



For Immediate Release

Media Contact:

Megan Flanagan, Executive Director
(952) 928-4644
info@imcanet.com

IMCA Announces Valerie Foster as Executive Chair, New Directors Elected to Board

MINNEAPOLIS, MN, September 11, 2019 – The Insurance Marketing & Communications Association (IMCA) has announced Valerie Foster of Berkley Alliance Managers, a Berkley Company as the organization's Executive Chair for the 2019-2020 year.

Foster has served on the IMCA Board of Directors since 2013. She has held the position of co-chair for the Showcase, Sponsor and Speakers committees and has been conference co-chair, treasurer and most recently has served as executive vice-chair. Foster is vice president, director of marketing for Berkley Alliance Managers, a Berkley Company. She has more than 25 years of strategic marketing, communications, branding and event experience with 14 years of her career in the specialty insurance sector.

The IMCA Executive Committee also includes:

- Executive Vice-Chair: Christopher Nance, California Earthquake Authority
- Treasurer – Hank Pinkowski, MAPFRE Insurance
- Immediate Past Chair – Emily Hathcoat, Risk Placement Services, Inc.

In August, IMCA membership elected ten new directors to two-year terms. They are:

- Hadie Bartholomew, Westfield Insurance
- Megan Bell, Falvey Insurance Group
- Alissa Carson, UFG
- Traci Catalano, Old Republic Surety
- Dave Dietz, GuideOne Insurance
- Amy Hourigan, HAI Group
- Arlene Kim, ReSource Pro
- Jessica Marshall, CRC Group
- John-Michael Polley, Shepherd Insurance
- Clifton Simmons, Allstate Insurance Company

In addition, Peter van Aartrijk was re-elected to an additional two-year term. Directors Jim Flynn, Rachel Harris, Angela Kim, Paula Negro and Stacey Rebbert are in the middle of their two-year terms and were not up for election.

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About the Insurance Marketing & Communications Association

IMCA is the oldest association for insurance marketing and communications professionals in North America with roots tracing back to 1921. Membership includes leading international and domestic multiline insurance companies and brokerage firms, regional and specialty companies, general agencies, and prominent industry suppliers. The organization represents over 120 companies, including the industry's top five property/casualty writers. Members include senior level management and professional staff working in the areas of corporate communications, advertising, public relations, marketing communications, marketing and sales promotion, marketing research and technology. **Visit IMCA at imcanet.com.**