



# SIRCON FOR CARRIERS

# Appointments and Terminations



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#### Overview

#### Introduction and Background

In most states, a licensed producer requires an **Appointment** to legally represent, or sell, a specific product type on an insurance carrier's underwriting company's behalf. A carrier submits a producer appointment request to the state department of insurance, pays a fee, and, if the department finds the producer in compliance with state regulations, receives confirmation of the appointment.

The specific rules for appointments vary among requiring states. For example, some states require a producer to be appointed at the time of licensure, while other states require an appointment only upon execution of an application. Some states have lenient appointment "backdating" rules that can cover business a producer has already written, while others do not.

Other states, however, do not require state-verified appointments whatsoever. In those states, an insurance carrier is only obliged to internally track its business relationship among its underwriting company, a producer, and the product lines represented.

A carrier customer using Producer Central can submit a producer appointment request electronically to the state department of insurance. The state's response to the request flows automatically back to Producer Central and updates the producer's record. In non-appoint states, the carrier customer can manually record a producer "appointment" to comply with state record-keeping requirements.

**Terminations** are the end of an appointment – a state-acknowledged close of the business relationship between a producer and an insurer in a given state.

A carrier may terminate its entire business relationship with the producer or only the authorization to sell specific product lines issued by one or more of the carrier's appointing companies (also called "regulated companies," "underwriting companies," or just "writing companies").

A carrier may decide to terminate all or any of a producer's appointments for different reasons. The most common is when the producer does not sell enough of the carrier group's products to justify the continued expense of maintaining the producer's appointment.

This situation often is referred to as "termination for lack of production (TLOP)." But other common reasons to terminate a producer's appointment can include the loss of the producer's license that supports the appointment or the producer's departure from the insurance business.

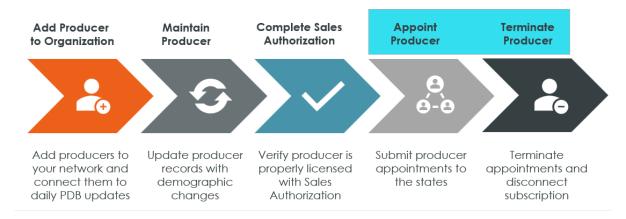


Another class of termination reasons is referred to as "termination for cause." The producer has violated a state regulation or law or has breached the terms of the business agreement with the carrier. States require special handling of "for cause" terminations, usually requiring a carrier to file additional paperwork or cooperate in an investigation of or regulatory action against the producer.

A producer appointment doesn't expire, per se, although most states require appointments to be renewed periodically. Many states will automatically renew a producer appointment and levy a renewal fee, unless the carrier or appointing company specifically informs the state that it wants to terminate the appointment and avoid the fee. Thus, state renewal periods are the most common occasion for an insurer to submit a producer termination transaction.

Appointments and terminations are part of the producer lifecycle management process.

# **Producer Lifecycle Management**



#### What will be covered?

In this quick guide, we will cover how to process appointments and terminations in Producer Central. Topics covered in this training include how to:

- Create new appointments.
- Troubleshoot issues with appointments.
- Terminate appointments.

#### Who should use this document?

Users that need to appoint or terminate producers in Producer Central.

#### When should you use this document?

Use this document when you need to create an appointment or terminate existing appointments.

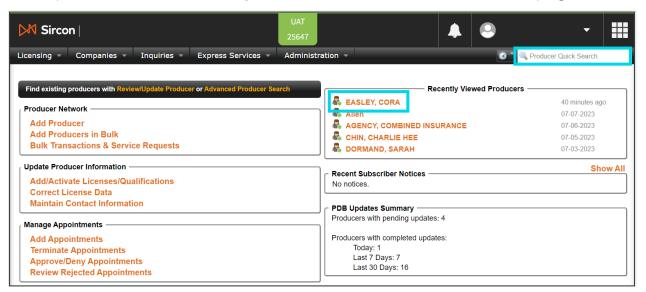


# **Appointments**

#### **Display Existing Appointments**

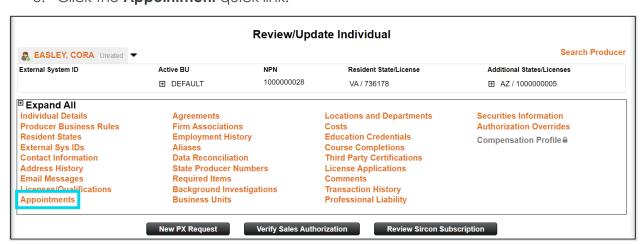
Before creating an appointment, the first step is to check the producer record to make sure the producer does not have an existing appointment for the state and writing company attached to their producer record.

1. To open the producer record, use the **Producer Quick Search** or open the producer from the **Recently Viewed Producers** section of the home page.



**Note**: Refer to the <u>Adding and Searching for Producers Quick Guide</u> for more detailed instructions.

- 2. You will now see the Review/Update Individual page.
- 3. Click the **Appointment** quick link.

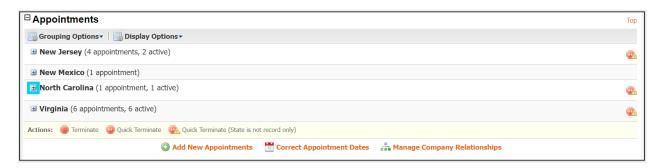




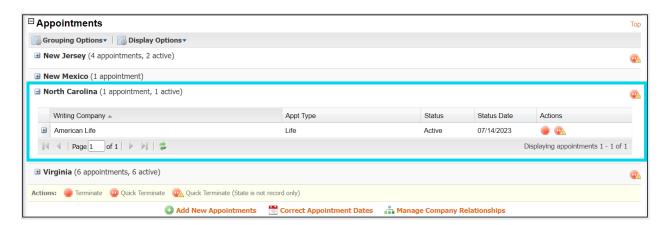
- 4. You can now see all the active and inactive appointments.
- 5. Use the **Grouping Options** dropdown to either **Group by State** or **Group by Company**.



6. Click the **Expand** button (H) next to the appointment to see more information about the writing company and appointment type.



7. You can now see the **Writing Company**, **Appointment Type**, and **Status** of the appointment.



8. If the producer does not have an existing appointment, you can proceed to the appointment creation step.



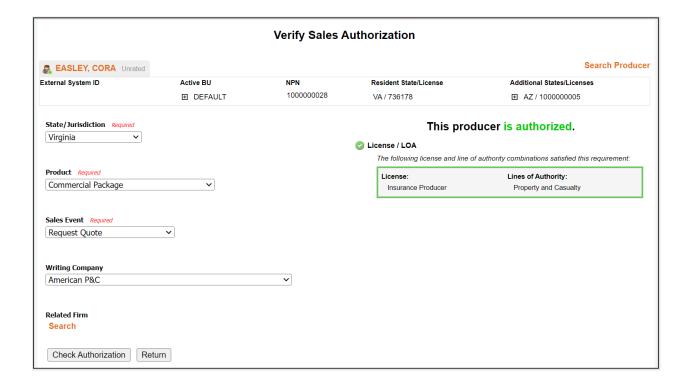
# Complete the Sales Authorization

In order for an appointment to be submitted to the state, the producer needs an active license and qualification in the state where they are selling insurance.

Producer Central uses a feature called **Sales Authorization** to help you verify if a producer is qualified to sell insurance for a specific product in a selected state and writing company.

The Sales Authorization feature verifies that the producer is properly licensed to sell the insurance product in a specific state and writing company.

**Note**: Refer to the <u>Sales Authorization Quick Guide</u> for detailed instructions on how to use the Sales Authorization feature.



**Note**: You can also manually check the **Licenses and Qualifications** section of the producer record to ensure the producer is properly licensed.



# Add a New Appointment

In this section we will learn how to create an appointment in Producer Central.

If a state requires carriers to submit appointments, you can use this process to electronically submit an appointment to the state department of insurance. The state's response to the request automatically flows back to Producer Central and updates the producer's record.

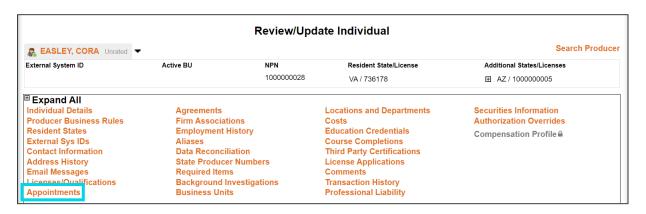
In non-appoint states, you can manually record a producer "appointment" to comply with state record-keeping requirements.

Navigate to the producer record to add an appointment for an individual producer. From here you will use the Add Appointments page to submit one or multiple state appointment requests for one or multiple appointing companies on behalf of an eligible producer.

- 1. Begin typing search criteria (such as the last name of the producer, the agency/firm name, or the NPN, EIN, or SSN) in the **Producer Quick Search Box** found in the upper-right corner of any Producer Central page.
- 2. The list will update itself dynamically as you type. Select the **Producer** that you need to view.



- 3. This will open the producer record.
- 4. Click the **Appointments** quick link.



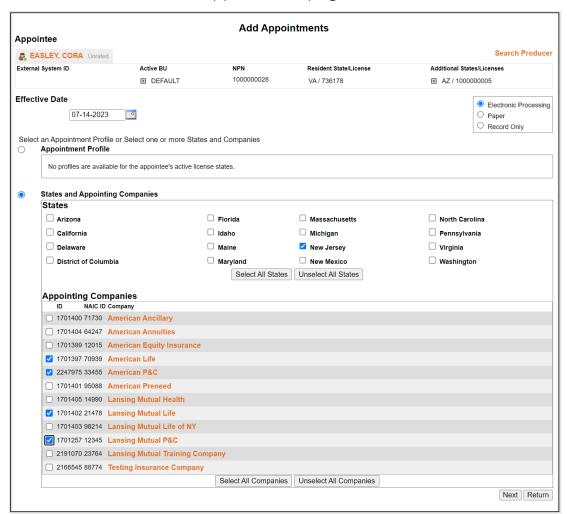


Note: You can also add an appointment from the Licensing > Appointments > Add Appointments menu.

- 5. You will now see all the appointments that are current appointments assigned to the producer.
- 6. Click the Add New Appointments button.



7. You will now see the Add Appointments page.





- 8. Enter information into the following fields:
- Effective Date: Required. Enter the Effective Date of the appointment. Use the MMDDYYYY date format or click the Calendar button ( ) to open a popup calendar to select a date.
  - If you are submitting an electronic state appointment request, enter the date on which you are requesting the appointment to become effective, subject to state backdating or system future-dating rules.
  - If you are adding a record-only appointment, enter the date on which the producer appointment became effective.
- **Submission Method**: Required. The submission method determines how the appointment is submitted.
  - Electronic Processing Click the radio button to trigger the system to submit
    the appointment request to a state electronically. The Appointments data
    section of the selected producer record will be updated automatically with
    system and state processing information, including state approvals, denials,
    and errors.
  - Paper Required for Florida outsourced individual producer appointments only. Producer Central does not generate paper appointment or termination forms. Unless your company subscribes to Vertafore Outsourcing Services, the system will ignore paper appointment or termination requests.
  - Record Only Click the radio button to trigger the system to only update the
     Appointments data section of the selected producer record with state
     appointment information. The system will not submit an appointment request
     to a state, and state regulators may not have a record of the appointment.

**Note**: If you leave the default **Electronic Processing** option selected, the system will automatically choose the best processing method for each state. The only exception to this is outsourced individual appointments for Florida.

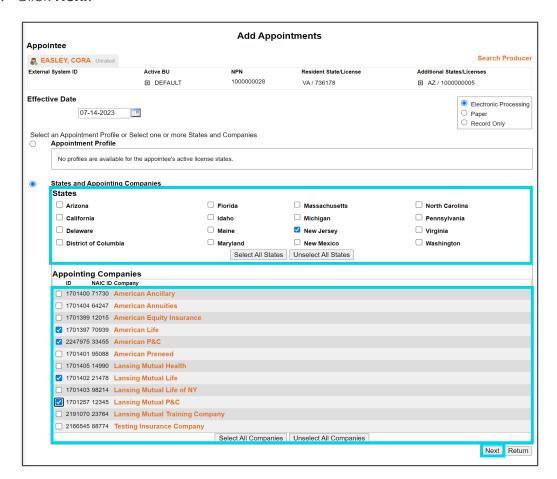
- Appointment Profile: Optional. An appointment profile is a pre-defined collection of state, appointing company, and appointment type criteria that you set up for frequently requested appointments.
  - If no appointment profile is available, the following message will display "No profiles are available for the appointee's active license states."





