

Via Facsimile and U.S. Mail
Mail Stop 4720

January 12, 2010

Frederick J. Crawford
Executive Vice President and CFO
Lincoln National Corporation
150 N. Radnor Chester Road
Suite A305
Radnor, PA 19087

**Re: Lincoln National Corporation
Form 8-K Filed January 4, 2010
File No. 1-06028**

Dear Mr. Crawford:

We have reviewed the above-referenced filing and have the following comment. In our comment, we ask you to provide us with information to better understand your disclosure. Where it requests you to revise disclosure, the information you provide should show us what the revised disclosure will look like and identify the annual or quarterly filing, as applicable, in which you intend to first include it. If you do not believe that revised disclosure is necessary, explain the reason in your response. After reviewing the information provided, we may raise additional comments and/or request that you amend your filing.

Please understand that the purpose of our review process is to assist you in your compliance with the applicable disclosure requirements and to enhance the overall disclosure in your filings. We look forward to working with you in these respects. We welcome any questions you may have about our comments or on any other aspect of our review. Feel free to call us at the telephone numbers listed at the end of this letter.

Form 8-K filed January 4, 2010

1. You disclose that certain of your subsidiaries entered into investment advisory agreements with Delaware Management Holdings, Inc. dated January 4, 2010, pursuant to which Delaware Management Holdings, Inc. will continue to manage the majority of the general account insurance assets of the subsidiaries. Please advise us whether you intend to file these investment advisory agreements with either your Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 or your Form 10-Q

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for the quarter ended March 31, 2010. If you do not intend to file these agreements, please provide us with an analysis that supports your conclusion that the agreements are not required to be filed.

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Please respond to this comment within 10 business days or tell us when you will provide us with a response. Please furnish a cover letter that keys your response to our comment and provide any requested information. Detailed letters greatly facilitate our review. Please file your letter on EDGAR under the form type label CORRESP.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes all information required under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and that they have provided all information investors require for an informed investment decision. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

In connection with responding to our comments, please provide, in your letter, a statement from the company acknowledging that:

- the company is responsible for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing;
- staff comments or changes to disclosure in response to staff comments do not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

In addition, please be advised that the Division of Enforcement has access to all information you provide to the staff of the Division of Corporation Finance in our review of your filing or in response to our comment on your filing.

Please contact Jennifer Riegel at (202) 551-3575 or me at (202) 551-3715 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Riedler
Assistant Director