

W. R. Berkley Corporation Announces Executive Appointment at Berkley Mid-Atlantic Group

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GREENWICH, Conn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- **W. R. Berkley Corporation (NYSE:WRB)** today announced the appointment of John F. Kearns as president of Berkley Mid-Atlantic Group, a Berkley Company (BMAG). Mr. Kearns succeeds Susan N. Grady, who remains a key member of the Berkley team focusing on regional small commercial business. The appointment is effective immediately.

Mr. Kearns joins Berkley Mid-Atlantic Group with almost 40 years of experience in the property casualty insurance industry and significant expertise in all aspects of sales, marketing and underwriting management. He most recently served as executive vice president, sales & marketing and underwriting, for a major U.S. insurance group. He holds a Masters in Business Administration from Dublin City University, a Bachelor in Computer Science from Trinity College, Dublin and is a Fellow of the Chartered Insurance Institute (FCII).

Ms. Grady, who has over 35 years of experience in the insurance industry, joined W. R. Berkley Corporation in 2001. In her new role, she will work on expanding Berkley's regional small commercial footprint.

Commenting on the appointment, W. Robert Berkley, Jr., president and chief executive officer of W. R. Berkley Corporation, said, "John is a proven leader with the ability to strengthen BMAG's regional presence in key Mid-Atlantic states and enhance its ability to provide local accessibility, availability and responsiveness to its agents and policyholders. We are excited to have John lead BMAG's efforts going forward. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Sue for her service at BMAG and her willingness to spearhead our important new efforts to improve and enhance our regional small commercial business. We are confident that John and Sue will each succeed in their respective new roles."

Berkley Mid-Atlantic Group provides commercial property casualty coverages to a wide variety of businesses in Delaware, Kentucky, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. Focusing on small commercial and middle market accounts, BMAG delivers product and service solutions to a wide portfolio of businesses. For further information about Berkley Mid-Atlantic Group and the products and services it offers, please visit www.wrbmag.com.

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 insurance business: Insurance and Reinsurance. For further information about W. R. Berkley Corporation, please visit www.wrberkley.com.

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W. R. Berkley Corporation
Karen A. Horvath, 203-629-3000
Vice President – External
Financial Communications

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