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Emerging Leaders Conference Announces its 2020 Class

CHICAGO - This year, 102 insurance professionals from across the country as well as overseas were selected as "Emerging Leaders" and will be invited to attend the [2020 Emerging Leaders Conference](#), Feb. 23-25, 2020, at the Hotel Van Zandt in Austin, Texas.

The conference, hosted by the American Property Casualty Insurance Association (APCIA), the Insurance Careers Movement (ICM), and AM Best, is designed to recognize the best and brightest rising talents in the insurance industry. Those selected represent a wide range of job functions including actuarial, claims, client relations, finance, marketing, product development, risk management, sales, legal, technology, and underwriting. Nominees have more than 8 years of job experience and are already making a positive impact on their companies and the industry.

"We are pleased to see the momentum and strong industry support for the Emerging Leaders program," said David Sampson, president and CEO of APCIA. "This underscores the industry's commitment to create meaningful developmental opportunities for the next generation of leaders. The Emerging Leaders Program is another example of the industry's dedication to talent recruitment and retainment."

"The Emerging Leaders Conference is held in conjunction with the 5th Annual February Insurance Careers Month, where we look to not only recruit talent to the insurance profession, but also spark internal conversations about the rising stars within companies that someday will fill the C-Suite offices," said Marguerite Tortorello, president of Tortorello Communications and one of the founding members of the Insurance Careers Movement. "The conference is unique in its focus on providing emerging leaders new perspectives on industry challenges and opportunities, while calling upon them to become ambassadors for the industry."

"APCIA and the Insurance Careers Movement are thrilled to continue our partnership with AM Best and appreciate their strong commitment to addressing talent in the industry in innovative ways," said Sampson.

The Emerging Leaders Conference agenda will feature panel discussions with leading company CEOs and senior executives providing insights on major industry trends and sharing knowledge on some of the most pressing issues facing insurance.

These emerging leaders will have an opportunity to network with insurance executives from diverse job functions in a vibrant environment. Click [here](#) to learn more about the Insurance Careers Movement or how to get involved.

We encourage you to follow the conversation on social media #ELC2020. For information on sponsorship opportunities contact Ashley Solovy (ashley.solovy@apci.org).

Class of 2020 Emerging Leaders

Mike Maurer, Accident Fund, Divisional Director Business Development
Clarisia Seay, Accredited Surety and Casualty, HR Director
Montell Taylor, AF Group, Director, Operations
Denise Campbell, AIG, AVP
Garrett Pendleton, AIG, VP Manager Airport and Product Liability Claims
Keri Petersen, Alliance Member Services, Claims Manager
Leah Gooley, ALPS, Underwriting Manager
Chris Draghi, AM Best, Senior Financial Analyst
Monica Groves, American Family Mutual Insurance Company, State Government Affairs Director
Mike Piercy, American Modern Insurance Group, Claims Field Manager (West)
Levi Fisher, American Modern Insurance Group, Territory Sales Manager (West)
Matt Ryan, American Modern Insurance Group, Operations Consultant
Tracy Yaun, Amerisure, AVP Liability Claims
Mahnoor "Noor" Amjad, Argo Group, Director, BI and Analytics
Jessica Tanner, Argo Group, VP Primary Casualty
Shantell Bishop, Argo Insurance, Underwriting Manager
Scott Kelley, Argo Pro, Underwriting Manager
Larry Phillips, Arthur J Gallagher, AVP
Melissa Williard, BMIC, Director of Underwriting, Middle Market

