

Estate of Joyce Gipson v. Integon National Insurance Company

Held: May 19, 2020
Decision Issued: May 29, 2020
Docket Number: INS-20-2013

The insured requested a hearing to contest the nonrenewal of a homeowners policy. The company asserted that the named insured on the policy was erroneously changed to an estate in violation of its underwriting guidelines following the property owner's death, and that the property was neither occupied nor maintained.

Held: For the company. Under Section 3051 of the Maine Property Insurance Cancellation Control Act, 24-A M.R.S. §3051, nonrenewal of a homeowners policy is permissible if the underlying reason is a good faith reason and related to the insurability of the property. The company met its burden of establishing that unanticipated loss exposures were likely to occur if the named insured on the policy was neither the legal owner of the covered property nor a full-time occupant of the dwelling. Accordingly, the nonrenewal action is permitted.