



Contact

For Immediate Release

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Craig Sparks to Chair ICT Board

The Insurance Council of Texas (ICT) has elected Craig Sparks chairman of the board of directors beginning January 1, 2010.

Sparks is president of the Union Standard Insurance Company in Irving. Sparks' insurance career began the day he graduated from the University of Central Arkansas when he joined Floyd West & Company as a special agent. He also worked at Crum and Forster and Wausau before joining Union Standard as branch manager in 1993. He worked his way up to regional manager and became president of Union Standard in 2000.

Sparks was recently elected president of the Association of Fire and Casualty Companies of Texas (AFACT) and is the founding president of the Texas Committee on Insurance Fraud. Sparks said he will be proud to take over the helm at ICT. "ICT's membership now represents 99 percent of the Texas auto and homeowner's insurance market and that means the organization must work even harder to represent the industry," Sparks said. "I will do my best to see that ICT speaks for all of our members when we face tough issues in the marketplace."

Jim Harms, branch vice president of the CNA Insurance Group, was elected vice chairman. Dennis Devlin, regional vice president of the Travelers Companies, was elected treasurer. Joe Johnson, regional manager of the United Fire Group, was elected secretary.

Dorothy Langley, vice president and general counsel of Kemper, will serve as immediate past chair president.

The other members of the ICT board of directors and their representatives are:

- Allstate Insurance Group: Robert Zeman
- Chubb Group of Insurance Companies: Tom Fitzpatrick
- Farmers Insurance Group: Frank Galitski
- Liberty Mutual Insurance Company: Lee Ann Alexander
- The Republic Group: Richard Mayer
- State Auto Insurance Company: Lyndell Haigood
- State Farm: Craig Nadziejka
- Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Companies: Mike Gerik
- USAA: Robert Gilbert

James Drawert with the Republic Group also serves on the board as an advisory director.

The Insurance Council of Texas is the largest state insurance trade association in the country consisting of more than 500 property and casualty insurers writing business in Texas. For more information turn to ICT's Web site at www.insurancecouncil.org.

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