



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Surplus Line Association of California Elects New Officers

SAN FRANCISCO, California - (January 28, 2002) - The SLA Annual Meeting held January 15 in San Francisco and January 17, 2002 in Beverly Hills were moderated by the Association's 2001 Chair, Stacey A. Beougher of IIW Insurance Services, Dublin, CA. Stacey thanked the members for their attendance and recognized the regulators from the California Department of Insurance in the audience.

Stacey noted that one of the biggest accomplishments was the completion of a new computer system to run the stamping office's data processing needs. "This database will soon bring greater ease to your ability to comply with the SLA filing procedures. Another accomplishment was the renewal of a three-year strategic plan which establishes performance targets in the areas of leadership, professional development, public relations, information management, organizational development and resources", she said. "Our vision is that the SLA will continue to realize a lawful non-admitted insurance market in the California and will protect and perpetuate a surplus line industry that continues to serve as a vital resource to meet the needs of California insurance consumers."

In the business portion of the meeting, Stacey presided over the election of officers for 2002. Horst Lechler of Anderson & Murison, Los Angeles, CA was elected Chairman. The other elected officers are Katie Freeman of Katie Freeman Insurance who will serve as Vice Chair, and Greg Crouse of Crouse & Associates who will serve as Secretary Treasurer. The remaining elected members of the Executive Committee are Stacey Beougher of IIW Insurance Services, Chris Brown of Brown & Riding Insurance Associates, Inc., Rupert Hall of M.J. Hall & Company, Inc., Michael Heagerty of Harry W. Gorst Company, Inc., Phillip Mazer of Swett & Crawford Group, Ceil Norton of Burns & Wilcox Insurance, James Pettipas of ECM Surplus Lines Brokers and John Tastor of Arthur J. Gallagher & Company.

Those present also enjoyed a one-hour presentation by the candidates for California Insurance Commissioner. The panel program, moderated by SLA General Counsel James Woods of LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae, included Assemblyman Tom Calderon and Bill Winslow in San Francisco, and Assemblyman Tom Calderon and former Assemblyman Tom Umberg in Beverly Hills.