



HOTCHKISS
INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

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Hotchkiss Insurance Agency Announces Carrier Reward for Arrest and Conviction of Construction Site Thieves

DALLAS — April 4, 2008 — Hotchkiss Insurance Agency, Inc. (HIA) announced today that in response to escalating number of thefts at residential construction sites the Great American Insurance Company (GAIC) will reimburse policy holders up to \$10,000 for a reward that is paid to an individual(s) who provides information that leads to the arrest and conviction of a person or persons who committed a crime that resulted in a “loss” to Covered Property that GAIC paid to the insured under their policy Coverage Form.

With the recent downturn in the economy, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of thefts at residential construction sites. The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) estimates that losses of materials and appliances at home building sites have increased to over \$1 billion annually in the United States inflating the cost of a home by 1.5% or around \$4000. Theft from houses that are nearing completion is one of the biggest concerns for contractors and real estate agents today. Not only does it cost money in stolen goods, it's causing liability insurance for builders to quickly rise. That, experts say, hurts the bottom line for builders and ends up being passed on to consumers.

"The incentive to catch construction site criminals and prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law will serve as a deterrent and hopefully stop some of the losses that definitely impact the cost of insurance" stated Julie Grubb of Great American Insurance Company.

HIA Vice President of Sales & Marketing, Anne Davis says "Great American's commitment to get involved at this level shows policy holders they're not alone when facing the issue of trying to protect their job sites."

For more information about GAIC's \$10,000 reward/reimbursement offer contact Kaycie Berley via email at kberley@hiainc.com or call (972) 512-7728. For more information about GAIC visit www.gaic.com

Contacts:

Hotchkiss Insurance Agency, Inc.

Anne Davis • 972-512-7728

adavis@hiainc.com

Susan Shahon • 972-512-7760

sshahon@hiainc.com