



STATE BAR OF TEXAS

Lawyer Referral Information Service

Please be advised that effective January 2, 2010, membership in the State Bar of Texas Lawyer Referral Service will require each participating attorney to demonstrate current coverage for and maintain professional liability insurance of a minimum of \$100,000. This change in policy was approved by the State Bar Board of Directors on January 30, 2009 at the recommendation of the State Bar's Lawyer Referral and Information Services Standing Committee.

The professional liability insurance requirement protects both the client and lawyer from potential financial harm. Given that the LRIS is a public service of the State Bar of Texas, the insurance requirement enhances the service's credibility and reputation as a convenient, beneficial and professional way to find legal services in an era of increased competition. It is believed that the public has a higher level of expectation from a bar-sponsored program and the insurance requirement helps substantiate this expectation. Additionally, most lawyer referral services in Texas require professional liability insurance as a condition of membership.

The next membership renewal cycle for the State Bar Lawyer Referral Service begins January 1, 2010. At that time, attorneys joining or renewing their membership will be required to certify they have liability insurance that meets the minimum requirements and must provide a copy of their declaration page from their professional liability insurance carrier.

Should you be in need of professional liability insurance coverage, the American Bar Association's Standing Committee for Lawyers' Professional Liability provides an online directory of insurance carriers for the State of Texas. You may visit the ABA's website at www.abanet.org and search "LPL Directory – ABA" for details. (Please note that the State Bar of Texas is not affiliated with the insurance companies listed in the directory, nor does it endorse or recommend a particular insurance company or product.)