

W. R. Berkley Corporation Announces Senior Executive Appointments

Released : 04/19/2018

GREENWICH, Conn.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- **W. R. Berkley Corporation (NYSE: WRB)** today announced the appointment of James B. Gilbert as an executive vice president with oversight responsibility for certain of the Company's operating units. Brian P. Douglas will succeed Mr. Gilbert as president of BerkleyNet Underwriters ("BerkleyNet"). The appointments are effective immediately.

Mr. Gilbert has nearly 30 years of experience in the property casualty insurance industry. He was appointed president of BerkleyNet in 2014 after serving as senior vice president of actuarial and operations since it was formed in 2006. Prior to joining BerkleyNet, he held senior actuarial positions at other workers' compensation insurance organizations. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Statistics from the University of Florida, is a Member of the American Academy of Actuaries (MAAA) and an Associate of the Casualty Actuarial Society (ACAS), and holds the Associate in Risk Management (ARM) and Certified Workers' Compensation Professional (CWCP) designations.

Mr. Douglas has over 20 years of experience in the workers' compensation insurance market and most recently served as BerkleyNet's vice president of marketing and business development. He joined BerkleyNet as a founding team member in 2006, has held a variety of positions across sales, marketing, information technology and operations, and has worked closely with the operating unit's voluntary and residual market operations. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Marketing from Valdosta State University, earned a Master of Science degree in Risk Management & Insurance from Georgia State University and is a Certified Insurance Counselor (CIC).

W. Robert Berkley, Jr., president and chief executive officer of W. R. Berkley Corporation, said: "We are pleased to have Jim join our corporate team and for Brian to take the helm at BerkleyNet. Jim's experience with one of our operating units from startup to mature company and knowledge of the insurance market will add further depth to our corporate skill set. Brian's history at BerkleyNet, combined with his deep knowledge of the workers' compensation business, makes him ideally suited to take over the leadership role and continue to build upon its success."

BerkleyNet focuses on niche insurance products for small and medium-sized commercial risks, using a web-based system to allow producers to quote, bind and service workers' compensation insurance products on behalf of W. R. Berkley Corporation member insurance companies. For further information about BerkleyNet and its products and services, please visit www.berkleynet.com.

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 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
Vice President – External
Financial Communications
203-629-3000

Source: W. R. Berkley Corporation