burglary/theft and attacks or assaults on members and guests.

• Inspect the parking lot to make sure the area is free of anything that can damage vehicles or injure individuals.

• Ask local law enforcement about security for late night events.

• Properly store hazardous materials and flammables.

• Place warning signs in areas where potential hazards exist until the hazard is eliminated.

• Make sure the property is free of any potential falling objects, particularly during construction or renovation.

CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
1-800-259-5300
WWW.LDI.LA.GOV

This public document is produced by the Louisiana Department of Insurance and is available online.

Jim Donelon
Commissioner of Insurance
There are many risks involved in owning and operating a place of worship. Insurance can help cover potential losses and protect you and your property as well as your congregation and employees from a variety of financial risks.

There are many types of insurance products that can help manage the risks of a place of worship. Consult a licensed agent to make sure you have the right insurance products to fit your needs.

**TYPES OF INSURANCE PRODUCTS AND COVERAGES**

- **Commercial Property Insurance**
  Provides coverage for damage to the structure and contents of the property. Most of these policies do not cover flood so the purchase of a separate flood insurance policy may be necessary.

- **Flood Insurance**
  Provides coverage for damage to property and contents caused by rising water. It’s a separate policy usually purchased in conjunction with a property insurance policy.

- **Completed Products Liability Insurance**
  Provides protection for damages resulting from faulty products and protects the seller and manufacturer from liability losses.

- **General Liability Insurance**
  Covers liability exposure relative to owned or leased property and provides coverage for incidents related to operations.

- **Workers’ Compensation Insurance**
  A state mandated policy that covers injured workers and protects the employer’s liability.

- **Commercial Auto Insurance**
  Covers damages to vehicles owned by the place of worship, as well as liability protection and coverage for employees operating the vehicles.

- **Non-Owned and Hired Auto Liability Insurance**
  Provides liability coverage for personal and rented vehicles used for church business.

- **Business Interruption/Extra Expense Insurance**
  Provides coverage for disruption of normal business activity and costs associated with temporary relocation.

- **Directors and Officers Liability Insurance**
  Provides liability coverage for church officers and employees acting in their official capacity.

- **Umbrella Insurance**
  Provides liability coverage over and beyond primary policy limits.

- **Pastoral Counseling Insurance**
  Provides liability coverage for incidents resulting from counseling services.

- **Other Coverages**
  - Stain Glass and Steeple Coverage
  - Peril Specific or Multi-Peril (fire, wind & hail, burglary and vandalism)
  - Sexual Misconduct
  - Loss of Income
  - Terrorism Coverage

**WHAT IS RISK MANAGEMENT?**

- Process of identifying potential risks.
- Analyzing and evaluating those risks with regard to economic loss.
- Determining alternatives in controlling and reducing risks.
- Implementing strategies for risk avoidance, loss control, risk retention, risk transfer or non-insurance risk transfer.

**CHURCHES AND LAWSUITS**

Today’s society no longer considers the “Doctrine of Charitable Immunity” and lawsuits against churches are filed regularly.

You don’t have to be at fault to be sued and defending yourself and the church in court can be expensive.