



SIG's Personal Insurance Newsletter - Fall 2010

Child Finished with School?



Transition into adulthood is complicated, and one more thing to think about is insurance. When should you take your child off your insurance policies? Certain things should happen before your kids will be safely off your insurance.

Here are four steps to follow:

Step #1, Wait until your child finishes school: If your children are still in school they are considered part of the household and must also be included as drivers on your policies, regardless of whether they are in school just down the street or across the country.

Step #2, Change title on the vehicle: When your child is driving a vehicle that you own, you must maintain the insurance coverage for that vehicle. To release yourself of liability you will need to transfer the title - contact the Department of Motor Vehicles for a "Change of Title" form to transfer ownership.

Step #3, Wait until your child truly moves out: You cannot delete your child from your Auto or Homeowners policy if they are still considered a household resident.

Step #4, Insurance: Make sure they have their own insurance! If you have handled all the insurance until now, your child may not know about being insured. Contact our office - we will walk them through the process of obtaining a Tenant Homeowners policy on their personal property and get them auto quotes from several companies.

Follow these simple steps and you will reduce your liability, save money, and make sure your kids are still protected.

Personal Lines Referral Program

For each new client referred and written in our agency we will send you a \$25 Visa Gift Card and also donate \$25 in your name to the United Way of King County. This program perpetuates our commitment to our clients and to the community as a whole.

We are confident that you already tell your friends and family about the outstanding service you receive from Sprague Israel Giles. Why not get paid for it?

Have them contact one of our expert Personal Lines Brokers at (206) 623-7035 or by email at sforster@SIGinsures.com and mention your name when they call. You will benefit directly as well as help out the community we all live in.

United Way Day of Caring

SIG has partnered with nonprofit organizations for over 50 years. We take great pride in our level of commitment to our community.

One of the many ways we support our neighborhoods is by participating in the United Way Day of Caring. This year was our 15th consecutive year of taking part.



SIG staff ready to dig!

This past month, folks from the office rolled up their sleeves to help spruce up the landscaping at B.F. Day Elementary School in Seattle.

The United Way Day of Caring is a great way to give back to the community. For those interested in participating, we would invite you to check out the webpage for the United Way of King County at: <http://www.uwkc.org/> and follow the links under "Volunteer."

I just bought my house for \$425,000. Why do I have to insure it for \$500,000?

When purchasing a house, many homeowners assume the proper insurance amount will be equal to the amount they paid for the house, but this is incorrect in many cases. Replacement costs are frequently higher than market values.

Market value is the price paid for your house. **Replacement cost** is what it would take to rebuild your house in the same spot, with the same quality of construction, at today's costs.

And even though home values are lower than before, construction costs have actually risen.

Some of the factors that have contributed to the rise in construction costs include:

- Rising costs of building materials such as copper, natural stone and steel beams.
- Rising energy prices, which affect shipping cost for building materials.
- A 3% increase for the cost of skilled labor

The insurance company will want to insure your home for 100% of its replacement cost, to ensure the ability to rebuild the entire house, the way it is now, even if you have a total loss.

Feel free to contact us at anytime with questions or to review your homeowner's policy.