



News Release

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SLA Issues Mandatory Work-From-Home Policy *All Operations to Continue on a Business-As-Usual Basis*

SAN RAMON, CA—In conjunction with a shelter-in-place order issued throughout most of the Bay Area Monday, the Surplus Line Association of California (SLA) has instituted a mandatory work-from-home policy until April 8, 2020. The SLA has directed all 110 of its employees to work from home starting on Tuesday, March 17, 2020.

All policy filings will be analyzed, and phone calls and e-mails will continue to be answered just as they would be if SLA offices were physically open.

“We are taking this action to assist the authorities in their efforts to flatten the curve of the pandemic,” said SLA CEO Benjamin McKay. “It is generally accepted among public health authorities that social distancing will put fewer people at risk and shorten the reach and the duration of the pandemic. We are doing our part for public health, and for the safety and well-being of our employees, by making this decision.”

SLA management will continue to monitor the news and directives from the authorities to make determinations as to when the coronavirus crisis has passed and when to reopen its offices.

“Fortunately, our decision several years ago to enable full telecommuting capabilities for all employees has made it possible for us to continue performing all of our duties and member services on a business-as-usual basis during this disruption to our normal routines,” McKay said. “We intend to continue conducting our business on behalf of our members and California consumers just as we would under normal circumstances. We expect to provide the same quality of service to all of our members, stakeholders, and most importantly, California consumers, as we would provide during normal times. We encourage everyone to stay safe, to heed the advice of the authorities, and to avoid unnecessary exposure to themselves and others for the duration of this public health crisis.”

ABOUT THE SLA: Headquartered in San Ramon, with employees also based in San Francisco and Los Angeles, the Surplus Line Association of California (SLA) operates as a self-governed private organization. Appointed by the Commissioner in 1994, the Association serves as the statutory surplus line advisory organization to the California Department of Insurance (CDI) and facilitates the state's capacity to monitor and direct surplus line brokers' placements of insurance with eligible surplus line insurers. Working with its members and the CDI, the Association assists its members' compliance with California laws and regulations; helps maintain a healthy, fair, and competitive surplus line marketplace in California; and strives to protect the interests of California insurance consumers.

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