- **States**: A table lists all the states where you may submit an appointment request or add a "record-only" appointment. Available states are limited to only those states in which the selected producer holds an active license.
  - Click the checkmark next to each state where you need to add an appointment or click Select All States.
- Appointing Companies: A table lists appointing companies for which you may submit an appointment request or for which you may add a "record-only" appointment. Available appointing companies are derived from Vertaforeconfigured company information, viewable on the Review/Update Company page.
  - Click the checkmark next to each company where you need to add an appointment.

#### 9. Click Next.



- 10. For each state you selected, you will need to fill out the following information:
- Select Appointments: Click the checkmark next to each Company to assign an
  appointment. In the License dropdown, select the license that corresponds to
  the company.

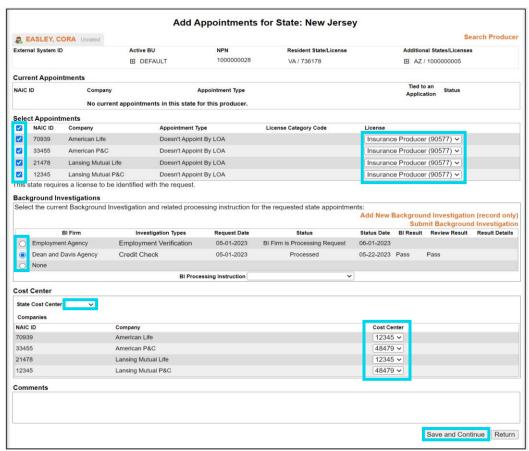


**Note**: Vertafore a standard Appointment Letter that is sent when the first question is answered "Yes", and it is sent using the customers letterhead that we obtain during our initial requirements gathering meeting with the customer.

- Background Investigations: Displays a list of the background investigations that
  were submitted for the selected producer with the results recorded on the
  producer's record.
  - Select the BI Firm that completed the background investigation.

**Note**: This feature requires additional configuration and is not available for Turbo Track customers.

- Cost Center: Displays a list of each writing company and a dropdown list with the cost centers that can be assigned to the transaction.
  - Select the cost center you need to assign the cost of an appointment request to the states.
  - Use the State Cost Center dropdown to choose one cost center for all appointments.





- 11. You will now see the Appointment Results for State page. You should receive a list of the appointments that were completed with the updated **Request Status**.
- If the appointment was submitted to the state, the Request Status is "Submitted to SIRCON."



- 12. An appointment request submitted to certain states using an electronic submission method is routed directly to the state's department of insurance regulatory management system.
- A request to one of these states, referred to as a "Sircon State," will result in a rapid state response (i.e., "real-time" response) and can offer significant business advantages.
- A transaction request submitted to all other states, however, goes first through a third-party, electronic interface (the NIPR Gateway) and then to the state and can vary in response time. Ask your Vertafore representative for more information and for the current list of "Sircon States."

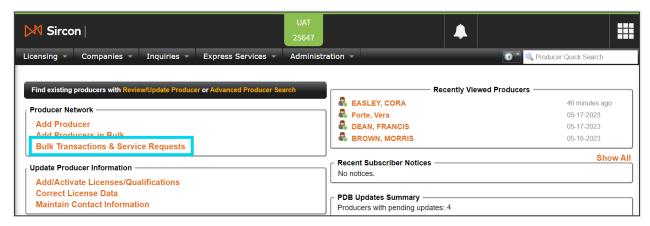
**Note**: Don't be concerned if you unintentionally leave the default **Electronic Processing** option selected in the **Submission Method** section. The system will automatically choose the correct submission type – Electronic Processing, Record Only, or Paper – depending on the type allowed or required by the appointment state.



#### Add Appointments in Bulk

Use the **Sales Authorization** bulk transaction to authorize whether multiple producers meet the compliance requirements to sell insurance in one or multiple states. If the producer has the correct license and qualification, the transaction will submit an appointment.

 Click the Bulk Transactions & Service Requests option from the main page of Producer Central.



- 2. You will now see the *Bulk Transactions & Services Requests* home screen. In the top right-hand corner of the screen, click the **Available Tasks** button.
- 3. Click Start New Request.

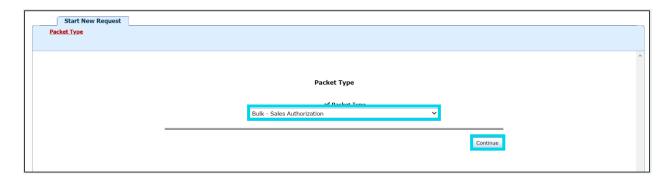


4. Click the dropdown arrow next to the **Packet Type**. The packet type determines the type of bulk transaction you need to perform.

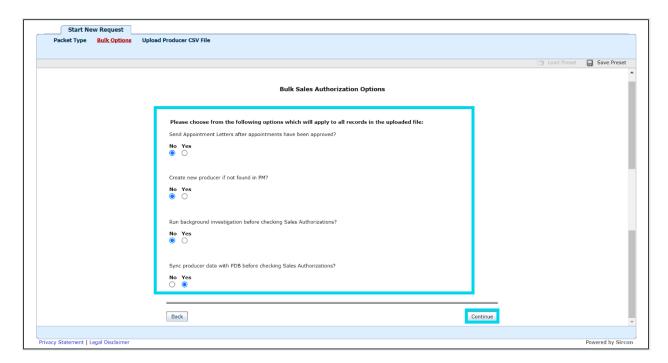




- 5. Select the **Bulk Sales Authorization** packet type.
- 6. Click Continue.



- 7. You will now see the Bulk Sales Authorization Options screen.
- 8. Read each option and select either Yes or No from the list.
- 9. Click Continue.



- 10. You will now see the **Upload Instructions** to properly format the bulk update file.
- 11. To create the file, start by creating a spreadsheet using a program like Excel or Google Sheets.
- 12. The letters A-K represent the column headers in the file. The fields in **bold** are required fields.
- 13. Depending on the **Entity Type** (Individual or Agency), the required fields will change.





#### INDIVIDUAL PRODUCER REQUIRED FIELDS

Either an **SSN** or an **NPN** must be provided to process individual producers. Depending on your business setup, your organization may or may not maintain SSN numbers. If you do not use SSN numbers, the NPN number is required.

If the individual licensee has an NPN number, the required fields are:

Column	Field Name	Description
Α	Entity Type	Use " <b>IL</b> " to indicate individual licensee
С	National Producer Number (NPN)	Type the full <b>NPN</b> number of the producer
D	Name	Type the <b>Last Name</b> of the producer
G	Profile Name (Authorization Profile Name)	Type the Sales Authorization Code.  Note: You can find a list of the profile names by clicking the following menu path in Producer Central: Administration > Sales Authorization > Sales Authorization Profiles.
н	State List	Type the list of the two-character state abbreviations where you need to check the sales authorizations. Separate each state code by commas.

**Note**: In the illustration below, we are including a column header as a reference. Column headers **must be deleted** before creating the final CSV file.



А	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	ı	J	K
Entity Type	TIN	NPN	Name	First Name	Email Address	Profile Name	State List	Florida Resident County Code	Florida Non-Resident County Code	FL Non-Resident State Level Appointment Only
IL		1100000028	Shelby			AUTHPROF3	VA			

If the individual licensee has a **Social Security Number** (or **SSN**), the required fields are:

Column	Field Name	Description
Α	Entity Type	Use "IL" to indicate individual licensee
В	TIN (Taxpayer ID)	Type the 9-digit <b>SSN</b> of the producer (with or without dashes)
D	Name	Type the <b>Last Name</b> of the producer
G	Profile Name (Authorization Profile Name)	Type the name of the authorization profile you need to use for the sales authorization.  Note: You can find a list of the profile names by clicking the following menu path in Producer Central: Administration > Sales Authorization > Sales Authorization Profiles.
н	State List	Type the list of the two-character state abbreviations where you need to check the sales authorizations.  Separate each state code by commas.

**Note**: In the illustration below, we are including a column header as a reference. Column headers **must be deleted** before creating the final CSV file.

	А	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	I	J	K
	Entity Type	TIN	NPN	Name	First Name	Email Address	Profile Name	State List	Florida Resident County Code	Florida Non-Resident County Code	FL Non-Resident State Level Appointment Only
ſ	П	000999123		Charron			AUTHPROF1	MD, MI			

#### AGENCY/FIRM REQUIRED FIELDS

The required fields for agencies or firms are:

Column	Field Name	Description				
Α	Entity Type	Use "AGY" to indicate an agency/firm				
В	TIN (Taxpayer ID)	Type the 9-digit Employer Identification Number or <b>EIN</b> of the firm (with or without dashes)				
D	Name	Type in the full <b>Name</b> of the agency/firm. It means that the name in the producer record.				



G	Profile Name (Authorization Profile Name)	Type the name of the authorization profile you need to use for the sales authorization.  Note: You can find a list of the profile names by clicking the following menu path in Producer Central: Administration > Sales Authorization > Sales Authorization Profiles.
Н	State List	Type the list of the two-character state abbreviations where you need to check the sales authorizations.  Separate each state code by commas.

**Note**: In the illustration below, we are including a column header as a reference. Column headers **must be deleted** before creating the final CSV file.

Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	1	J	K
Entity Type	TIN	NPN	Name	First Name	Email Address	Profile Name	State List	Florida Resident County Code	Florida Non-Resident County Code	FL Non-Resident State Level Appointment Only
AGY	00-6233077		Dean and Davis Insurance Agency			AUTHPROF1	OK, FL			Y

#### OPTIONAL FIELDS

The table below lists all the optional fields you can include in the file.

**Note**: The required fields listed above are mandatory to complete the Bulk Connection update.

It is recommended that you <u>only input the required fields into the file</u>. All the producer data you add to the file must match the producer record in Producer Central. If any of the fields are inaccurate, the file will fail.

Column	Field Name	Description				
В	TIN (Taxpayer ID)	For individual licenses with an <b>NPN</b> number, the Social Security Number, or <b>SSN</b> , is an optional field.				
С	NPN (National Producer Number)  For individual licensees with an SSN number, National Producer Number, or NPN, is optonal for agencies/firms					
E	First Name	For individual licensees, you can include the <b>First Name</b> of the producer.				



F	Email Address	Type the <b>Email Address</b> associated with the producer.			
	Florida Resident County	If the producer is a Florida resident, enter the County Code.			
<b>'</b>	Code	<b>Note</b> : Click the link in the Upload Instructions to see a list of the FL Non-Resident County Codes.			
	Florida Non-Resident County Code	If the producer is not a Florida resident, enter the Non-Resident County Code.			
J		<b>Note</b> : Click the link in the Upload Instructions to see a list of the FL Non-Resident County Codes.			
	Florida Non-Resident	If the producer is not a resident of Florida, you will need to indicate whether the authorization is for a state level appointment only.			
K	State Level Appointment Only	Type " <b>Y</b> " if the producer needs a state-level appointment.			
		Type " <b>N</b> " if the producer needs a county-level appointment.			

14. Add the required information to your spreadsheet. When you are finished, you should have a spreadsheet that looks something like the following illustration:

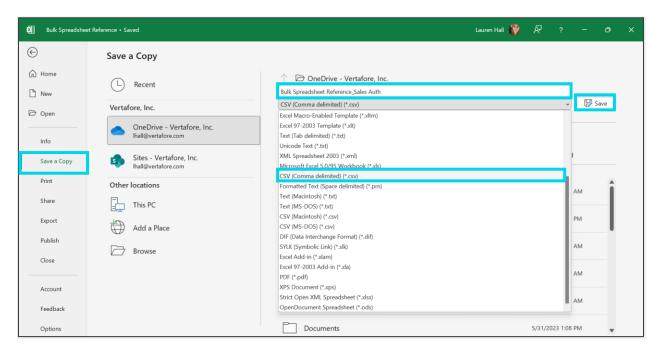
А	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	I	J	K
IL		1100000028	Shelby			AUTHPROF3	VA			
IL	000999123		Charron			AUTHPROF1	MD, MI			
AGY	00-6233077		Dean and Davis Insurance Agency			AUTHPROF1	OK, FL			Y

**Note**: If you inserted a header row containing the field names to guide your data entry, you must <u>delete the header</u> before moving on to the next step.

