



Is Your Business Exposed To Crime?

The National Retail Federation reported that internal theft cost retail businesses \$15.8 billion in 2003. From small businesses to corporations with thousands of employees, employee theft is a reality that business owners can never predict. Even with internal controls, extensive interviewing and hiring practices, employee theft is a reality that should be considered by all business owners.

Although your business insurance policy might cover some theft losses, it's important to know how your policy would cover you if theft came from within - from one of your own employees. Would it even cover you at all? Your property policy might include coverage

for "employee dishonesty", but you can also buy a separate "crime" policy to help fill any gaps in your current coverage. In addition, fiduciary bonds can also cover these types of losses with the agreement that the employer will take legal action against the employee.

To determine the coverage that is best for your unique business needs, contact your Account Manager at The Sylvia Group. We can help you decide on the type of coverage you need while considering the many facets of your individual circumstances.

Point of Interest

With all of the information about you available on the internet and elsewhere, it is easier than ever for criminals to pretend they are you. According to the FBI, identity theft is the fastest growing white collar crime in the country. For a very minimal price, many companies now offer an endorsement to the homeowner's policy that will provide you with protection should this occur.

Arsenault & Glicksman join the Sylvia Group.

The Sylvia Group is pleased to announce two recent appointments:

Kristine Arsenault joins the Sylvia Group as a Client Manager with over 8 years experience in administrative support, benefits and employee relations. She is a graduate of Westfield State College with her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management.

Kristine resides in Mattapoisett and is a past chairperson and member of the United Way Citizen's Review Board as

well as a Massachusetts Realtor. She has also served as a volunteer for Summerfest in New Bedford and is an active mentor for the SMILES Program. (Southcoast Mentoring Initiative for Learning, Education and Service)

Edward L. Glicksman joins the Sylvia Group with over 14 years of insurance experience. A licensed broker, he has expertise in personal, commercial and health insurance. A prior trucking company-owner for nineteen years, he brings a unique understanding of the aspects affecting his clients' insurance and risk management programs.

Ed is a 1967 graduate of New Bedford High School and also attended Tufts University. He is an avid fisherman and gardener and was involved for many years as a coach for the Mariner Soccer League. Currently, Ed volunteers his time as the editor of the New Bedford Jewish Convalescent Home newsletter.

A New Bedford Native, Ed resides in Mattapoisett with his wife, Barbara.

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We Want to Hear from You...

The Sylvania Group is dedicated to providing you with current insurance industry news. E-mail us your address and the topics you are most interested in. We will send you pertinent updates as we receive industry news.

customers1st@sylviainsurance.com

Our Community Is Important To Us

At the Sylvania Group, we recognize the importance and value of volunteerism and community service. This commitment can be seen in our agency mission statement and is demonstrated consistently by many of our employees. Over fifty percent of our employees volunteer their time for community groups, events and organizations. Just some of the organizations our employees are involved with are:

- ***American Cancer Society***
- ***Bishop Stang High School***
- ***Dartmouth Youth Activities Association***
- ***Fairhaven Improvement Association***
- ***Girl Scouts***

- ***Junior Achievement***
- ***New Bedford A.C.T.S.***
- ***New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce***
- ***New Bedford Jaycees***
- ***St. Luke's Hospital***
- ***United Way of Greater New Bedford***
- ***W.H.A.L.E.***
- ***Y.W.C.A.***

There are many other organizations, including school, youth and church groups, for which we volunteer. Join us - find something you care about and get involved. Our entire community will benefit.

Do You Own A Boat?

This is the time of year when many people consider purchasing a sailboat or powerboat. Many of us are unaware, however, of the potential risks that having a boat creates. In addition, some people mistakenly believe that there is coverage under their personal auto or homeowner's policy. The auto policy does not provide any liability or physical damage coverage for boats. In addition, the homeowner's policy only covers certain low-valued or low-powered boats. To be sure you are protected adequately, call your Customer Service Representative at The Sylvania Group. Here are some tips for you to consider in advance:

- If you purchase a boat valued over \$1,500.00, a watercraft policy is necessary to cover physical damage losses to the boat itself.
- If you are considering purchasing a sailboat, inquire about its length. If the length is twenty-six feet or more, there is no liability coverage under your homeowner's policy.
- If you are thinking of purchasing an older watercraft, be aware that insurance companies may reject a boat over 15 or 20 years of age because they normally account for more losses than newer boats.
- Ask your agent about a personal umbrella policy in addition to the watercraft policy. This is particularly important if you purchase a speedboat, a boat designed for water skiing or another craft that has a higher potential to cause damage or loss of life.
- Most importantly - discuss your purchase with us so that we can help you obtain the insurance that will best protect you and your assets.



Office Hours
8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

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