Q&A Webinar | FBI Art Crime Expert

CASE FILES: 5 FBI Expert Tips for Brokers on Protecting Client Collectibles



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Fine Art & Collectibles Insurance

Below are attendee questions from the webinar session.

Appraisals and Valuations

Q: Are there any professionals offering online appraisals now that COVID-19 has affected traditional appraisal methods?

A: While some appraisers offer online services, we believe it's best to evaluate items in person. This allows for a thorough understanding of their condition and provenance.

Q: What is the appraisal process?

A: We are available to assist with referrals at any time! Please reach out to our underwriters.

Coverage Details

Q: How can I ensure the safe transit of collectibles belonging to others, such as from a client's residence to an auction site?

A: If the insured is a Collector, our policy might temporarily cover newly acquired items for a limited time, up to a specific amount, giving them a chance to report the new item to us. Otherwise, we don't cover one-time transit of collectibles.

Q: What methods are recommended for transporting and insuring collectibles during transit?

A: To safeguard your collectibles during transit, ensure clear communication about who handles them to pinpoint responsibility for any issues.

Also, engage experienced packers adept at handling items of various sizes, types, and values. Their expertise ensures tailored packaging, reducing the risk of damage en route. By employing both measures, you enhance the safety of your collectibles and mitigate potential losses during transportation.



Fine Art & Collectibles Insurance

Below are attendee questions from the webinar session.

Coverage Details

Q: Is it possible to insure tattooed body art that is supposedly transferred to a buyer upon the individual's demise, considering factors like age, wrinkles, and potential damage?

A: It is not legal to sell a human's skin in the U.S., whether or not it contains a tattoo, and illegal transactions are not insurable. While there is no opportunity for an insurance product here, there may be an opportunity for the buyer to finance a film, as The Silence of the Lambs is becoming dated.

Policies and Procedures

Q: Are you open to insuring a coin dealer based in New York?

A: Currently, our appetite for coins is focused on Collectors rather than Dealers. However, we would be happy to assess any submission on a case-by-case basis, so feel free to submit!

Q: Could you provide an overview of your insurance policy?

A: Our insurance policy is a comprehensive offering, backed by industry professionals. Our coverage forms are tailored to our potential insureds: Dealers, Collectors, Museums, etc. Visit our website or reach out to us and we will be happy to give you more information!

Fine Art & Collectibles Insurance Overview
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Q: How often do thefts occur due to the awareness of valuables being housed in a particular location?

A: The frequency of thefts can fluctuate significantly based on the type of item, with some being more closely monitored than others. Generally, as market activity increases, so does the incidence of theft. For instance, according to Watchfinder & Co., there was a notable 41% rise in the theft of collectible watches in 2022 compared to the previous year.

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