

Discover the most common directors & officers (D&O) liability claims facing nonprofit community associations¹, and risk management tips to reduce your exposures!

TOP TEN

Claim Drivers for Community Associations



18% of claims

Discrimination

- Consider homeowner requests carefully; if one request is granted but a similar one is denied, it can lead to a discrimination or selective enforcement claim
- Comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)² or Fair Housing Act (FHA)³ regarding assistance animal requests



13% of claims

Maintenance / Repair of Common Elements

- Conduct regular inspections to identify maintenance needs and to ensure community is safe and enjoyable for homeowners
- Reserve funds for costly repairs and conduct study to identify shortand long-term budget needs



12% of claims

Improper Assessments

- Conduct assessments fairly and equally for all
- Be transparent about why a special assessment may be required, and provide sufficient notice beforehand





8% of claims

Architectural Review Decisions

- Respond to homeowner architectural requests in a consistent and timely manner
- Follow bylaws from the association Covenants, Conditions & Restrictions (CCRs) document



6% of claims

Breach of Contract

Follow your board member fiduciary duties, put association needs above personal ones, and conduct due diligence when entering a contract with an outside vendor





5% of claims

Intentional Acts

- When handling association funds, act responsibly to avoid fraud, theft or misappropriation allegations, and record transactions to avoid allegations of misrepresentations
- Provide homeowner notice of entry to avoid invasion of privacy, trespassing, or wrongful entry claim



4% of claims

Harassment

 Treat homeowners fairly to avoid singling anyone out and have a set procedure to address complaints in a timely and consistent manner



3% of claims

Board Election Disputes

 Follow state and local legal requirements for board elections and consider engaging counsel to assist with drafting election guidelines



3% of claims

Records Request Compliance

 Communicate with homeowners and maintain proper records



2% of claims

Defamation

 Set standards for conduct, be aware of content being published by the assoiciation, and consider creating a forum for handling member disputes







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¹Based on CNA claims data between January and September 2023. For more information on these drivers: https://www.inginsurance.com/Risk-Education/Other/What-it-Means-to-be-a-Member-of-the-Board-An-Onboarding-Guide

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