- 15. When you are finished, from the **File** menu, select **Save As**.
- 16. The Save As window will open. From the Save As Type drop-down menu, select CSV (Comma Delimited) (\*.csv). In the File Name field, enter the name for the producer file.

17. Click Save.



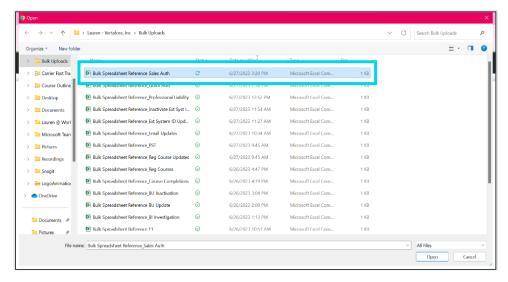


- 18. Your file is now saved in a comma-separated format and is ready for upload to the system.
- 19. Return to the application and scroll down to the bottom of the screen. **Enter the name of this transaction** in the box. This name will be visible to everyone in your organization.
- 20. Click the Choose File button.

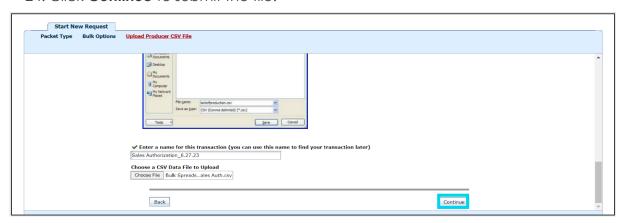


- 21. Use the navigation options on the **Choose File** dialog box to locate the upload file (\*.csv) on your system.
- 22. When the correct file name appears in the **File Name** field, click the **Open** button.

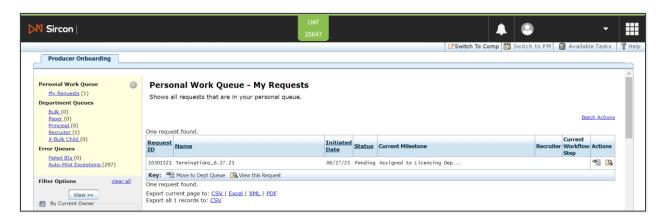




- 23. The file name will appear next to the Choose File button.
- 24. Click **Continue** to submit the file.



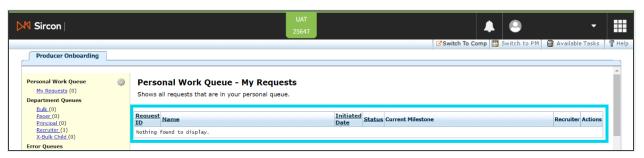
25. After a bulk transaction or service request is submitted, the system will process the file and complete the operation. Initially, the transaction will be assigned to your **Personal Work Queue**.





**Note**: Once you submit your bulk file, the system will confirm the formatting in your file is correct and if so, spawn off child packets - one for each individual or agency listed in your bulk file.

- 26. Refresh your browser periodically to update the status of the request. You may need to refresh the page several times depending on the size of the request and the length of time it takes to process the information.
- 27. If the request is processed successfully, the file will be removed from your personal work queue. This means that all the required information was accurate, and the transactions were processed in Producer Central.



**Note**: If the request contains an error, refer to the <u>Bulk Transactions Quick Guide</u> to troubleshoot the bulk transaction request.



# **Troubleshooting Appointment Errors**

Producer Central will display error messages in bold, red text on the appointment page if you are attempting to submit appointments that contain missing or incorrect information.

In order for appointments to be submitted successfully, Producer Central created system conditions that prevent incorrect information from being sent to the states. These conditions help carrier customers save time and money by preventing faulty appointments from being submitted to the states and later rejected.

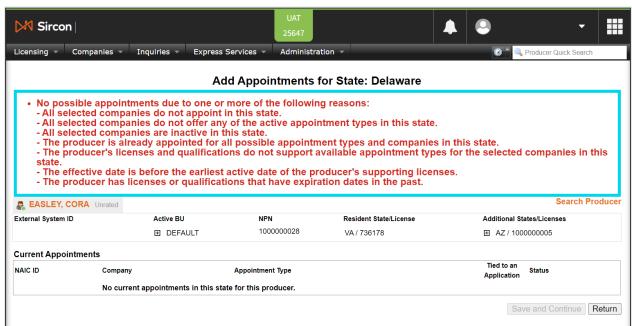
In this section, we will review the most common appointment error messages and steps to troubleshoot each issue.

**Note**: To see a full list of appointment errors, refer to the <u>Error Messages</u> page of the Producer Central Online Help site.

#### "No Possible Appointments Due to One or More of the Following Reasons"

One of the main errors you may encounter is the seven-line error message that starts with "no possible appointments due to one or more of the following reasons." This error will appear if there are issues with:

- Existing Appointments
- Licenses & Qualifications
- Writing Company Setup

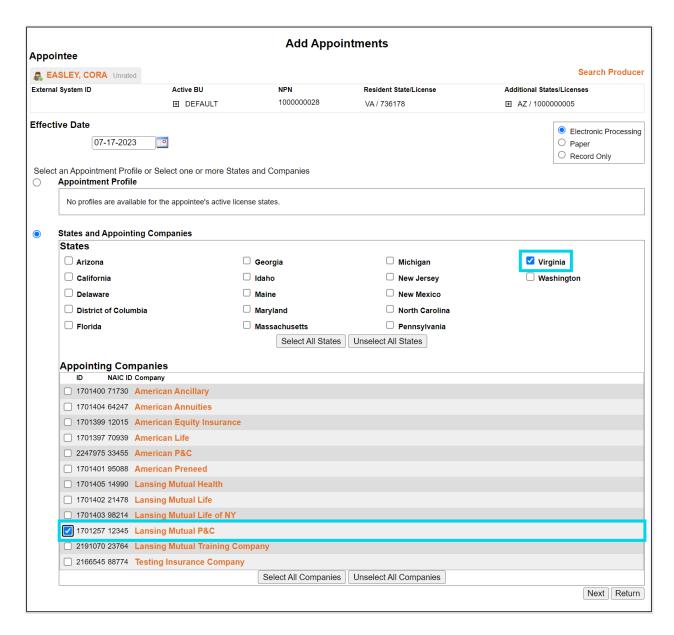




"THE PRODUCER IS ALREADY APPOINTED FOR ALL POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT TYPES AND COMPANIES IN THIS STATE."

The system prevents you from adding appointment information or submitting an appointment request for the same appointment type(s) that already are active for a selected producer in a selected appointment state for a selected appointing company.

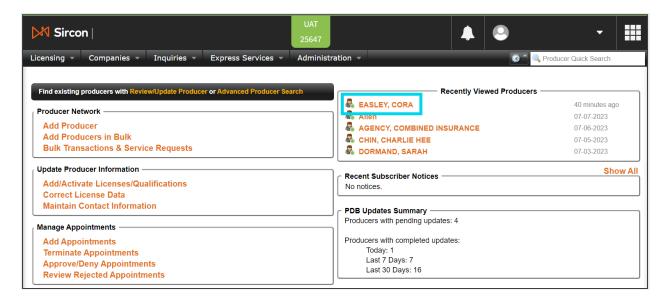
In this example, we are submitting an appointment request for Virginia with the Lansing Mutual P&C company when we receive the error message.





#### To resolve this issue, complete the following steps:

 Navigate to the producer record by selecting the producer's name from the Producer Quick Search or the Recently Viewed Producers.



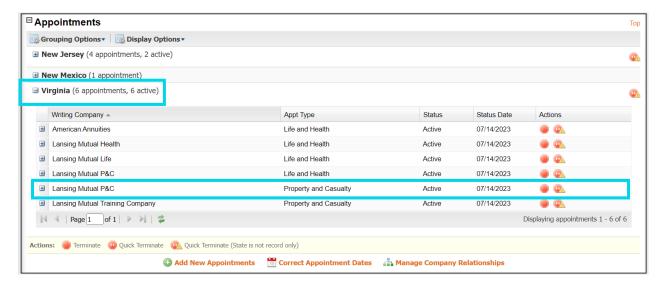
2. Click the **Appointments** quick link.



3. Expand the appointment details next to the state to see if the producer already has an appointment with the writing company.

**Note**: In this example, the producer already has P&C licenses for Virginia with the Lansing Mutual P&C writing company.





4. Since the producer already has an appointment, you do not need to do anything to resolve the error.

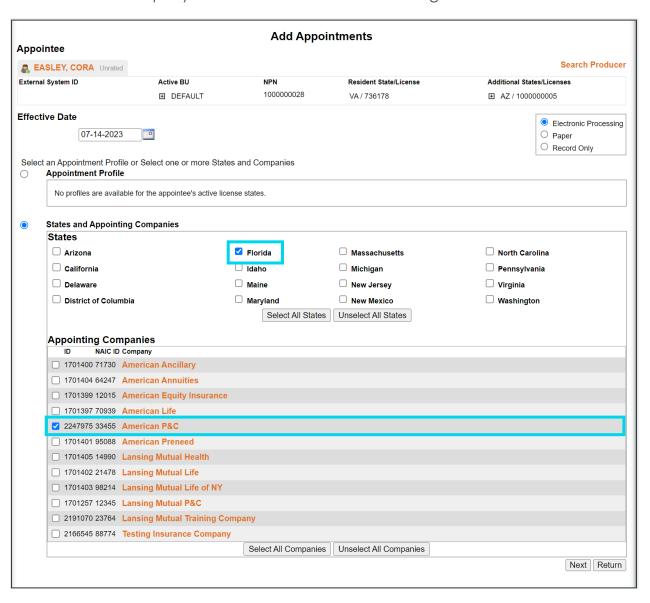
**Note**: The goal of this error is to prevent carrier customers from incurring erroneous state appointment fees when the producer already has an active appointment.



"THE PRODUCER'S LICENSES AND QUALIFICATIONS DO NOT SUPPORT AVAILABLE APPOINTMENT TYPES FOR THE SELECTED COMPANIES IN THIS STATE."

The system prevents you from adding appointment information or submitting an appointment request for a producer whose active license type or qualifications (license lines) in a selected appointment state do not support a selected appointment type.

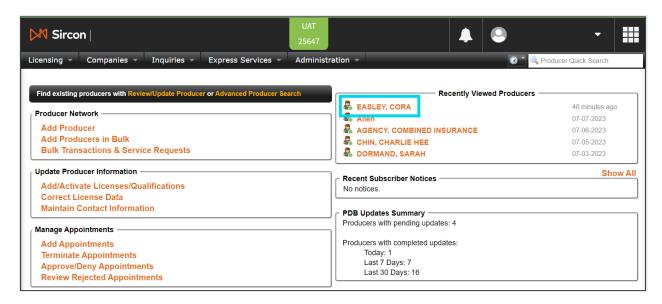
In this example, we are submitting an appointment request for Florida with the American P&C company when we receive the error message.



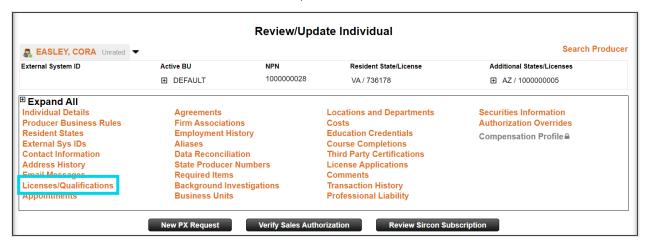
#### To resolve this issue, complete the following steps:

 Navigate to the producer record by selecting the producer's name from the Producer Quick Search or the Recently Viewed Producers.

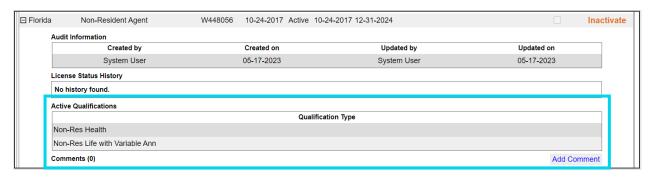




2. Click the Licenses/Qualifications quick link.



- Check that the Producer has the correct license and qualifications. In the License section, click the Expand button () next to the License to see the Active Qualifications.
- 4. In this example, the producer does not have any P&C qualification in the state of Florida.



