

W. R. Berkley Corporation Nominates Maria Luisa Ferré to Stand for Election as New Director

Released : 03/08/2017

GREENWICH, Conn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- **W. R. Berkley Corporation (NYSE:WRB)** today announced that the Board of Directors has nominated Maria Luisa Ferré to stand for election as a new director at the Company's Annual Meeting of Shareholders on May 16, 2017. At that time, George G. Daly, who has served on the Board continuously since 1998, is expected to retire.

Ms. Ferré is the President of the Ferré Rangel Group and Editor of GFR Media, where she oversees the operations of the Ferré Rangel Group and its portfolio of media companies. Since 2000, she has been a member of the Board of Directors of Popular, Inc. (NASDAQ: BPOP), the parent company of Banco Popular. She also serves as president of the Board of Directors of the Ponce Museum of Art and on the Board of Directors of the Caribbean and Latin America Fund of the Museum of Modern Art in New York. In addition, she has been an active advocate of civic issues.

Ms. Ferré graduated magna cum laude from Amherst College in Amherst, MA, where she obtained a BA in history and Hispanic studies. She also holds a Master's degree in communications from Boston University in Boston, MA.

Commenting on the nomination, William R. Berkley, executive chairman, said, "I would like to personally thank George on behalf of the Board of Directors for his many years of dedicated service, leadership and varied contributions to guiding our Company in its delivery of superior long-term shareholder value creation.

"As we look to the future, we are pleased to have the opportunity to add an individual of Maria Luisa's caliber to our Board. Her background and experience will add new expertise and a fresh perspective. We look forward to welcoming her to the W. R. Berkley Corporation Board of Directors."

Founded in 1967, W. R. Berkley Corporation is an insurance holding company that is among the largest commercial lines writers in the United States and operates worldwide in two segments of the property casualty business: Insurance and Reinsurance.

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Source: W. R. Berkley Corporation