

**Delegated Property & Casualty** 

## **PROPERTY VALUATION**



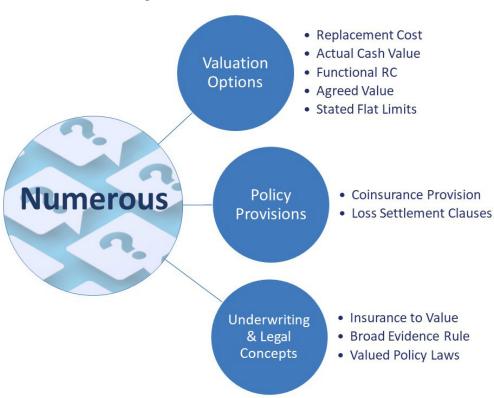






# Property Valuation is the most misunderstood component of property underwriting

### Here's why:



What's the Goal: To restore insured back to same financial condition that existed prior to the loss

What's the Issue: To determine what a property is worth at the time of loss and how to compute the loss adjustment is not straightforward

# Consider all the different parties involved in the upfront underwriting and back-end claims handling process



All with competing goals and different expertise

### WHAT CAN UNDERWRITERS DO TO ADDRESS POTENTIAL VALUATION ISSUES?



**Question Up Front** 

Does the limit make sense for RC or ACV? What does the insured expect to recover in the event of loss?

Assess ITV calculation (Limit /Coin %/Sq Ft) Is ITV in ballpark?

Use cost estimators: consider construction, age, location, occupancy, quality of risk, etc...

UNDERSTAND
DIFFERENT VALUATION
OPTIONS



**Seek Resources** 

Use inspection reports and cost estimators!

Compare limit and address discrepancies

Consider increasing values appropriately or changing terms from RC to ACV

AND BALANCES



**Know the Difference** 

Understand the difference between the "market value" and cost to rebuild

Market Value =
What a willing buyer
would pay to a willing
seller (purchase price),
which has nothing to
do with actual cost of
"bricks/sticks"
construction

MARKET VALUE INCLUDES VALUE OF LAND, WHICH IS NOT INSURABLE



Challenge Market Pressure

Remember your mother's phrase, "I don't care what your friends are doing, I care what you are doing!"

Quote what makes sense, not what another carrier allowed in the past



Don't Be Complacent

Do not renew with the same limits year after year

Reconstruction costs are always rising

ATE THE AGENT CHECK VALUATION OUT PROPER ON RENEWALS

#### MAIN FACTORS AFFECTING PROPERTY VALUATION

#### PROPERTIES ARE UNDERVALUED

- Industry statistics report most commercial properties have been underinsured for years
- Property Valuation is a widely misunderstood topic
- · Renewal limits stay the same year after year
  - For example, Florida has more than \$240 billion of reconstruction cost exposed to very high storm surge risk. If a catastrophic event were to affect only 5% of homes and cause 30% storm surge damage, the reconstruction cost undervaluation approaches \$205 million, if reconstruction costs are not updated within just two years<sup>1</sup>

#### **FCONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS**

- · Labor shortage and supply chain disruptions
- Labor and material costs
  - Increased 13.5% from April 2021 to April 2022<sup>2</sup>
  - Reconstruction costs rose in all states, ranging between 11.2%-16.8% from April 2021 to April 2022<sup>3</sup>
  - Average annual price of lumber increased 340% for the ten-year period 2011 to 2021<sup>4</sup>
- Inflation
  - Consumer prices up 9.1% over the year ended June 2022, largest increase in 40 years<sup>5</sup>

#### **DEMAND SURGE**

- The larger the CAT event, the more demand stress
- An increase in costs of between 20%-30% can be expected as a general benchmark after a disaster
- Partial losses quickly exhaust coverage limits, particularly during CAT events







#### CONSIDER THE IMPACT OF UNDERINSURANCE

#### FOR THE INSURED: Failure to Indemnify

- Incur coinsurance penalty
- Can't repair the damage, thus property value declines
- Forced to pay out of pocket to rebuild
- Dissatisfied policyholders
- Potential mortgage default



#### FOR THE INSURANCE COMPANY / BROKER / AGENT:



- Undervaluation equals inadequate insurance premium
- Percentage of wind deductibles applied to underinsured property limits equates to inadequate wind deductibles
- Carriers, Brokers & Agents are exposed to E&O/Bad faith lawsuits, brand damage with dissatisfied policy holders
- Available property capacity shrinks
- Potential for insolvency



# CONTACT YOUR DELEGATED P&C UNDERWRITER

#### **Matthew Brown**

Senior Vice Presiden Division Manager

#### Kristen Schick

Vice President, Unit Mgr. East Team Tel. 203 328 5702 kristen.schick@generalstar.com

#### Diane Dahle

Senior Executive Underwriter Tel. 203 328 5530 diane.dahle@generalstar.com

#### Peter Keogh

Senior Executive Underwriter Tel. 203 328 5486 peter.keogh@generalstar.com

#### **Kevin Lewis**

Practice Leader - Contractors Tel. 203 328 6262 kevin.lewis@generalstar.com

#### Terence Crowley

Vice President, Unit Mgr. West Team Tel. 312 207 5411 terence.crowley@generalstar.com

#### James Rowell

Executive Underwriter Tel. 203 328 5752 james.rowell@generalstar.com

#### **Matthew Henry**

Executive Underwriter
Tel. 312 267 8591
matthew.henry@generalstar.com

#### La'Kisha Stallworth

Senior Underwriter Tel. 312 267 8606 lakisha.stallworth@generalstar.com

#### **Matthew Harrington**

Underwriter Tel. 312 267 8563 matthew.harrington@generalstar.com

#### **Endnotes**

- Corelogic: https://www.corelogic.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/downloadable-docs/2019-insurance-coverage-adequacy-report-0419-06-screen.pdf
- $2. \ Verisk: https://www.verisk.com/insurance/visualize/inflation-lifts-reconstruction-costs-as-fuel-prices-boost-volatility/#:~:text=Overall%20inflation%E2%80%94up%208.5%20$
- $3. \ Verisk: https://www.verisk.com/insurance/visualize/inflation-lifts-reconstruction-costs-as-fuel-prices-boost-volatility/#:~:text=Overall%20inflation%E2%80%94up%208.5%20$
- 4. Macrotrends: https://www.macrotrends.net/2637/lumber-prices-historical-chart-data
- 5. Bureau of Labor Statistics: https://data.bls.gov/pdq/SurveyOutputServlet

For More Information on Property Valuation - Visit Diane Dahle's webinar:

"It Takes A Village to Raise Real Property Valuation"



#### www.generalstar.com

General Star Indemnity Company is an eligible surplus lines insurer in all states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. It has the status as an unlicensed insurer in California and operates under NAIC Number 0031-37362. Insurance is placed with General Star Indemnity Company by licensed producers and, for risks that qualify, by licensed surplus lines brokers.