# Condominium and Homeowners Association Coverage

Great American's Fidelity / Crime Division can provide a comprehensive crime policy to help protect the funds a condominium and homeowners association has in its operating and reserve accounts. Community Associations are encouraged to carry Crime and Employee Dishonesty (Fidelity) insurance, and in many cases, associations are required to carry Fidelity/Crime coverage by lending institutions and/or by statute.

### The Great American Advantage

- Inclusive Eligibility: No restrictions on association size, employee count, or amenity restrictions. Ability to tailor coverage to fit an association's specific needs.
- **Comprehensive Coverage:** Available for a variety of associations, including:
  - Homeowners Associations (HOAs)
  - Condominium Associations
  - Commercial Property Associations
  - Cooperatives
- **Extended Protection:** Coverage can be extended to board members, volunteers, and the association's property manager.
- Flexible Options: Coverage available as monoline, either primary or excess. Competitive terms and rates.
- **Specialized Coverage:** Social Engineering/Fraudulently Induced Transfers coverage offered.
- **High Capacity:** Up to \$50 million in Crime coverage.
- Experience: Experienced claims and underwriting team with an average
  of over 30 years' experience in their respective fields. Over 20 years of
  experience underwriting and handling claims for this class of business.
   Programs can be developed for large books of business.

Great American Insurance Company is the 3rd largest crime insurer in North America and is rated "A+" (Superior) by A.M. Best. Great American Insurance Company is one of only three companies in the U.S. to hold an A.M. Best Rating of "A" or better for over 115 years and also be listed on the 2024 Ward's Top 50 for insurance company performance.

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#### **Contact Information**

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# **Claim Spotlight**

An employee of the property management firm hired by the Association performs bookkeeping services. The board had granted the property management company access to the Association's bank accounts. The employee, while performing financial duties as part of the property management agreement, took advantage of the Association's trust and was able to perform wire transfers in and out of the Association's accounts without needing additional approval. As a result, the employee was able to strategically transfer money into their personal account on a regular basis and conceal it by altering the bank statements before showing them to the board. After 7 years, a new board took over and discovered discrepancies with their bank accounts and the statements they received. After an investigation, it was discovered that more than \$1,250,000 was stolen.



## What can agents do?

If a property manager is utilized, agents should make sure Employee Dishonesty coverage is extended to them and that adequate limits are in place. Additionally, the following loss prevention measures should be considered:

- Prohibit the property manager or a single board member from having too much authority.
- The board should receive bank statements directly from the bank (by mail or electronically, not furnished through the property manager) and review/ reconcile monthly.
- Prohibit the property manager from being the sole authorized check signer
  on any Association bank accounts. The board should confirm this with the
  bank at the time a new property manager is hired and when a new board
  (or individual board members are appointed/elected).
- When there is board turnover or a new property management company, make sure consistent controls remain in place. Also, ensure the new board updates the names on bank accounts.







The claims scenario in this material is provided to illustrate possible exposures faced by your clients. The facts of any situation which may actually arise, and the terms, conditions, exclusions, and limitations in any policy in effect at that time, are unique. Thus, no representation is made that any specific insurance coverage applies to the above claims scenario. The information presented in this publication is intended to provide guidance and is not intended as a legal interpretation of any federal, state or local laws, rules or regulations applicable to your business. The loss prevention information provided is intended only to assist policyholders in the management of potential loss producing conditions involving their premises and/or operations based on generally accepted safe practices. In providing such information, Great American does not warrant that all potential hazards or conditions have been evaluated or can be controlled. It is not intended as an offer to write insurance for such conditions or exposures. The liability of Great American Insurance Company and its affiliated insurers is limited to the terms, limits and conditions of the insurance policies underwritten by any of them. Great American Insurance Company, 301 E. Fourth St., Cincinnati, OH 45202. Coverage is subject to underwriting. Coverage description is summarized. Refer to the actual policy for a full description of applicable terms, conditions, limits and exclusions. In the U.S.: Policies are underwritten by Great American Insurance Company and Great American Insurance Company, authorized insurers in all 50 states and the DC. In Canada: All insurance products are subject to the limitations and conditions in the applicable policy or certificate of insurance in force at the time of purchase or enrolment and applicable legislation. Policies are underwritten by Great American Insurance Company - Canadian Branch, a foreign insurer authorized to insure risks in all Canadian Provinces and Territories. The Chief Agency of the Canadian Bran