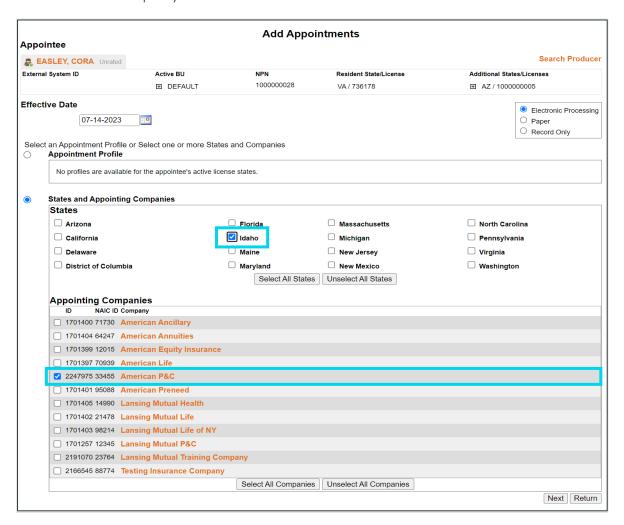


- 5. The producer cannot receive an appointment until they obtain the necessary license and qualifications.
- 6. You do not need to take any action; the producer record will automatically update as long as the producer is receiving daily PDB syncs. Manually adding a license and/or qualification to the producer is record is not necessary. Once the producer has the license and qualification added to their record, the appointment request will go through successfully.

"THE PRODUCER HAS LICENSES OR QUALIFICATIONS THAT HAVE EXPIRATION DATES IN THE PAST."

The system prevents you from adding appointment information or submitting an appointment request for a producer whose supporting license type and/or qualification (license line) is inactive.

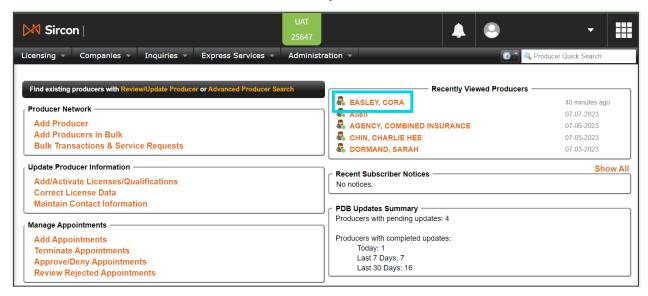
In this example, we are trying to submit an appointment request to Idaho for the American P&C company.





#### To resolve this issue, complete the following steps:

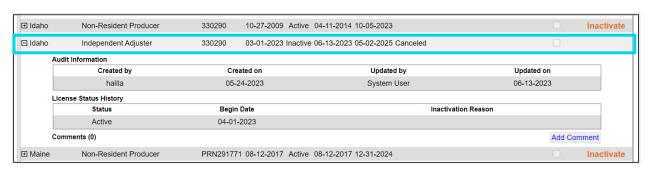
 Navigate to the producer record by selecting the producer's name from the Producer Quick Search or the Recently Viewed Producers.



2. Click the **Licenses/Qualifications** quick link.



- 3. Click the **Expand** button (H) next to the **License** to see if the producer has an active license or qualification. In this example, the license is inactive.
- 4. You cannot submit an appointment until the producer has an active license.

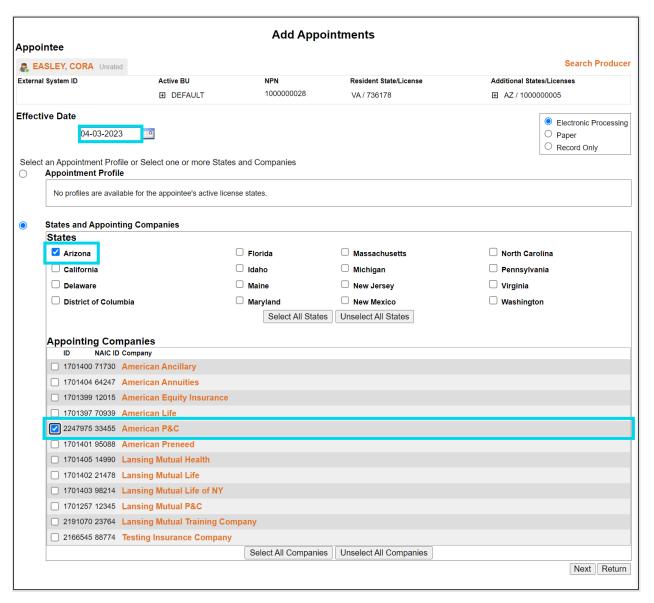




"THE EFFECTIVE DATE IS BEFORE THE EARLIEST ACTIVE DATE OF THE PRODUCER'S SUPPORTING LICENSES."

The system prevents you from adding appointment information or submitting an appointment request for a producer whose supporting, active license type and/or qualification (license line) has an effective date value that precedes the effective date of the requested appointment.

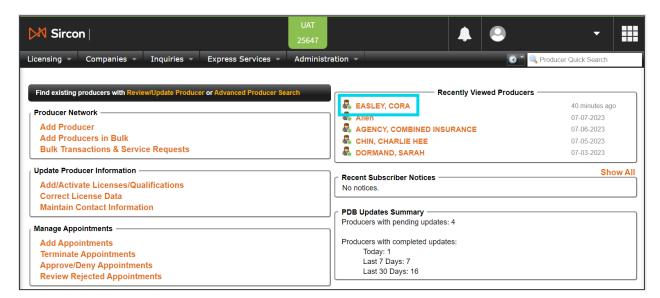
In this example, we are trying to submit an appointment request to Arizona with the American P&C company with an Effective Date of 04-02-2023.



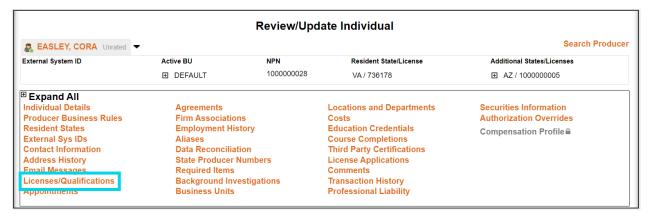
#### To resolve this issue, complete the following steps:

 Navigate to the producer record by selecting the producer's name from the Producer Quick Search or the Recently Viewed Producers.

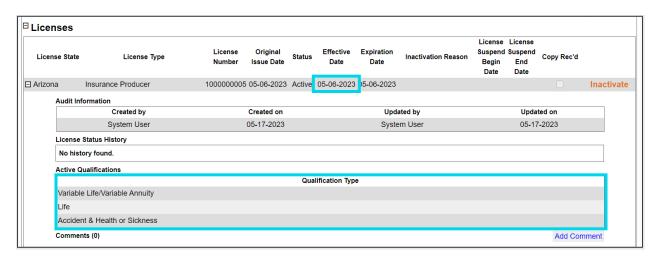




2. Click the **Licenses/Qualifications** quick link.

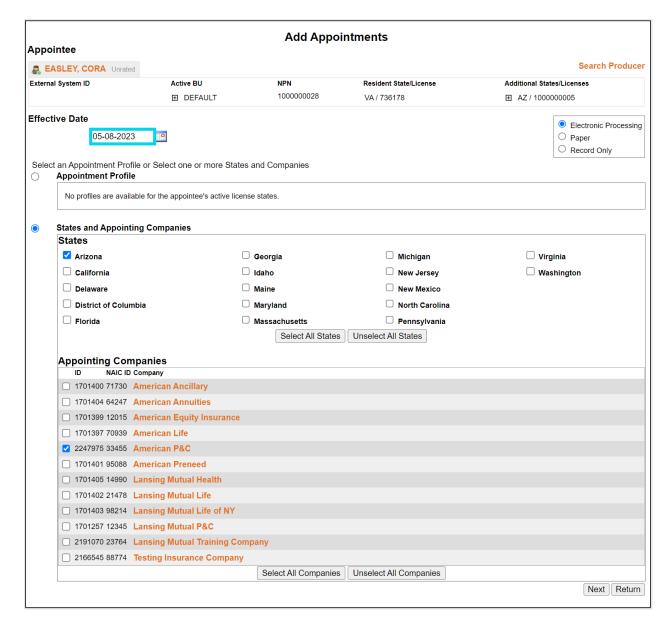


3. Click the **Expand** button (H) next to the license and note the **Effective Date** of the license. In this example, the date the license became active was 05-06-2023.





4. Change the **Effective Date** in the **Add Appointments** screen to be on or after the **Effective Date** of the license.

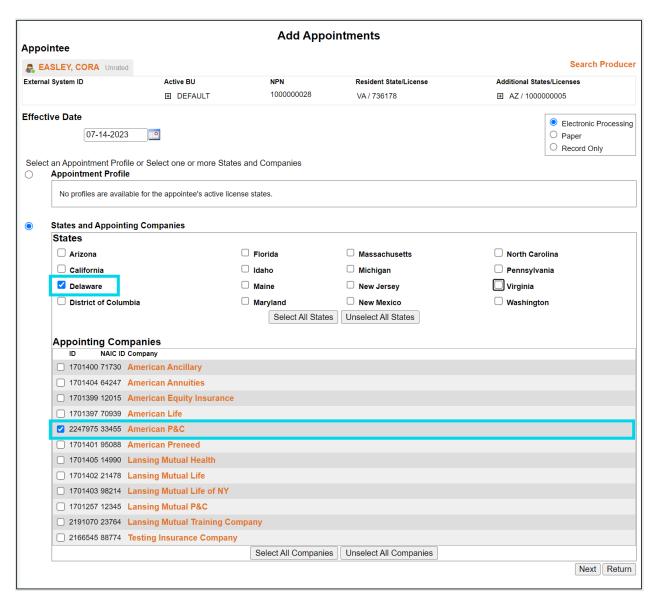




"ALL SELECTED COMPANIES DO NOT APPOINT IN THIS STATE."

The system prevents you from adding appointment information or submitting an appointment request when a selected appointing company is not configured for appointments in a selected appointment state.

In this example, we need to appoint a producer to the American P&C company in Delaware when we received the error.

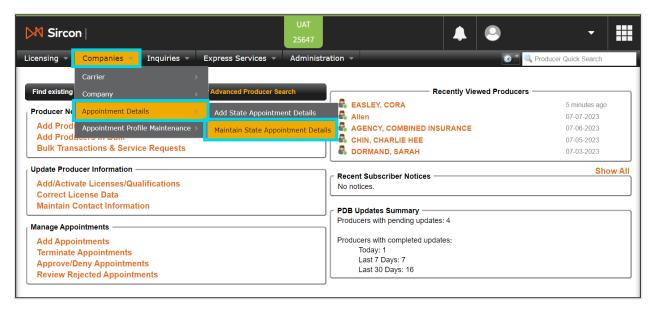


After checking for existing appointments and verifying the producer has active licenses and qualifications, the next step is to validate the writing company is active in the selected state.



#### To resolve this issue, complete the following steps:

1. From the Companies menu, click Appointment Details and Maintain State Appointment Details.



- 2. From the Maintain State Appointment Details page, select the **State** to determine which companies are set up for that state.
- 3. Click Search.



4. If the **Company Name** is not on the list, you will need to follow the steps in the <u>Writing Company Setup Quick Guide</u> to configure the company.





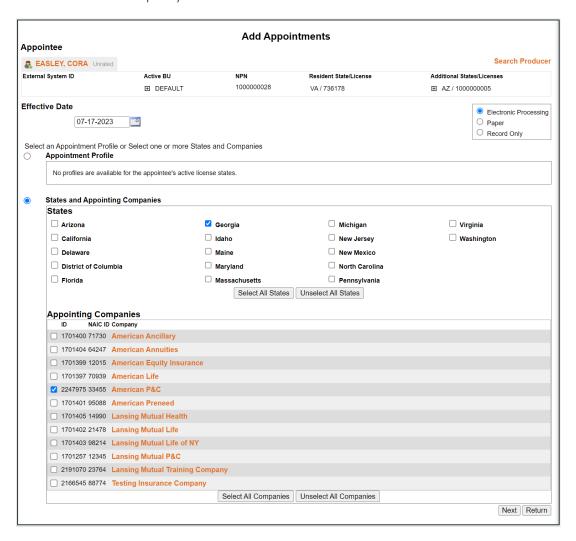
**Note**: If the Company IS in the list, then you will need to confirm the appointment types that are set up for the selected State and selected Company.

Refer to the Writing Company Management Quick Guide for more information.

"ALL SELECTED COMPANIES DO NOT OFFER ANY OF THE ACTIVE APPOINTMENT TYPES IN THIS STATE." OR "ALL SELECTED COMPANIES ARE INACTIVE IN THIS STATE."

The system prevents you from adding appointment information or submitting an appointment request when a selected appointment type is not available for a selected appointing company in a selected state.

