Real Estate Management Factors to Consider

Be sure to understand each of the following factors before engaging with the insurance company. Knowledge is the key to a successful claim outcome.

- What is my broker's/agent's role?

- Does the adjuster work for us or the insurance company? Why they can't work for both. It's a conflict.

- Can I do the repairs myself?

- Is the insurance company using an independent building consultant to prepare a bid? Who are these consultants? Who are they working for? Do they only work for insurance companies?

- Can I collect code coverage allowances if I build elsewhere?

- Does the insurance company pay for professionals necessary to evaluate my claim? Are they working for me or them?

- Does my risk manager have the requisite skill sets to negotiate a large property claim?

- How quickly can I get started rebuilding?

- Can a contractor negotiate my claim? Why it's a bad idea.

- How does my policy address increased costs due to new codes? If my coverage is limited, what can I do about it?

- Does my policy allow green building upgrades?

- What is the difference between a schedule of values and a schedule of limits?

- Why is my loss of rents claim more than just submitting lease agreements?

- Will the insurance company pay for a construction manager?

- Warranties and Protective Safeguard requirements. What do they mean? Can I still collect if I am not in full compliance?

- Is there coinsurance in my policy? What does it mean?

- How is actual cash value determined? Why should I care?

- Do I have to replace on the same site? Can I buy or build elsewhere?

- Can I compensate employees who help with cleaning or restoration?

- Replacement properties. Lease purchase strategy. Is it good for me?

- Replacing my building versus cashing out. What are the benefits? The pitfalls?

- Should I have concerns as to how my insurer deals with pollutants - hazardous materials - lead & asbestos?

- Is it always beneficial for my building/property to be considered a "total loss?" If not, why not?

- How do I deal with lead & asbestos? What if my coverage is limited?