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SLA APPOINTS HON. JUSTICE HARRY LOW (RET.) AS ARBITRATOR

On August 30, 2006, the Executive Committee of the Surplus Line Association of California (SLA) appointed the Honorable Justice Harry W. Low (Retired) as independent Arbitrator as provided by Article XIV of the SLA Constitution.

Justice Low acted as California's Insurance Commissioner from July 2000 to January 2003. Previously he was the Presiding Justice, California Court of Appeal, 1983-1992. Justice Low also served as Judge, San Francisco County Superior Court, 1974-1983 and Judge, San Francisco Municipal Court, 1967-1974. Prior to sitting on the judicial bench he served as Commissioner, Worker's Compensation Appeals Board, 1966; and Deputy Attorney General for California in the Civil and Tax Division, 1956-1966. He is a graduate of Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley, 1955 where he received his J.D. degree and a B.A., in 1952. Prior to becoming Insurance Commissioner, Justice Low arbitrated numerous complex insurance cases at JAMS, the largest provider of alternative dispute resolution services in the U.S. Justice Low continues to serve as a mediator, arbitrator, and private judge for JAMS.

Article XIV (a) of the SLA Constitution states, "The Executive Committee may appoint an Arbitrator, subject to the approval of the Association, for a term specified by the Executive Committee not to exceed 12 months. The Arbitrator shall be a person wholly independent of any connection with any Member of the Association. Financial arrangements for the services and expenses of the Arbitrator shall be made by the Executive Committee"

Under the Constitution, the Arbitrator has power and authority to: (a) construe the Association's Constitution, Plan of Operation, bulletin, and the Surplus Line Law; (b) to make findings, determine violations and recommend remedies therefore; and (c) to prescribe the procedure to be followed in matters coming before him or her under the powers hereby referred. For further information, read Article XIV, Arbitration and Violations.

Please join us in welcoming Justice Low as the SLA's arbitrator.

Thurden M. Ann

Theodore M. Pierce Executive Director