

# Why D&O Insurance is a Must for Nonprofits

We wanted to take a quick moment to share why D&O insurance is such a big deal for nonprofits. You might not think of it as essential at first glance, but it's a safety net many nonprofits can't afford to go without.

## Why Nonprofits Need D&O Coverage

Nonprofits aren't just mission-driven—they're also vulnerable to the same kind of legal headaches that for-profit businesses face. Here are a few reasons why D&O insurance matters for them:

- 1. Claims Happen Frequently: Did you know more than half of the D&O claims between 2016 and 2021 involved nonprofits? Whether it's issues with managing funds, employment disputes, or even just miscommunication, nonprofits are targets for lawsuits more often than you'd think.
- **2. Board Member Risk:** Nonprofit board members might be passionate about the mission, but they don't always realize their legal responsibilities. Things like fiduciary duties or compliance slips can lead to big trouble.
- **3. Volunteer Protection Gap:** The federal Volunteer Protection Act only covers so much, and it doesn't apply to every situation. D&O insurance steps in to fill those gaps and protect the folks who are volunteering their time and skills.

## **Real-Life Examples to Share with Clients**

Here's a good example: A nonprofit received government funding for a program. Later, during an audit, it was claimed the funds weren't used properly. The government sued under the False Claims Act, and the case ended up costing the nonprofit about \$300,000 in legal fees to settle. D&O coverage saved the day—imagine how devastating that could have been without it.

#### **How You Can Help Your Nonprofit Clients**

- Make sure their D&O policy fits their unique risks. For example, are volunteers included? Are employment-related claims covered?
- Help them understand what's covered and what isn't. Nobody likes surprises in a crisis!
- Highlight value-added benefits like risk management resources many carriers include with coverage. These extras can be a game-changer.

#### Conclusion

Now's a great time to talk to your nonprofit clients about this—pricing is still pretty favorable, and getting the right policy in place could save them from a huge headache down the road.

Let one of our brokers know if you would like to chat more about this or if we can help with anything else.

## **Alec Immordino**

ext 8784 | aimmordino@arlingtonroe.com

#### **Essie Bennett**

ext 2260 | ebennett@arlingtonroe.com

#### John Immordino

ext 8732 | jimmordino@arlingtonroe.com

#### Mark Swayze

ext 8648 | mswayze@arlingtonroe.com

## Melissa Hilgendorf

ext 8774 | mhilgendorf@arlingtonroe.com

## Sam Watts

ext 8580 | swatts@arlingtonroe.com

#### Sarah Immordino

ext 8731 | simmordino@arlingtonroe.com

#### **Shelly Caldwell**

ext 8687 | scaldwell@arlingtonroe.com

#### Sonyia Townsend

ext 8668 | stownsend@arlingtonroe.com