

Loss Control Recommendations

As the trends and exposures our Members face continue to change and evolve, the SDPAA will enhance and expand the opportunities for Members to effectively address those trends and exposures. The success of the SDPAA is directly linked to the ability of our Members to effectively manage their risks. The more tools the SDPAA can provide to enhance our Members' Loss Control and Risk Management arsenal, the greater the likelihood that losses will either be avoided or minimized. When Members work to reduce or minimize loss exposures, the SDPAA is able to continue to offer stable rates, which is a win for everyone.

The Government Practices Hotline is not intended to replace the advice of local counsel, but rather to assist in areas where there may be additional questions, or where the subject matter is outside the scope of local counsels' general expertise. Counsel who are retained to assist with the Government Practices Hotline calls will work with you and your local counsel. Through the use of the Hotline, Members are afforded free access to the most up-to-date advice on those trends and issues which could become the next claim or suit. If you have other questions regarding Loss Control opportunities afforded by the SDPAA, please contact our office.

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
ASSURANCE ALLIANCE**



208 Island Dr., Ft. Pierre, SD 57532

SATELLITE OFFICE:

5024 Bur Oak Place, Suite 103, Sioux Falls, SD 57108

www.sdpaonline.org

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
ASSURANCE ALLIANCE**



**GOVERNMENT
PRACTICES HOTLINE**

**GOVERNMENT PRACTICES
HOTLINE:**

Call Toll Free: 1-888-313-0839

**Know the law...It's
good business.**

Government Practices Hotline

- 1 Who is eligible for this service?**
SDPAA Member entities currently carrying Government Liability coverage.
- 2 Who will furnish the service?**
The SDPAA has contracted with South Dakota attorneys with local government expertise on many government-related topics. This service is intended to support, not replace, your existing legal advisor.
- 3 How do you contact the hotline service?**
Call toll free: 1-888-313-0839
- 4 Who may act for the entity in using this service?**
 - For counties, the State's Attorney's Office and all other elected officials, in conjunction with the State's Attorney's Office, may make inquiries.
 - For municipalities, the City Attorney and/or a city designated SDPAA contact person may make inquiries.
 - For special districts, the special district chairperson and/or a district's designated SDPAA contact person may make inquiries.

5 What topics can be addressed through this service?

Government Practices can concern any civil legal issue other than employment practices that a local government may encounter, including but not limited to: elections, planning/zoning, Tax Increment Financing (TIFs), regulatory compliance, conflicts of interest for public officials and public employees, open meetings, public records requests, and other general governmental issues.

6 How will this service work?

The initial call will be answered by Safety Benefits, Inc. on behalf of the SDPAA. The caller will be asked a series of questions to determine their location, who is calling, and the exact nature of the call. SDPAA will determine if the caller is authorized and if the issue is appropriate for the service. Once this has been determined, an attorney from the approved panel counsel list will return the call and consult with the caller about their inquiry. The entire procedure will be carried out as promptly as possible.

7 What is the extent of the service?

A Member is entitled to one hour of legal service for each separate matter. If the response requires more than one hour, the Member may extend the use of the service at the Member's own expense.

8 What about the ineligible questions?

If the question is not within the scope of the service as determined by the SDPAA, then every attempt will be made to assist the caller with the inquiry.

9 What is the relationship between the Member and the selected lawyer?

When a call is accepted, the Member entity, not the individual, becomes a client of the lawyer for the purpose of the call and the attorney/client privilege is activated. Only information about the call that is necessary for billing purposes will be given to the SDPAA.

10 What type of inquiries will not be accepted?

Consultation on criminal prosecution of statutory or ordinance violations is not included with this service. Any calls related to employment practices will be forwarded to the SDPAA Employment Practices Hotline.

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