

# COLO R A D O Secre<sup>ti</sup>ty

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## ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOME INVENTORY SERVICES, LLC

“WE DOCUMENT WHAT YOU WON'T REMEMBER”

[www.rmhis.com](http://www.rmhis.com) (303-957-6890)

### Could you remember the contents of your home if you were a victim of fire or theft?

When you suffer a loss from a fire, you feel devastated. When you suffer a loss from theft, you feel violated. After the loss, not being readily prepared to file an insurance claim for your personal property items not only prolongs the devastated feeling, but impacts your recovery of funds for replacement of those items.

Insurance agents estimate that the average homeowner loses the ability to claim \$20,000 to \$30,000 because they do not have a home inventory. High-end homeowners may lose \$100,000 to \$200,000 for the same reason — relying on their memory.

### You can't claim what you don't remember!

For the cost of a few unclaimed items, you can have peace of mind that your home inventory will make the claims process easy, thorough, and provide you with the opportunity for a more complete reimbursement for your personal assets.

### What's the process and what's the deliverable?

First, RMHIS visits each location to provide an accurate cost based on the combination of both on-site and off-site time to complete the home inventory. Time required on-site is typically one to two days, depending on the size of the home, electronics, art, rugs, tools, china, collections, memorabilia, sporting equipment, heirlooms, etc. Each home is different. You can schedule a walkthrough of your home by calling Donna at RMHIS.

When scheduled on-site, RMHIS takes wall pictures in each direction in every room and individual pictures of all items valued greater than \$250 each. Additionally, Life Docs 911 are scanned. The information is then processed to generate two hard copy color reports: one by location (room by room) and one by category (electronics, rugs, furniture, etc.). The reports also come with CDs containing electronic PDF versions of each report and all the pictures taken during the on-site inventory. For an average house, 500 to 700 pictures are common. Now that may make more sense as to why you can't possibly remember all of your home's contents and why typical homeowners rarely complete the process on their own.

### What do you do with the home inventory reports?

The first thing to do is to split the CDs from the hard copy reports and store them off-site in separate locations. A safety deposit box, with another family



Ron and Donna Bernard, Owners of RMHIS

member, with your lawyer, or at a second home are all places we've heard that make sense. Having both in your home office does not make sense!

What else makes sense is to discuss it with your insurance agent so that you make sure you have the right coverage. It also makes sense to discuss it with your off-site family members, so that they understand what you have and what might be valuable if they don't live close by. We often hear of a family member that inherits a relative's home and has no idea what is in the home, nor what is valuable. More than a few garage sales have generated items bought for pennies that have been worth thousands of dollars.

There are a lot of benefits to having your home inventoried. It's the start of fire season. You'll feel better that you did! ☑