In the example below, we are trying to add an appointment for the state of Georgia for the American P&C company.

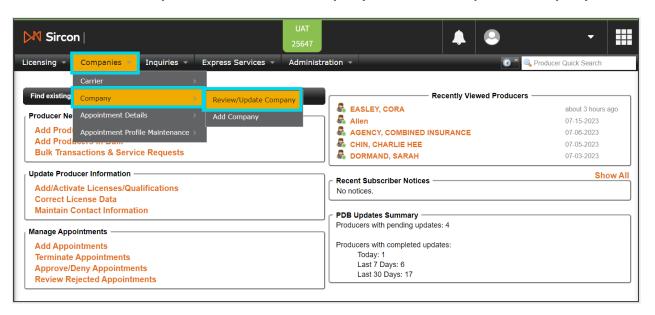




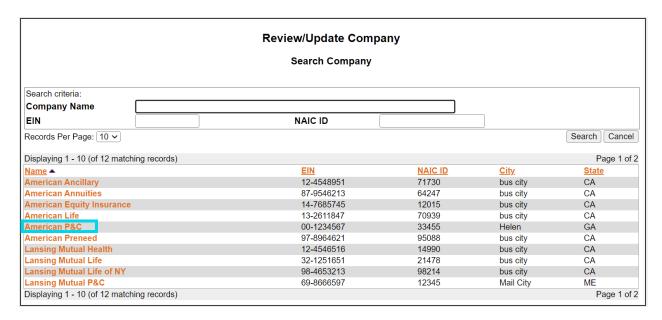
After checking that the company is assigned to the state of Georgia, we need to validate that the **Appointment Types** are active.

## To resolve this issue, complete the following steps:

1. From the Companies menu, click Company and Review/Update Company.



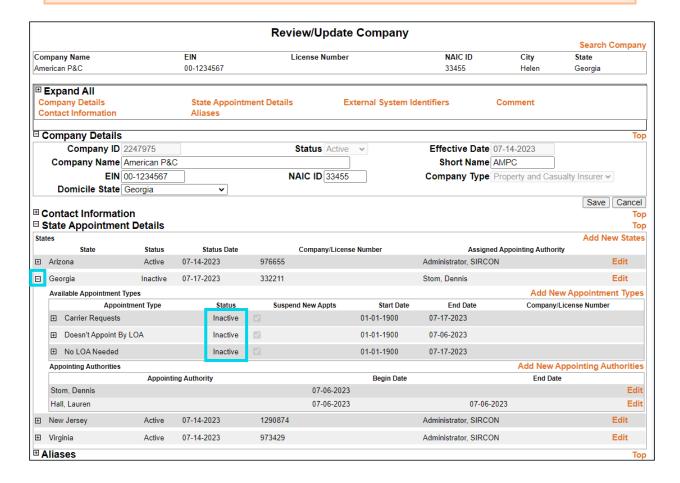
2. Click the **Company Name** to open more details.



- 3. Click the **Expand** button (H) next to the State Appointment Details section.
- 4. You can now see the **Status** of each state appointment.
- 5. Click **Edit** to see more details about the **Appointment Types**.



**Note**: In this example, the **Status** of the GA appointment is **Inactive**.



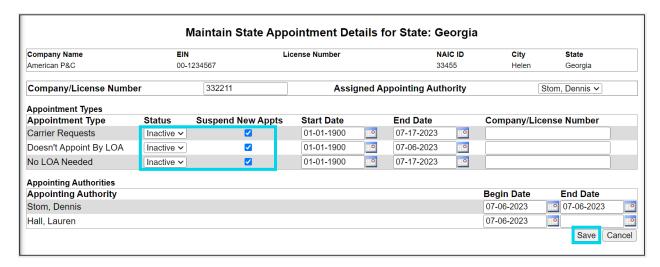
If the Appointment Types are inactive or if the Suspend New Appts checkbox is selected, the appointment will not go through.

**Note**: Vertafore recommends setting the **Start Date** of an **Appointment Type** to 01-01-1900. This is standard for all customers.

If you use the current date as the **Start Date** in this field, then any appointments effective PRIOR to the date will not sync with Producer Central. Additionally, you will not be able to backdate a producer Appointment if the Start Date is a recent date. The 01-01-1900 is standard **Start Date** for **Appointment Types**.

- 7. To update the **Appointment Type**, change the Status to **Active** and remove the date from the **End Date** field.
- 8. Click Save.





## "This Functionality is Unavailable until all Missing Information is Completed on the Producer Record."

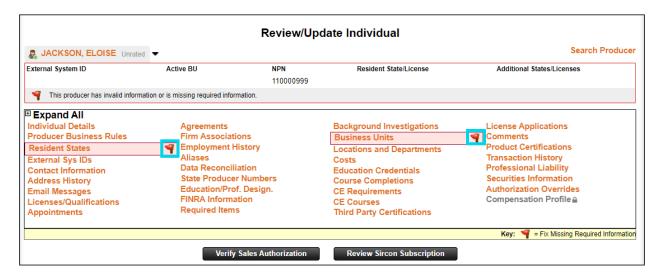
The system prevents you from adding appointment information or submitting an appointment request when the affected producer record is "incomplete" or lacks required information.



#### To resolve this issue:

- 1. Navigate to the affected producer record in the Review/Update Producer page.
- Review any data section represented in the Quick Links that is surrounded by a pink box.
- 3. Click the **Fix Missing Required Information** button ( ) to navigate directly to the maintenance page for the data section in question, where you can correct the deficiency.
- 4. Once the data is updated, you can submit the appointment request to the producer.





# "You Cannot Add an Appointment for this Producer because you do not Support the Producer's Assigned Business Unit(s)."

The system prevents you from adding appointment information or submitting an appointment request under the following conditions:

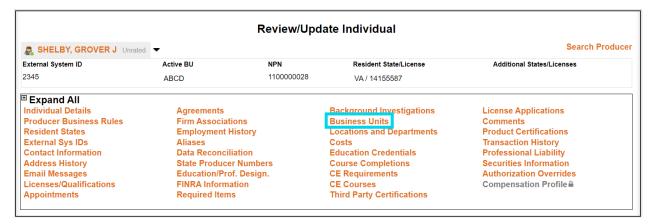
- When the affected producer is assigned to a business unit different from the business unit(s) you are permitted to work with in your user account.
- If the affected producer is not assigned to any business unit.
- If you have not been permitted to work with any business unit in your user account.



To resolve this issue, complete the steps below:

1. Navigate to the producer record and click the **Business Units** link from the quick links section.





2. You can now see all the **Business Units** assigned to the producer.

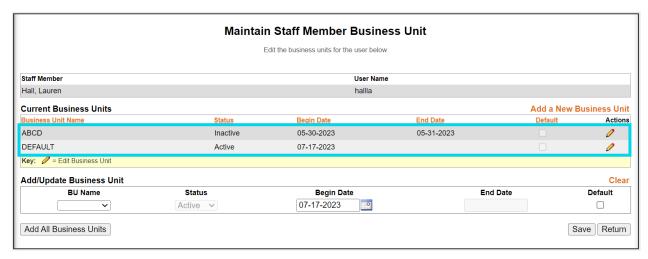


 From the Administration menu, click Configure My Profile then click Maintain Staff Member Business Unit.



4. This page displays all the active and inactive business units that are assigned to you.





5. If the required business unit is missing or inactive, you will need to add it to your profile. Alternatively, you can add a new business unit to the producer record.

**Note**: If you do not see a link for **Add a New Business Unit**, you will need to reach out to an Administrator in your account to add the Business Unit to your user profile for you.



Section: Review Rejected Appointments

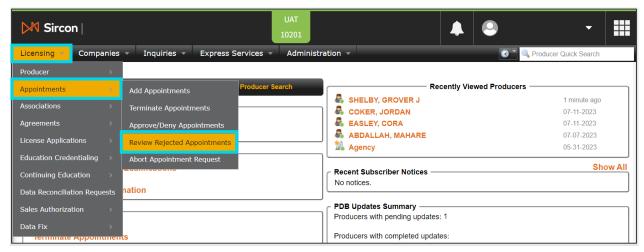
## **Review Rejected Appointments**

Use the Review Rejected Appointments page to review state and county appointment or termination requests that did not process successfully. This can be due to a system error, user-aborted processing, or state denial.

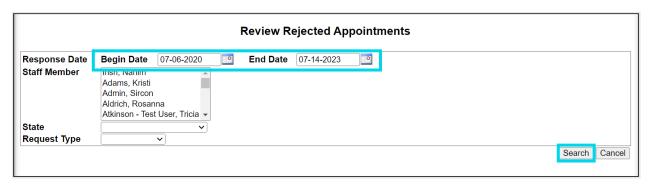
You also may elect to submit a new appointment or termination request based on a rejected request after resolving the issue that caused the processing exception.

The Review Rejected Appointments function uses a three-page, "wizard" procedure, whereupon on the first page you search within a specified time period for appointment or termination requests that were rejected, select one or multiple requests from the resulting list on the second page, and then diagnose the reason for the denial and resolve the selected requests in one way or another on the third page.

1. From the Licensing menu, click Appointments then click Review Rejected Appointments.



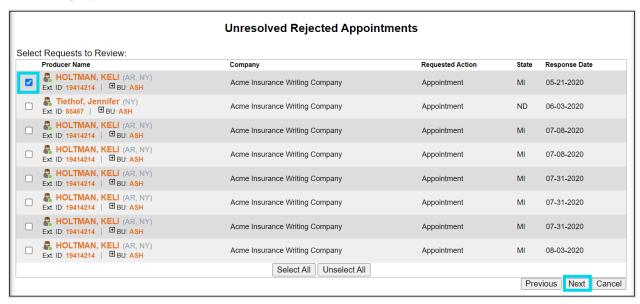
- 2. Search for the rejected appointments using the **Begin Date** and **End Date** when the appointment response was received.
- 3. You can also narrow down the search using the **Staff Member**, **State**, or **Request Type**.
- 4. Click Search.



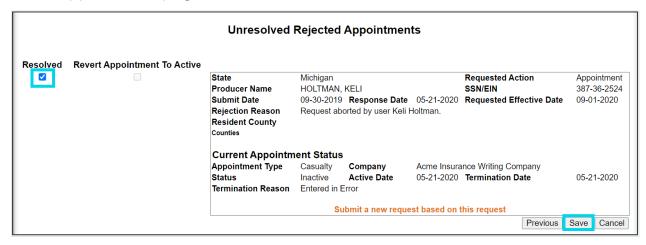


Section: Review Rejected Appointments

- 5. You will now see a list of the Unresolved Rejected Appointments.
- 6. Click the checkmark next to the appointment you need to review then click **Next**.



- Review the **Rejected Reason** to determine what you need to fix to create a new appointment or termination.
- 8. Once you update the appointment, click the checkmark next to **Resolved** then click **Save**. This will remove the appointments from the unresolved rejected appointments page.



**Note**: If you have a termination that has been rejected by the State, you will go to the *Unresolved Rejected Appointments* section, find your Termination and check the box that says **Revert Appointment to Active**. If you do not check the box to **Revert Appointment to Active**, then you will not be able to re-submit your Termination.



Section: Maintain Appointment Profiles

## **Maintain Appointment Profiles**

An appointment profile associates one state, to one or more regulated companies, and to one or more appointment types.

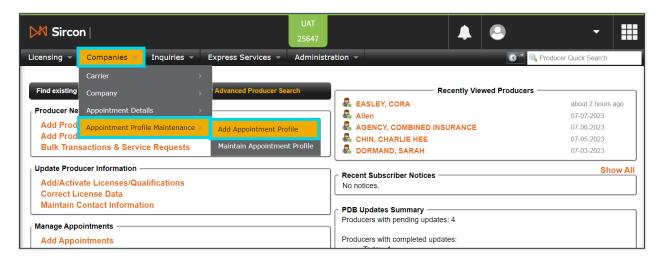
Appointment profiles are used to facilitate appointment and appointment termination processing. This is optional functionality which you can use to speed up appointment processing. The Appointment Profiles are unrelated to Sales Authorization Profiles.

When an appointment profile is selected on the Add Appointments or Terminate Appointments page, the state, companies, and appointment types are automatically populated and selected.

