

INSURANCE COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
("Council")

**DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST NEW LICENSEES WHO FAILED TO COMPLY
WITH THE REQUIREMENT TO COMPLETE THE COUNCIL RULES COURSE**

On July 24, 2017, Council published Notice ICN 17-005 - *Failure to Comply with the Requirement for New Licensees to Complete the Council Rules Course*, advising that new licensees who failed to complete the Council Rules Course on or before June 1, 2017 and had made their 2017 annual filing were in breach of Council Rule 7(5), which establishes a mandatory continuing education program for all licensees.

Council reviewed the annual filings of all new licensees and compared that list to its records of who had completed the Council Rules Course on or before June 1, 2017. Of the approximately 5000 new licensees who were required to complete the Council Rules Course in accordance with Council Rule 7(5), Council identified 404 new licensees who failed to comply. In making their 2017 annual filing without completing the Council Rules Course as required, these new licensees also made a material misstatement to Council, as the 2017 annual filing was an affirmation that they were in compliance with all Council Rules.

While Council was pleased the vast majority of new licensees acted in accordance with Council Rule 7(5), it was concerned by the 404 new licensees who did not comply. Council determined that to not address the non-compliance would be inappropriate and unfair to the more than 4000 new licensees who did comply with the requirement under Council Rule 7(5). Council concluded that the non-compliance warranted disciplinary action and issued intended decisions to each of the 404 new licensees, which included a \$500.00 fine and a requirement to complete the Council Rules Course within 90 days.

When the Council Rules Course was introduced in 2016, Council chose to not make it a pre-licensing requirement in an effort to keep the costs associated with obtaining a licence down and to allow the Council Rules Course to be eligible for continuing education credits. It is Council's hope that compliance with this requirement will improve and that the Council Rules Course can remain part of each new licensee's continuing education requirement. However, should Council continue to see a significant rate of non-compliance with Council Rule 7(5), it may have to give consideration to making the Council Rules Course a pre-licensing requirement.

For specific details regarding the Council Rules Course, see Council Notice ICN 16-001. For general information about continuing education requirements, including the Council Rules Course, please visit insurancecouncilofbc.com.

If you have any questions about continuing education, the Council Rules Course, or this Notice, please contact Regulatory Services by emailing info@insurancecouncilofbc.com or by calling Council's main number, and at the prompt, press "2".

September 27, 2017
ICN 17-006

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NOTICE