St. Paul/Travelers execs named; Salter joins Insurance Reconstruction; LIMRA elects Wright

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The St. Paul Travelers Co

The St. Paul Companies, Inc. and Travelers Property Casualty Corp. have announced several appointments for the combined organization, to be known as The St. Paul Travelers Companies. The following appointments will become effective with the completion of the merger, which is anticipated to close during the second quarter of 2004.

Jay S. Benet has been named executive vice president and chief financial officer. He has served in this position at Travelers since its initial public offering in 2002.

Andy F. Bessette has been named executive vice president and chief administrative officer. He has been with The St. Paul since January 2002 where he serves in this capacity.

William A. Bloom has been named senior vice president and chief information officer. He recently joined Travelers in that position from Accenture, where he was a partner in the Financial Services Practice.

LIMRA

Charles R. Wright, senior executive vice president and chief agency and marketing officer of State Farm Insurance, will serve as chairman of the LIMRA International Board of Directors for 2004. Bryan C. Dunn, senior vice president and chief marketing officer of Western-Southern Life Assurance, was elected vice-chairman, and will succeed Wright in 2005.

Mason & Mason

Phillip W. Mason, president of Mason & Mason Technology Insurance Services of Whitman, Mass., was recently elected to serve TechAssure Association, Inc. as its chairman. TechAssure is comprised of independent regional insurance brokers located across the U.S.

Insurance Reconstruction Services

George Salter of Narragansett, R.I., has been named director of marketing for Insurance Reconstruction Services, Inc. Based in Smithfield, the company is a general contractor specializing in property damage restoration, water extraction and drying, mold remediation and oil spill cleanups. Salter will be responsible for marketing the company's services throughout R.I. and southeastern Mass.

MassMutual

Andrew Oleksiw and Toby J. Slodden were recently promoted within the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co. Oleksiw, who heads the company's international insurance, large corporate markets and mergers & acquisition functions, is now an executive vice president. Slodden is now responsible for retirement services, disability income insurance, long term care insurance and financial products divisions.

New York Life

The New York Life Insurance Co.'s Board of Directors has approved the formation of an Office of the Chairman. Frederick J. Sievert, president of New York Life, joins Sy Sternberg, chairman of the board and chief executive officer, in the newly created office. Sternberg has served as chairman and chief executive officer since 1997, and Sievert has served as president since 2002, and before that served as vice chairman since 1997. Both executives retain their current titles.

ASU International

Sean Curtin has been named senior vice president of the events division at ASU International. He will oversee the underwriting and daily operations of this segment of ASU's business. The event division provides cancellation insurance and various weather insurances for the sports, entertainment and trade show industries. Curtin has been with ASU since 1998 and has 11 years experience in weather and event underwriting.

AXA

Laura Pantaleo has been named head of business development for the Strategic Distribution Services unit of AXA Financial. She will manage and grow client relationships with distribution partners, including wirehouses, broker/dealers, banks and mutual fund families. NAII

Michael L. Browne, non-executive chairman of the board of the Harlevsville Insurance organization, was elected to the National Association of Independent Insurers' (NAII) Board of Governors at its recent Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Ga. NAII board members serve a three-year term, however a pending merger with the Alliance of American Insurers may redefine that time frame. Browne was elected nonexecutive chairman of the board of Harleysville in October 2003. He has served as a director of Harleysville Group Inc. since it went public in1986. Harleysville Insurance is a network of 12 property/casualty insurance companies operating in 32 states.

New York Life

Nathan Dempsey has been named one of the four winners of New York Life's annual College Internship Summer Sales Contest. The winners were selected based on the highest numbers of submitted life insurance applications in each geographic region. Dempsey, the North East Zone winner and Goffstown, NH native, is in his senior year at Southern New Hampshire University with a major in marketing and a minor in finance. He worked with Mark Perreault, apartner in the New Hampshire General Office.

SIAA

Strategic Independent Agents Alliance, the largest network of partnering independent insurance agencies in the U.S., has announced that Omni Insurance Brokers of London, Ontario has assumed control of SIAA Canada and has established Southwest Brokers Network as a Strategic Master Brokerage covering southwest Ontario. Ken Rayner will be the Regional President for all Canadian Provinces and is responsible for recruiting brokerages, while Steve Cox, President of Omni and SIAA Canada, will be responsible for program development.