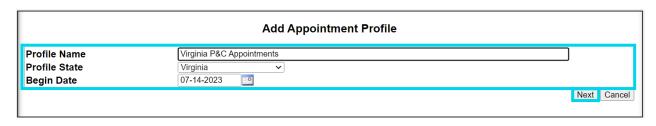
## **Create Appointment Profile**

Use the Add Appointment Profile page to configure a set of pre-defined state, appointing company, and appointment type criteria that you can apply to frequently requested appointment or termination transactions.

1. From the Companies menu, click Appointment Profile Maintenance then click Add Appointment Profile.



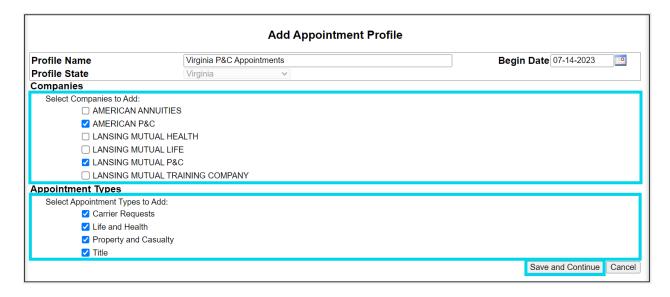
- Enter a Profile Name then select the State the profile applies to as well as the Begin Date of the profile.
- 3. Click Next.





Section: Maintain Appointment Profiles

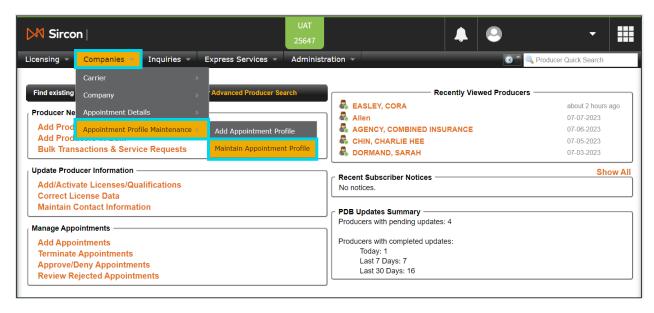
- 4. Select the **Company**, or Companies, you want to add to the profile then click the checkboxes next to the **Appointment Types** to add to the profile.
- 5. Click **Save and Continue**.



#### Maintain Appointment Profile

The Maintain Appointment Profile page is used to update or delete existing appointment profiles for any company in Producer Central.

1. From the Companies menu, click Appointment Profile Maintenance then click Maintain Appointment Profile.

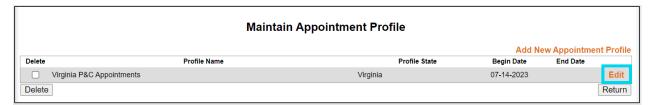




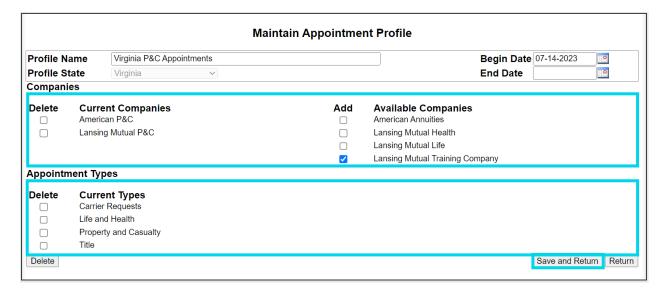
Section: Maintain Appointment Profiles

#### EDIT APPOINTMENT PROFILE

1. To update the details of an appointment profile, click **Edit**.



2. From here you can either add or delete Companies or Appointment Types.



#### DELETE APPOINTMENT PROFILE

1. To delete the appointment profile, click the checkbox next to the profile then click the **Delete** button.



2. The profile will be removed from the Maintain Appointment Profile page.





#### Sales Authorization Profiles

Sales Authorization Profiles are preset rules which check if producers have the regulatory credentials to represent particular products in specific states/appointing companies.

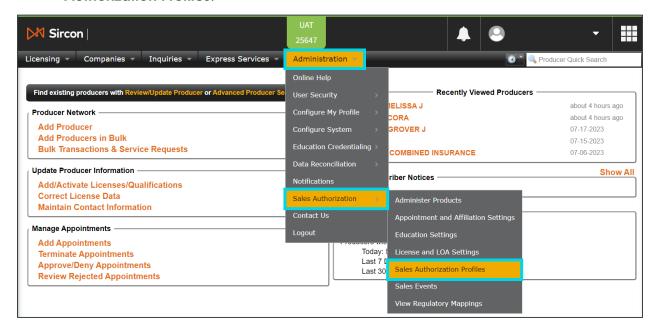
For example, a sales authorization profile may contain rules that check if producers are authorized to represent Group Medical policies in 10 states for three underwriting companies.

You will need to set up Sales Authorization Profiles in order to appoint producers in bulk.

**Note**: Although the Sales Authorization engine would allow an authorization check on a producer to return an "Approved" result if the producer held either of the "optional" LOA paths, you could configure your company's **Code Use Indicators** to require one or the other. The globally allowed combinations still will be reflected on the *View Regulatory Mappings* page.

If you have system administrator permissions, use the Sales Authorization Profiles page to configure combinations of product types, states, and carrier underwriting companies to create a sales authorization profile.

 From the Administration menu, click Sales Authorization then click Sales Authorization Profiles.



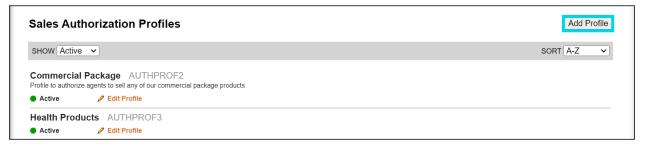


- 2. You will now see the Sales Authorization Profiles page.
- 3. This page will show you all the active and inactive profiles that are currently available in the system.

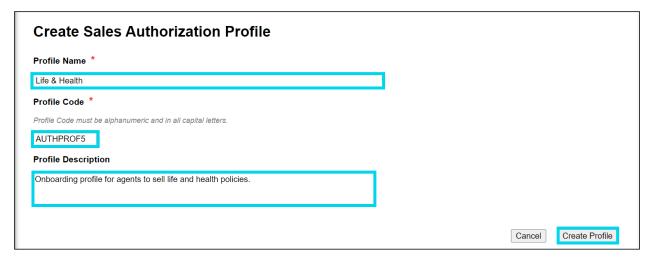


#### **Add New Profile**

4. To create a new profile, click the **Add Profile** button.



- 5. Enter the Profile Name, the Profile Code and optionally a Profile Description.
- 6. Click Create Profile.





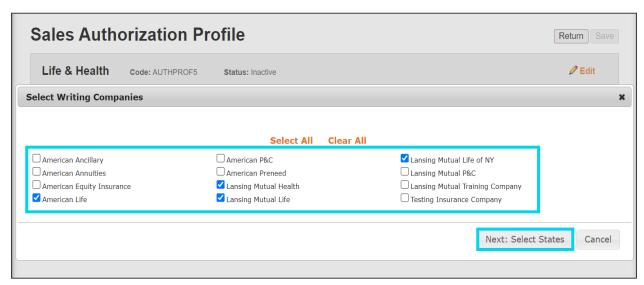
7. Select a product from the dropdown menu.

**Note**: If you are unsure of which Product to select, as there are so many, you can review the products in more detail under **Administration > Sales Authorization > View Regulatory Mappings**.

8. Click Next: Select Writing Companies.



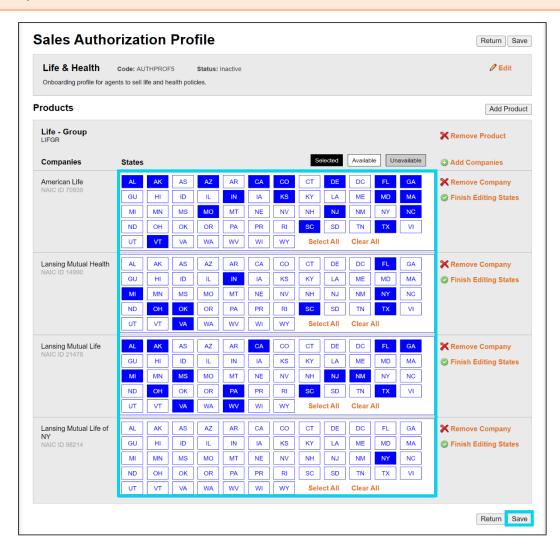
- 9. Select the Writing Companies you want to add to your profile.
- 10. Click Next: Select States.



- 11. Select which **States** you want to assign to each writing company.
- 12. Click **Add Product** if you need to add multiple products to the profile.
- 13. Click **Save** to submit your profile.

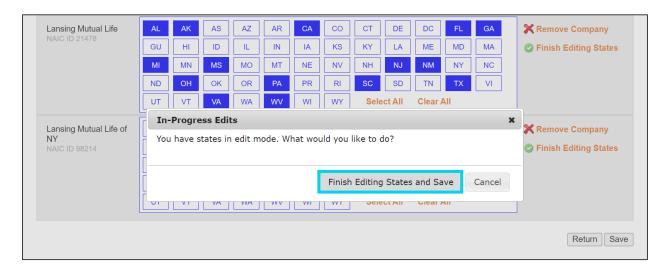


**Note**: You can also use the **Select All** or **Clear All** buttons to speed up your selection process. Click **Remove Company** to delete the writing company from the profile.



14. Click Finish Editing States and Save if you are finished updating the profile.

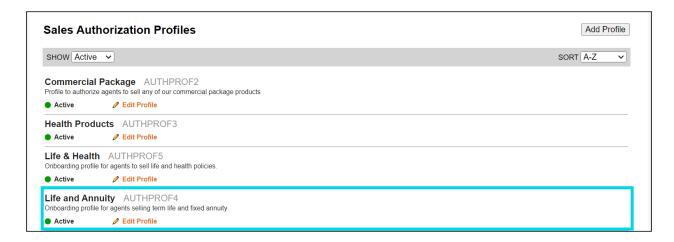




15. Finally, click **Activate and Save** if you are ready to use the profile. Alternatively, you can click **Save Inactive** if you are still working on the profile.



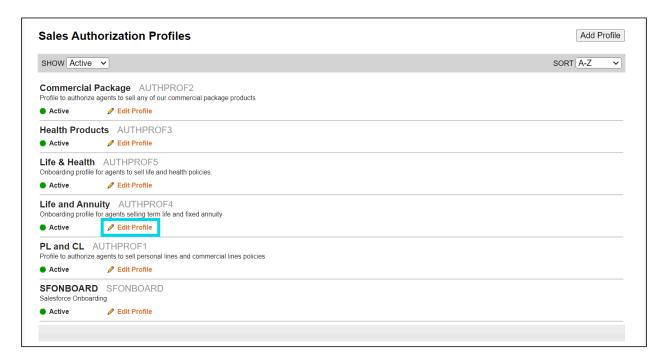
16. The profile will now appear on the Sales Authorization Profiles page.



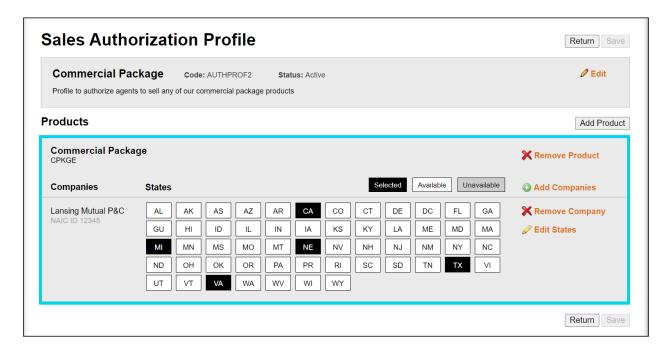


## **Edit Existing Profile**

1. From the Sales Authorization Profiles page, click the **Edit Profile** button.



- Update the States or click Add Product if you need to add another product to the profile.
- 3. Click **Save** when you are finished updating the profile.





## **Terminations**

#### Terminate an Appointment

Use the *Terminate Appointments* page to submit producer appointment termination requests to one or multiple states for one or multiple appointing companies. You may also use the *Terminate Appointments* page to manually terminate a "record-only" state appointment on a producer record.

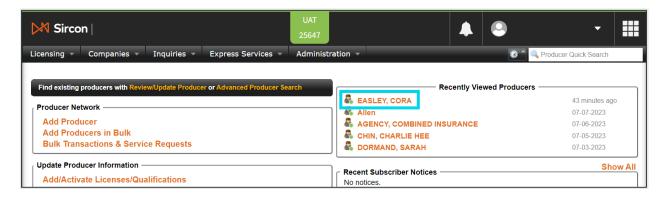
There are two ways to process terminations:

- 1. Terminate from the Licensing Menu
- 2. Terminate from the Producer Record

#### TERMINATE FROM THE PRODUCER RECORD

Follow the steps listed below to terminate an appointment from the producer record.