Jeff Beatty, BMIC, Director of Underwriting, Express Account Underwriting
Koleman Brenner, Church Mutual Insurance Company, IT Administration & Finance Manager
Stephanie Lynn, Church Mutual Insurance Company, ERM Director / Actuary
Nicole Jolley, Church Mutual Insurance Company, Director Special Business Unit
Danny Hayes, Cincinnati Insurance Companies, IT Resource Manager
Mike Strange, Cincinnati Insurance Companies, IT Service Manager
Terron Kemp, Cincinnati Insurance Companies, Regional Casualty Claims Manager
Terry Smith, ClearPath Mutual Insurance Company, Accounting Manager
Seth Ochsner, CM Select, Senior Product Director
Sonia Dziubek, CNA Insurance, Director, Strategic Sourcing and Innovation
Victoria Chen, CNA Insurance, Claims Director (Specialty)
Valentino Elliott, CNA Insurance, Small Business Strategy Consulting Director
Whitney Brooks, CNA Insurance, IT Business Analysis Director
Kristi Houston, CompWest, Regional Director Business Development
Molly Kerr, Co-operative Insurance Companies, Underwriter II
Jolene Kerr, COUNTRY Financial, Investment Services Manager
Tracie Caldwell, COUNTRY Financial, Manager, Life Policy Services
Michael Thomas, COUNTRY Financial, Director, Personal Lines Underwriting
Stephanie Hunt, Crum & Forster, Director
Nick Johnson-Hill, Crum & Forster, AVP
Daisy Lopez, Crum & Forster, AVP
Teresa Lala, Crum & Forster, AVP
Melissa Rice, CSAA Insurance Group, Senior Manager, Internal Audit
Jing Shi, CSAA Insurance Group, VP, Marketing Strategy and Analytics
Lavanya Lingala, CSAA Insurance Group, Commercial Operations Manager
Andrea Zdaniewski, Erie Insurance Group, Counsel II
Morgan Kimble, Erie Insurance Group, Medical Management Claims Facilitation Supervisor
Megan Euston, Erie Insurance Group, Manager, Digital Marketing
Abey Thomas, EWI Re, Vice President Risk Management
Jon Swartz, FBL Financial Group, Inc, Managing Actuary
Alyssa Bouchard, Gamma Iota Sigma, Director of Education and Programming
Abbas Raza, GSFSGroup, Performance & Analysis Manager
Andrea Rossi, Guaranty Fund Management Services, Vice President of Operations
David Amaro, Hamilton Insurance Group, VP, Associate Legal Counsel
Frank Gualtieri, Hartford Steam Boiler, AVP, Product Manager, Personal Lines Lead
Keith Allen, Lancer Insurance Company, Assistant Vice President
Lori Yash, MAPFRE USA, Director Claims
Thomas Hoffer, MAPFRE USA, Supervising Attorney
Jamie Ancheta, MJ Insurance, Client Executive
Aaron Parker, MJ Insurance, Vice President, Client Experience
Spencer Borisoff, Monarch E&S Insurance Services, Director of Marketing / Junior Underwriter
Elektra Croy, Motors Insurance Corporation (Ally), Director, Statutory Accounting & Reporting
Noah McClain, Mutual of Omaha, Product Development Manager
Kate Ro, NJM Insurance Group, General Counsel
Melissa Yarnell, Nonprofits Insurance Alliance, CRO
Kim Aday, Nonprofits Insurance Alliance, CFO
Lindsey DiGangi, PA Lumbermens Mutual Insurance Co, Senior Business Analyst
Ivy Kitzinger, Pharmacists Mutual Insurance Group, AVP Professional Liability Claims
Brennan McLoughlin, Property & Liability Resource Bureau, Education Counsel
Ashley Burris, Protective Insurance, Vice President of Accounting & Financial Reporting
Ginger Witte, Protective Insurance, Director of Internal Audit
Taylor Jones, Questpro, College Recruiting Manager
Alex Ulmer, RAS, Business Development Manager
Nate Wenzl, RAS, Business Development Manager
Scott Gennusa, RLI, AVP, Inland Marine
Laura Sutter, RLI, Actuarial Director, P&C Products
Nathalie Hiemstra, RLI, AVP, Claim (Executive Products)
Kristin Heiges, Secura, Director Marketing
Michael Rosenau, Society Insurance, Director of Risk Control
Dennis Saldana, Society Insurance, Director of Commercial Underwriting
Benjamin Kimmons, Southern Farm Bureau Casualty Insurance Company, Vice President - Actuary and R&D
Ryan Reik, State Auto Insurance Companies, Enterprise Agent Reporting Lead
Rachel Lynch-Herrington, The Hanover Insurance Group, Director Claims
Maegan Weller, The Hanover Insurance Group, Director, Commercial Operations and Service

William Linthicum, The Hanover Insurance Group, Assistant Manager - Surety
Candace Rhea, The Hartford, Underwriter
Pete Alburtis, The Hartford, Managing Director, Houston Regional Office
Jeff Woronick, The Hartford, Data Management Solution Owner
Justin Grimm, The Hartford, Director
Roxanna Maiberger, TMLT, Associate Risk Management Representative
Rebecca Selman, TMLT, Associate Education Coordinator
Nancy Enderby, United Educators Insurance, A Reciprocal Risk Retention Group, Associate VP, Underwriting
Nitesh Patel, United Educators Insurance, A Reciprocal Risk Retention Group, AVP, Information Technology
Barbara Keyes, Utica National Insurance Group, AVP, Director of Business Owners Policies
Andrew Ford, Utica National Insurance Group, Managing Actuary
Scott Johnson, WCF Insurance, Director, Product Development
Steve Butler, Westfield, Personal Lines Product Management & Underwriting Practices leader
Shannon Ahlborn, Westfield, Distribution Programs and Strategy Leader
Kimberly Sanders, Weston Insurance Management, LLC, Regulatory Product Administrator
Michelle Gauder, Zurich North America, Assistant Vice President of Medical Bill Review
Noy Saunders, Zurich North America, Training & Quality Specialist
Adam Kerns, Zurich North America, AVP, State Affairs, Government & Industry Affairs
Brian Budzicz, Zurich North America, Assistant General Counsel

The American Property Casualty Insurance Association (APCIA) is the primary national trade association for home, auto, and business insurers. APCIA promotes and protects the viability of private competition for the benefit of consumers and insurers, with a legacy dating back 150 years. APCIA members represent all sizes, structures, and regions—protecting families, communities, and businesses in the U.S. and across the globe.

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