

WHAT ARE PRIVATE INVESTIGATIONS AND HOW CAN THEY HELP YOU?

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Private investigations are a type of inquiry or examination that is conducted by a private individual or organization rather than a government agency or law enforcement. Typically, they work to uncover information or evidence on behalf of clients, who may be individuals, businesses, or lawyers. They may conduct surveillance, gather records and documents, interview individuals, and use other techniques to gather information. Private investigations can be used for a variety of purposes.

Who Uses Investigation Firms?

Often, small businesses and insurance companies hire private investigation firms to help investigate claims made by policyholders. This is because insurance companies want to ensure that the claims they receive are valid and legitimate. When a policyholder makes a claim, the insurance company may hire a private investigator to gather information and evidence that can help them determine whether the claim is valid. This may involve conducting surveillance, interviewing witnesses, or gathering other types of evidence. If the investigator finds that the claim is not valid or that the policyholder has engaged in fraudulent activity, the insurance company may deny the claim. On the other hand, if the investigator finds evidence that supports the policyholder's claim, the insurance company may decide to pay out the claim.

Why Commit Insurance Fraud?

Someone may commit insurance fraud in order to receive financial gain from falsely claiming a loss or damage covered by an insurance policy. This could be done by exaggerating the extent of damage or loss, or by claiming damages or losses that did not actually occur. Additionally, some individuals may commit insurance fraud in order to receive benefits they are not entitled to, such as medical treatments or disability payments. Fraudulent activities can happen in auto, medical, property, and worker's compensation insurance.

How Do Private Investigators Catch Their Suspects?

Private investigators use a variety of techniques to catch insurance fraud. Some of these techniques include conducting surveillance, gathering records and documents, interviewing witnesses, and using other investigation methods. For example, a private investigator may conduct surveillance on a claimant who is claiming to have a disability that prevents them from working. If the investigator finds evidence that the claimant can work, such as video footage of the claimant engaging in physical activities, this could be used to support a claim of insurance fraud. Private investigators may also use other techniques, such as analyzing financial records or interviewing witnesses to gather evidence of insurance fraud.

Investigation firms can help catch fraud by using their expertise and resources to conduct investigations into suspected fraudulent activity. These firms typically employ trained investigators who are skilled in gathering evidence and conducting interviews. They may use a variety of techniques to gather the information that can help identify and prove fraudulent activity. Additionally, investigation firms may have access to specialized technology and databases that can help them quickly and efficiently gather and analyze information. By using these tools and techniques, investigation firms can help companies and law enforcement agencies catch fraud and bring those responsible to justice. Fraudulent claims account for nearly "\$308.6 billion every year" according to the Coalition Against Insurance Fraud. The primary goal of any investigation firm is to find the truth behind the case which, in turn, determines the consequence.

Conclusion

The elements of fraud are far from few. Whether the claims manager, claims supervisor, risk manager, VP of claims, claims examiner, human resources, or an attorney, the industry acknowledges the necessity of fraud prevention measures. With that in mind, private investigation firms serve as an essential tool in determining the truth. With all the tools under their belts, these firms' purpose lies within each case.

To learn more about private investigations and their necessity,