 Locate the producer record using the Producer Quick Search or by selecting a producer from the Recently Viewed Producers section.

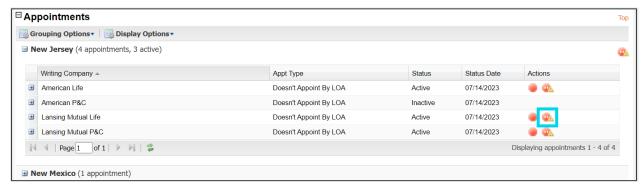


2. Select the **Appointments** quick link.



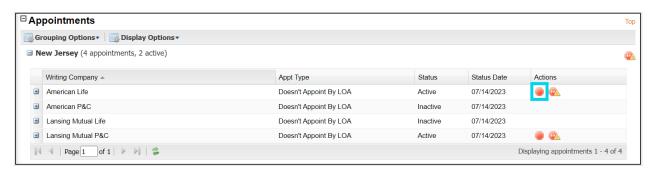


- 3. You will now see a list of the active and inactive appointments.
- 4. Click the **Expand** button () next to the appointment to see the writing company and status of each appointment for the state.
- 5. In the Actions column, you have up to three different termination options:
- **Terminate** (): Use the **Terminate** icon to submit a termination request for a producer's appointment(s) by one or multiple appointing companies in a selected state or process a record-only termination of an appointment.
  - The system will submit the termination request to the state unless the state is a "record-only" state.
- Quick Terminate (2): Use the Quick Terminate icon to terminate a producer's appointments for a selected appointing company in a selected non-appointment state (i.e., a state that does not require state-verified appointments).
  - The system will not submit a termination request to the state; the process will result in a "record-only" termination.
- Quick Terminate (State is not record only) ((24)): Use the Quick Terminate (State is Record Only) icon to record a termination of a producer's appointments for a selected appointment company in an appointment state (i.e., a state that processes carrier appointment requests and tracks producer appointments).
  - The system will not submit a termination request to the state; the process will result in a "record-only" termination.



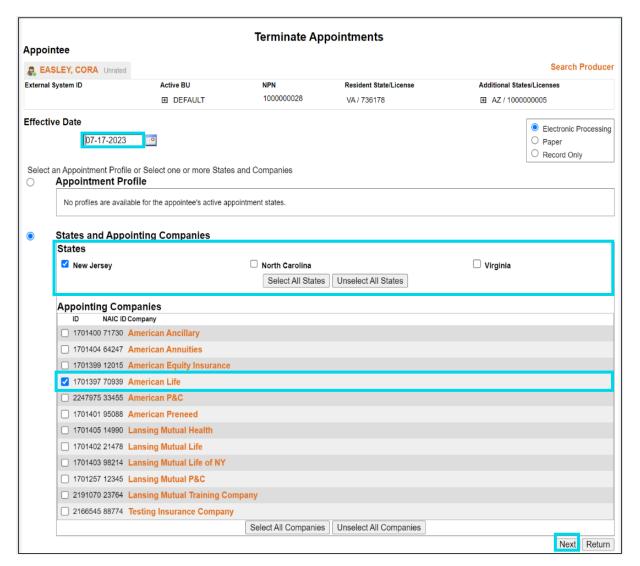
#### **Terminate**

1. Click the **Terminate** button (**(e)**) to transfer to the *Terminate Appointments* page.



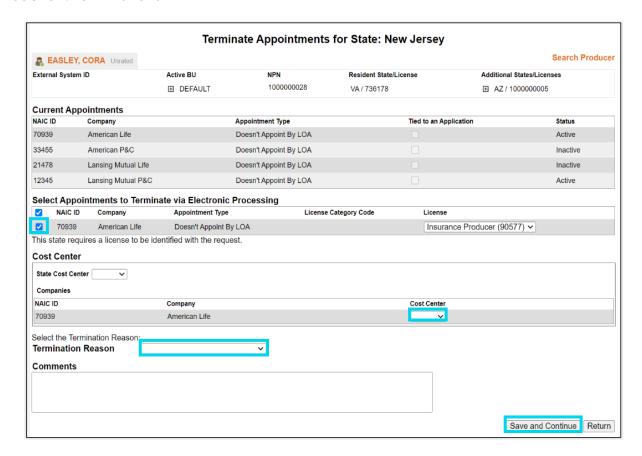


- 2. The **State** and **Appointment Company** will transfer from the producer record appointment you selected.
- 3. Click Next.



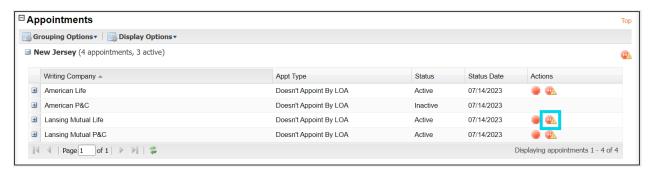
- 4. You will now see the Terminate Appointments for State page.
- 5. Select the **Appointment** and license you need to terminate.
- 6. Determine the Cost Center where the state termination fee will be charged.
- 7. Select the state-specific **Termination Reason** from the dropdown list.
- 8. Click Save and Continue.





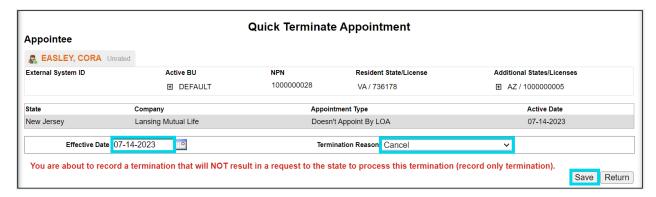
#### **Quick Terminate**

- 1. Select the Quick Terminate button.
- In the Appointments data section of a producer record, click the **Quick Terminate** button ( opposite the name of a non-appoint state (i.e., a state that does not require state-verified appointments).
- In the Appointments data section of a producer record, click the **Quick Terminate (state is not record only)** button ( ) opposite the name of an appointment state (i.e., a state that processes carrier appointment requests and tracks producer appointments).





- 2. You will now see the Quick Terminate Appointment page.
- 3. Select the **Effective Date** and the **Termination Reason**.
- 4. Click Save.

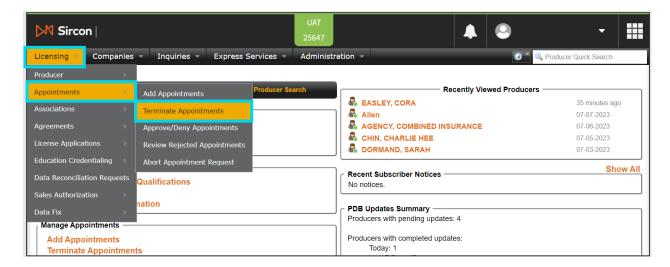


5. You will see a screen confirming that the termination request was processed successfully.



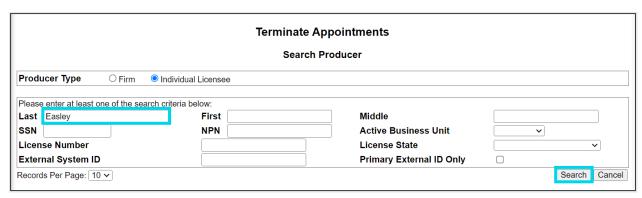
#### TERMINATE FROM THE LICENSING MENU

1. From the Licensing menu, click Appointments then click Terminate Appointments.

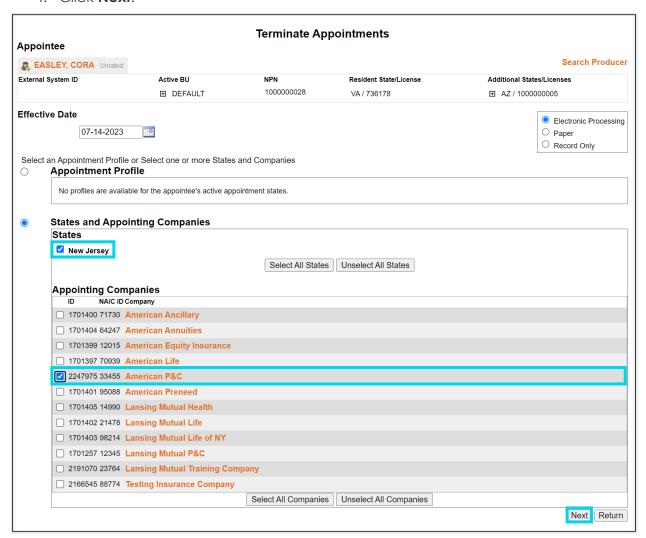




Locate the producer using at least one of the search criteria on the page. Click Search.

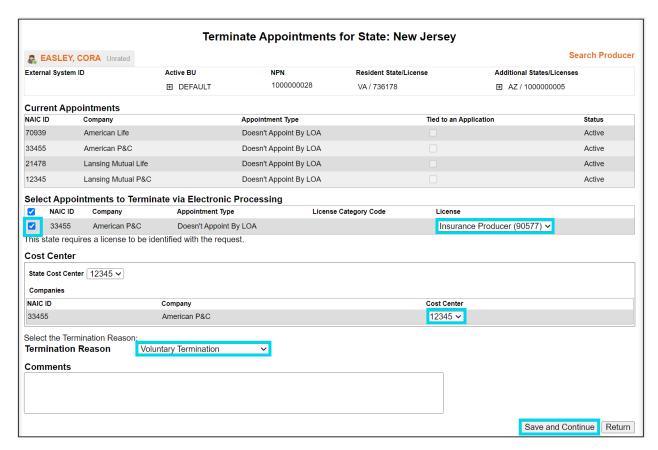


- 3. You will now see the Terminate Appointments page. Select the **State** and the **Appointment Companies** you need to terminate.
- 4. Click Next.

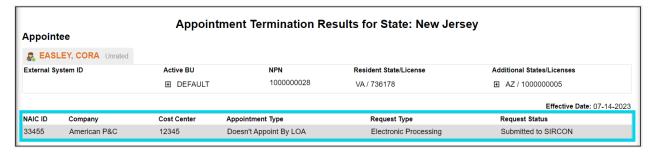




- 5. You will now see the Terminate Appointments for State page.
- 6. Select the **Appointment** and license you need to terminate.
- 7. Determine the **Cost Center** where the state termination fee will be charged.
- 8. Select the state-specific **Termination Reason** from the dropdown list.
- 9. Click Save and Continue.



10. You will see a screen confirming that the termination request was processed successfully.



11. An appointment or termination request submitted to certain states using an electronic submission method is routed directly to the state's department of insurance regulatory management system.



- A request to one of these states, referred to as a "Sircon State," will result in a rapid state response (i.e., "real-time" response) and can offer significant business advantages.
- A transaction request submitted to all other states, however, goes first through a third-party, electronic interface and then to the state and can vary in response time. Ask your Vertafore representative for more information and for the current list of "Sircon States".

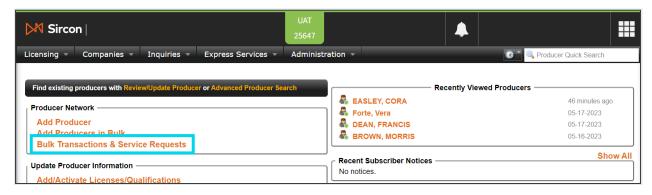
#### Terminate Appointments in Bulk

Use the Terminations bulk transaction to appointment termination requests to one or multiple states for processing.

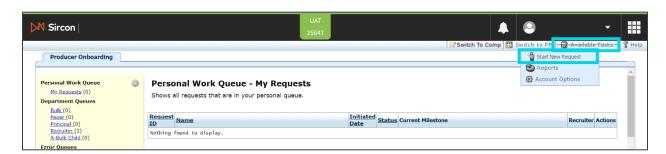
For non-appointment filing states, you can use the Bulk Appointment Terminations function to terminate "record-only" appointments in the records of a batch of producers in Producer Central.

By default, for each producer listed in the Bulk Appointment Terminations data file, all active appointments in all states and for all appointing companies will be terminated. However, you can request to terminate in only specific states or for only specific appointing companies.

 Click the Bulk Transactions & Service Requests option from the main page of Producer Central.



