



The Surplus Line Association of Washington Hosts Successful Annual Meeting with New Board Member Elections and Keynote Speech by Insurance Commissioner Patty Kuderer

Seattle, WA – The Surplus Line Association of Washington (SLAW) held a successful Annual Meeting on March 20th at the Washington Athletic Club in Downtown Seattle, bringing together industry professionals, and members to reflect on the past year and look ahead to the future of the surplus lines insurance market in Washington State.

A highlight of the event was the keynote address delivered by Washington State Insurance Commissioner Patty Kuderer. Commissioner Kuderer shared valuable insights into the latest legislative and regulatory developments affecting the insurance industry in Washington and discussed her vision for the state's insurance market.

"We were honored to hear commissioner Kuderer's vision," said Joy Erven, Executive Director of the Surplus Line Association of Washington. "We look forward to continuing our longstanding partnership serving the insurance community in Washington."

In addition to the keynote address, the Annual Meeting provided an opportunity for SLA of Washington to present a comprehensive review of the association's achievements over the past year. The discussion covered legislative efforts, market trends, and association initiatives aimed at strengthening the surplus lines sector in Washington.

During the meeting, two new members were also elected to the SLAW Board of Directors: Eric Merriman and Nicolle Walsh. Both bring a wealth of expertise to the Board and will play an integral role in shaping the association's future.

"We are excited to welcome Eric and Nicolle to the Board," said Cristi Carrington Board President of SLA of Washington. "Their industry knowledge and dedication to advancing the surplus lines market will be invaluable as we continue our efforts to support and strengthen our community."

The 2025 SLA of Washington Board of Directors is as follows:

President- Cristi Carrington *Brown and Riding Insurance Services*

Vice President- Gretchen Echelbarger *R-T Specialty*

Secretary Treasurer- Katy Peterson *Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance*

Past President- Connie Divelbiss *Risk Placement Services*

Director- Jeff Abram *Cochrane & Company*

Director- Roy Rankin *Superior Underwriters*

Director- Richard White *Complement Marine Agency*

Director- Eric Merriman *CRC Insurance Services*

Director- Nicolle Walsh *Admiral Insurance Group*

The Annual Meeting provided a valuable opportunity for members to connect, share insights, and collaborate on strategies to address the evolving needs of the surplus line insurance market in Washington State. SLAW looks forward to building on the successes of the past year and continuing to advocate for a strong and sustainable insurance marketplace.

For more information about the Surplus Line Association of Washington, please visit [Surplus Line Association of Washington](https://www.surplusline.org) or contact us at info@surpluslines.org.

About The Surplus Line Association of Washington:

The Surplus Line Association of Washington (SLAW) is a not-for-profit association that represents and serves the interests of the surplus lines insurance market in Washington State. SLAW works to promote the understanding and use of surplus lines insurance, provides education and resources to its members, and advocates for sound regulatory policies in the state.