

Dear Stewart Partners,

As this upcoming Sunday is Father's Day, which has only been an officially declared nationwide holiday since 1972 – a mere 49 years ago – we want to wish all the fathers a wonderful Father's Day!

In this week's update we wanted to remind everyone that the declared state of emergency in Massachusetts has ended. We also have several upcoming webinars being hosted by Stewart's Agency group. To sign up for any of these webinars, just follow the links below. Lastly, we have two cybersecurity items we want to share. The first is an alert for Android users, but is a scam that could easily target others as well. The second is the newsletter from SANS, which this month focuses on using mobile apps securely.

• Bulletin: MA2021002 -Termination of COVID-19 State of Emergency

The declared state of emergency terminated on June 15, 2021. As a result, certain orders put in place during the state of emergency, which were temporary in nature, will expire by their own terms. For Stewart's underwriting guidance on various measures passed during the state of emergency, please review our Massachusetts Bulletins at www.virtualunderwriter.com

• <u>Upcoming National Agency Webinars</u>

Topic: Using the Stewart Marketing Storefront to Increase Business & Generate Sales

Date: 6/17/2021 at 2PM
Registration: Click here to register

Topic: Claims Avoidance Series: A Discussion of Recurring Claims & Recent Trends

Date: 6/22/2021 at 2PM
Registration: Click here to register

Topic: Deep Dive Series: New ALTA Policies "Highlights & Checklists"

Date: 6/23/2021 at 12:30PM Registration: Click here to register

For more information or any questions, please reach out to Gloria Prinz, Agency Training Manager at (703) 927-1406 / gprinz@stewart.com or your local Account Service Representative.

• Smishing Scam Targeting Android Users

We've recently been alerted to a scam that is targeting Android users. In this scam, cybercriminals send out a text message that claims you have a delivery, and that payment is needed. To obtain information and make payment, you are asked to tap a link provided in the text message. Once tapped you are taken to a page that asks you to update your Google Chrome app. If you tap the "Install Now" button, a download begins and you are redirected to a payment screen. On this screen, you are asked to pay a small fee so that the package can be delivered. If you provide ANY payment information on this page, it is sent directly to the criminal.

Stewart - Massachusetts Mid-Week Update - June 16, 2021



Unfortunately, the scam doesn't end there. If you tapped the "Install Now" button described above, you have downloaded malware onto your device which disguises itself using an icon that looks like Google Chrome. This app then uses your mobile phone number to send thousands of smishing texts to random, unsuspecting victims.

Follow the tips below to avoid becoming a victim:

- ONLY download and update apps through the device's official app store
- ALWAYS be suspicious of unexpected text messages
- If you are expecting any delivery, monitor the status through the retailer's official website

SANS Security Awareness Newsletter - OUCH! June 2021

We've recently received our June 2021 OUCH! Newsletter. This newsletter is published by SANS, and provides great information on security awareness. To read this month's newsletter, follow this link: https://www.sans.org/newsletters/ouch/securely-using-mobile-apps/

Please feel free to share with your colleagues, clients, friends and family.

• <u>Stewart's Massachusetts COVID-19 Resource Page</u>

Please view our resource page which contains all the local information relative to underwriting guidance, affidavits, registry closures and frequently asked questions. This site will be updated regularly. To access click HERE and make it a favorite on your web-browser. You can also copy the following URL and paste it into your web browser:

https://www.stewart.com/content/stewart/stewartcom/en/stg/massachusetts/underwriting-resources/forms-policy-information/covid-19-info-resources.html

Stewart Title Guaranty Company - Massachusetts

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