

## **New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance**

Commissioner Ken Kobylowski

For Immediate Release: August 8, 2013

For Further Information: Ed Rogan or Marshall McKnight (609) 292-5064

[www.dobi.nj.gov](http://www.dobi.nj.gov)

### **\*\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*\***

## **Christie Administration Will Host Mobile Office in Toms River and Review Unresolved Sandy-related Insurance Claims for Mediation**

TOMS RIVER, NJ – To continue assisting New Jerseyans who have suffered property loss as a result of Superstorm Sandy, the Christie Administration will host a mobile office in Toms River Ocean County, on Monday, August 12, 2013 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to answer consumers' questions, explain and answer questions about the Department's mediation program, and assist them in filing insurance claims related to damages caused by the storm.

In addition to staff from the Department of Banking and Insurance (DOBI), a representative from the American Arbitration Association, the operator of the State's mediation program will also be in attendance. The mediation program, launched in May, allows property owners to submit unresolved automobile and commercial property claims to independent mediator who will review the case and assist in settlement discussions free of charge.

Although 96 percent of the non-flood insurance claims related to Superstorm Sandy in New Jersey have been closed, there are still more than 17,000 claims yet to be settled.

Ocean County has the largest number of unsettled non-flood, Sandy-related claims with 4,020. In Toms River, there are 614 non-flood Sandy-related claims that have not been closed.

To date, there have been 465 requests for mediation from 20 of the state's 21 counties including 193 from Ocean County. Of the 203 claims mediated so far, 68 percent have been settled in some form.

Residents should bring their insurance policy and any claim information to the mobile office.

For more information on mediation, consumers should contact their insurance company directly or contact the American Arbitration Association at [www.adr.org/njsandy](http://www.adr.org/njsandy) or by calling 855-366-9774.

The Sandy Mediation Program does not currently include flood claims which are administered by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). However, New Jersey continues to invite the NFIP to include disputed claims in the mediation program.

Previously Governor Christie and Commissioner Kobylowski have hosted more than 30 mobile cabinets or offices in communities including Asbury Park, Brigantine, Sayreville, Oakhurst, Bayville, Brick, Little Ferry, Sea Bright, Union Beach, Neptune, Atlantic Highlands, North Wildwood, Stratford, Highlands, Manasquan, Vineland, Seaside Heights and Mantoloking.

Monday, August 12, 2013

**WHO:** DOBI, American Arbitration Association

**WHAT:** Department Mobile Office

**WHEN:** 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** 33 Washington Street  
Toms River, NJ 08753

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