- 2. You will now see the *Bulk Transactions & Services Requests* home screen. In the top right-hand corner of the screen, click the **Available Tasks** button.
- 3. Click Start New Request.





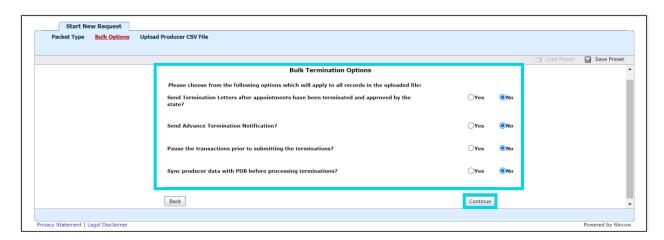
4. Click the dropdown arrow next to the **Packet Type**. The packet type determines the type of bulk transaction you need to perform.



5. Select the **Bulk - Terminations** packet type. Click **Continue**.



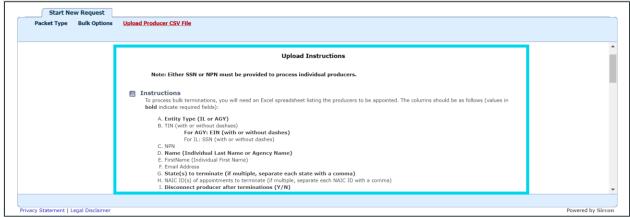
- 6. You will now see the Bulk Termination Options screen.
- 7. Read each option and select either Yes or No from the list.
- 8. Click Continue.



- 9. You will now see the **Upload Instructions** to properly format the bulk update file.
- 10. To create the file, start by creating a spreadsheet using a program like Excel or Google Sheets.



- 11. The letters A-I represent the column headers in the file. The fields in **bold** are required fields.
- 12. Depending on the **Entity Type** (Individual or Agency), the required fields will change.



#### INDIVIDUAL PRODUCER REQUIRED FIELDS

Either an **SSN** or an **NPN** must be provided to process individual producers. Depending on your business setup, your organization may or may not maintain SSN numbers. If you do not use SSN numbers, the NPN number is required.

If the individual licensee has an NPN number, the required fields are:

Column	Field Name	Description			
Α	Entity Type	Use "IL" to indicate individual licensee			
С	National Producer ID (NPN)	Type the full <b>NPN</b> number of the producer			
D	Name	Type the <b>Last Name</b> of the producer			
G	States to Terminate	Type the list of the two-character state abbreviations where you need to terminate the producers. Separate each state code by commas.			
I	Disconnect Producers After Termination (Y/N)	Select whether you want to disconnect producers after the termination is complete.  Type " <b>Y</b> " to disconnect the producer.  Type " <b>N</b> " to only process the termination.			

**Note**: In the illustration below, we are including a column header as a reference. Column headers **must be deleted** before creating the final CSV file.



Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	ı
Entity Type	TIN	NPN	Name	First Name	Email Address	States to Terminate	NAIC IDs of Appointments to Terminate	Disconnect Producers After Terminations (Y/N)
IL		1000000028	Easley			VA		N

If the individual licensee has a **Social Security Number** (or **SSN**), the required fields are:

Column	Field Name	Description				
Α	Entity Type	Use "IL" to indicate individual licensee				
В	TIN (Taxpayer ID)	Type the 9-digit <b>SSN</b> of the producer (with or without dashes)				
D	Name	Type the <b>Last Name</b> of the producer				
G	States to Terminate	Type the list of the two-character state abbreviations where you need to terminate the producers. Separate each state code by commas.				
I	Disconnect Producers After Termination (Y/N)	Select whether you want to disconnect producers after the termination is complete.  Type " <b>Y</b> " to disconnect the producer.  Type " <b>N</b> " to only process the termination.				

**Note**: In the illustration below, we are including a column header as a reference. Column headers **must be deleted** before creating the final CSV file.

А	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	I
Entity Type	TIN	NPN	Name	First Name	Email Address	States to Terminate	NAIC IDs of Appointments to Terminate	Disconnect Producers After Terminations (Y/N)
IL	000999123		Charron			MD		Υ

#### AGENCY/FIRM REQUIRED FIELDS

The required fields for agencies or firms are:

Column	Field Name	Description			
Α	Entity Type	Use "AGY" to indicate an agency/firm			
В	TIN (Taxpayer ID)	Type the 9-digit Employer Identification Number or <b>EIN</b> of the firm (with or without dashes)			
D	Name	Type in the full <b>Name</b> of the agency/firm. It must match the name in the producer record.			
G	States to Terminate	Type the list of the two-character state abbreviations where you need to terminate the			



		producers. Separate each state code by
		commas.
		Select whether you want to disconnect
	Disconnect Producers	producers after the termination is complete.
ı	After Termination (Y/N)	Type " <b>Y</b> " to disconnect the producer.
		Type " <b>N</b> " to only process the termination.

**Note**: In the illustration below, we are including a column header as a reference. Column headers **must be deleted** before creating the final CSV file.

А	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	I
Entity Type	TIN	NPN	Name	First Name	Email Address	States to Terminate	NAIC IDs of Appointments to Terminate	Disconnect Producers After Terminations (Y/N)
AGY	00-6233077		Dean and Davis Insurance Agency			NM, OH, GA		N

#### OPTIONAL FIELDS

The table below lists all the optional fields you can include in the file.

**Note**: The required fields listed above are mandatory to complete the Bulk Connection update. It is recommended that you **only input the required fields into the file**. All the producer data you add to the file must match the producer record in Producer Central. If any of the fields are inaccurate, the file will fail.

Column	Field Name	Description
В	TIN (Taxpayer ID)	For individual licenses with an <b>NPN</b> number, the Social Security Number, or <b>SSN</b> , is an optional field.
С	NPN (National Producer Number)	For individual licensees with an SSN number, the National Producer Number, or <b>NPN</b> , is optional. The <b>NPN</b> is also optional for agencies/firms.
E	First Name	For individual licensees, you can include the <b>First Name</b> of the producer.
F	Email Address	Type the <b>Email Address</b> associated with the producer.



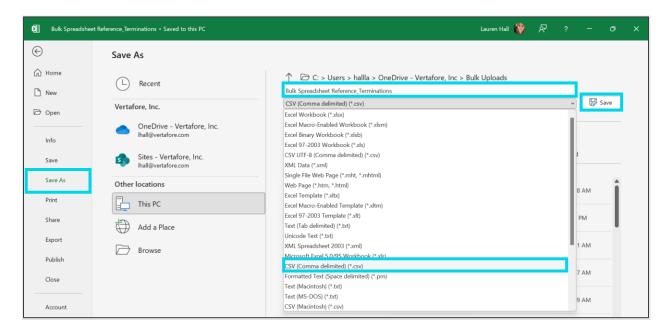
Н	NAIC IDs of Appointments to Terminate	Enter a five-digit <b>NAIC ID</b> code of an appointing company whose appointment you want to terminate.  If no NAIC ID code is entered, the system will submit appointment termination requests for each appointing company included in the Appointment Profile. Separate multiple NAIC ID codes in a cell by a comma.
---	---	---

13. Add the required information to your spreadsheet. When you are finished, you should have a spreadsheet that looks something like the following illustration:

Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	I
IL		1000000028	Easley			VA		N
IL	000999123		Charron			MD		Y
AGY	00-6233077		Dean and Davis Insurance Agency			NM, OH, GA		N

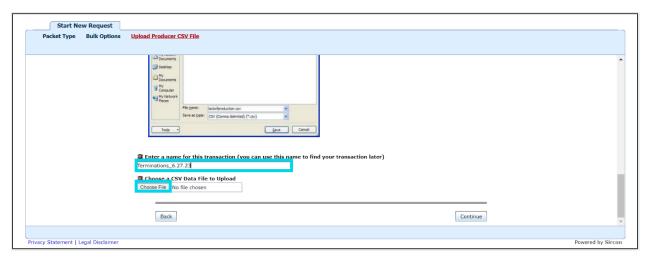
**Note**: If you inserted a header row containing the field names to guide your data entry, you must **delete the header** before moving on to the next step.

- 14. When you are finished, from the File menu, select Save As.
- 15. The Save As window will open. From the Save As Type drop-down menu, select CSV (Comma Delimited) (\*.csv). In the File Name field, enter the name for the producer file.
- 16. Click Save.

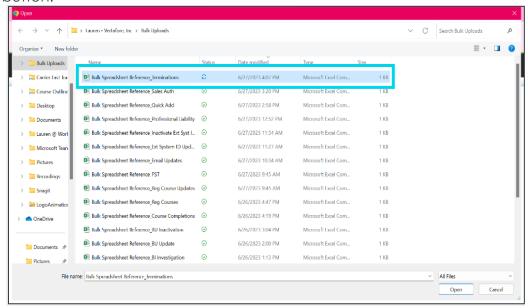




- 17. Your file is now saved in a comma-separated format and is ready for upload to the system.
- 18. Return to the application and scroll down to the bottom of the screen. **Enter the name of this transaction** in the box. This name will be visible to everyone in your organization.
- 19. Click the **Choose File** button.

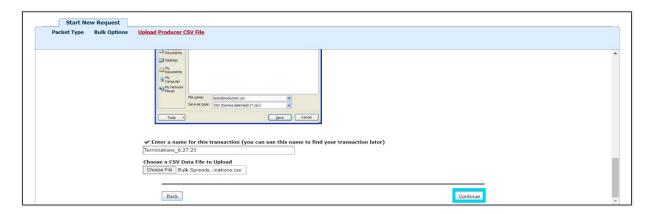


- 20. Use the navigation options on the **Choose File** dialog box to locate the upload file (\*.csv) on your system.
- 21. When the correct file name appears in the **File Name** field, click the **Open** button.



- 22. The file name will appear next to the **Choose File** button.
- 23. Click Continue to submit the file.

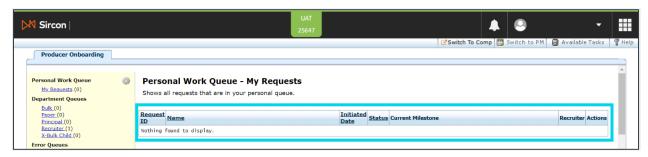




24. After a bulk transaction or service request is submitted, the system will process the file and complete the operation. Initially, the transaction will be assigned to your **Personal Work Queue**.



- 25. Refresh your browser periodically to update the status of the request. You may need to refresh the page several times depending on the size of the request and the length of time it takes to process the information.
- 26. If the request is processed successfully, the file will be removed from your personal work queue. This means that all the required information was accurate, and the transactions were processed in Producer Central.



**Note**: If the request contains an error, refer to the <u>Bulk Transactions Quick Guide</u> to troubleshoot the bulk transaction request.



Section: APPENDIX 1: Sircon for Carriers Help Resources

## **APPENDIX 1: Sircon for Carriers Help Resources**

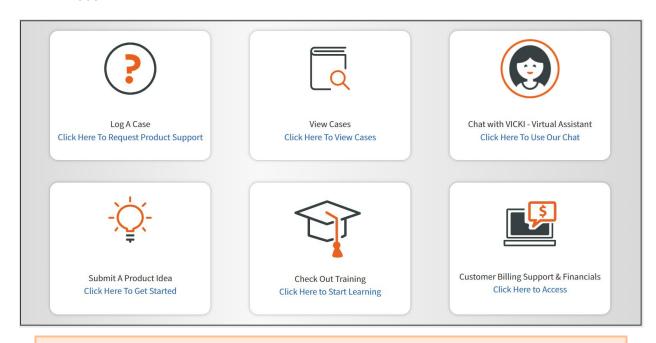
Help is just a click away. Vertafore has two resources available to support you 24/7:

- My Vertafore
- Sircon Support

#### My Vertafore

My Vertafore is our free online customer support portal and knowledge base. At My Vertafore you can:

- Log a Case Cases are used to request product support.
- **Submit Ideas** Send Vertafore ideas for new product features or enhancements.
- Search Knowledgebase Search for detailed articles on the Sircon Knowledge Base



**Note**: Sircon does not use the Submit a Product Idea or Chat with VICKI functions.

#### **Contact Vertafore Customer Support**

Can't find what you are looking for at My Vertafore? Our Customer Support team is here to help. Click here to email Support or call 877-876-4430.



Section: APPENDIX 2: Document History

## **APPENDIX 2: Document History**

Version	Revision Date	Revision Record
1.0	7/14/2023	Original Document



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