STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE 45 FREMONT STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105

Bulletin No. 2002-8 Date: October 22, 2002

TO: All Admitted Insurers Issuing Automobile Liability or Collision Policies Who Have Not Yet Complied as Required by Bulletin No. 2002-4

SUBJECT: Insurer Inspections of Auto Body Repairs

-REMINDER-

Pursuant to Insurance Code Section 1874.85, effective January 1, 2001, an insurer that issues automobile liability or collision policies shall inspect vehicles for which it has approved a claim for the cost of auto body repairs, either during the repair process or after the work has been completed. Insurance Code Section 1874.86 provides that each insurer subject to the provisions of Section 1874.85 shall report annually to the Department the following:

- (a) The number of vehicles inspected pursuant to Section 1874.85 and the percentage that this number represents of the total number of vehicles for which it paid a claim for the cost of auto body repairs in the prior calendar year.
- (b) The results of the inspections, including the nature of any fraud uncovered, and whether or not legal action was pursued.

For purposes of the 2001 calendar year reporting period, the deadline for submitting the required annual report **was** October 1, 2002.

As a reminder, for those companies who have not yet complied, the annual report is now due. Please complete and mail as soon as possible to:

California Department of Insurance Criminal Investigations Branch Attn: Local Assistance Unit 9342 Tech Center Drive, Suite 100 Sacramento, CA 95826

> HARRY W. LOW Insurance Commissioner

____/s/ HARRY W. LOW