

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**MERRIMACK, SS.**

**SUPERIOR COURT**

**Docket No. 03-E-0106**

**In the Matter of the Liquidation of  
The Home Insurance Company**

**LIQUIDATOR'S MOTION FOR  
APPROVAL OF 2012 COMPENSATION PLANS**

Roger A. Sevigny, Commissioner of Insurance for the State of New Hampshire, as Liquidator ("Liquidator") of The Home Insurance Company ("Home"), hereby moves that the Court enter an order approving integrated compensation plans for the employees of Home in 2012 (the "2012 Employee Compensation Plans") and a compensation and incentive/retention plan in 2012 (the "Special Deputy Plan") for Peter A. Bengelsdorf, the Special Deputy Liquidator of Home (the "Special Deputy Liquidator") (collectively, the "Plans"). Summaries of the incentive components of the 2012 Employee Compensation Plans are attached as Exhibits A and B and the Ernst & Young LLP ("E&Y") advisory letter dated November 8, 2011 is attached as Exhibit C. A summary of the Special Deputy Plan is provided in the Liquidator's Affidavit and in the E&Y advisory letter dated October 20, 2011 and attached as Exhibit D. The 2012 Employee Compensation Plans consist of annual salary programs supplemented by an Annual Incentive Plan ("Annual Plan") (Exhibit A) and a Collection Incentive Plan ("Collection Plan") (Exhibit B). The Special Deputy Plan provides compensation for services rendered on an hourly basis as well as an incentive/retention program. The Plans are intended to reward performance and reinforce retention of essential employees and the Special Deputy Liquidator in order to facilitate the successful, efficient and prompt completion of the liquidation process. The

structure of the Plans is substantially the same as originally proposed and approved in 2004 and each year thereafter, although for 2012 the Liquidator proposes to reduce the number of employees who would be eligible to participate in the Annual Plan and to cap the Special Deputy Liquidator's base compensation. The Plans and their estimated 2012 cost have been reviewed with the National Conference of Insurance Guaranty Fund's Subcommittee on Home which has advised that it has no objection to this Court's approval of the Plans. In support hereof, the Liquidator respectfully represents as follows:

1. Liquidation Staff for Home. As described in the Liquidator's reports and the Liquidator's Motion for Approval of Compensation Plans dated April 5, 2004 (concerning the 2004 compensation plans) (the "2004 Compensation Motion"), shortly after the liquidation proceeding began in June 2003, the Liquidator determined that the most efficient way to organize the liquidation process was to hire the most critical Risk Enterprise Management ("REM") employees. This permitted the Liquidator to benefit from the continued involvement of experienced employees with prior involvement with the Home runoff. The Liquidator initially hired 98 employees (93 from REM and 5 others) to handle the liquidation of Home. The liquidation is presently staffed by 67 employees, 56 of whom are located in New York City and 11 in Manchester, New Hampshire. Affidavit of Peter A. Bengelsdorf, Special Deputy Liquidator, in Support of Approval of 2012 Compensation Plans ("Bengelsdorf Aff.") ¶ 3.

2. The Special Deputy Liquidator. Shortly after the liquidation proceeding began in June 2003, the Special Deputy Liquidator was recruited from private industry and appointed to manage the operations of the liquidation.<sup>1</sup> The Special Deputy Liquidator is a consultant to the Liquidator, not an employee of Home. The terms of his engagement are described in a June 11,

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<sup>1</sup> The Special Deputy Liquidator also served as Home's Special Deputy Commissioner prior to liquidation.

2003 Consulting Agreement which was approved by the Court on June 30, 2003 (the “Consulting Agreement”). The Consulting Agreement remains in effect until terminated. The Special Deputy Liquidator does not participate in the incentive compensation plans for employees of Home, nor does he receive any health and welfare, retirement or severance benefits from Home. As an independent contractor, he pays the full Social Security tax (employer and employee share) on his compensation. Pursuant to the Consulting Agreement, the Special Deputy Liquidator has been paid an hourly rate of \$250 since his engagement began in 2003. The Special Deputy Liquidator was eligible to receive an annual incentive award of \$400,000 during 2004 and 2005; \$300,000 during 2006, 2007 and 2008; \$200,000 during 2009 and 2010; and \$175,000 in 2011 as well as an annual “Stay Bonus” of \$400,000 during each such year. The reductions in potential annual incentive bonus amounts were at the Special Deputy Liquidator’s request. Affidavit of Roger A. Sevigny, Liquidator, in Support of Approval of Compensation Plan for the Special Deputy Liquidator (“Sevigny Aff.”) ¶¶ 5, 6.

3. The Retention of Experienced Employees and the Special Deputy Liquidator Benefits Creditors. Home operated internationally and specialized in affording complex forms of insurance to large enterprises. Due to the sophisticated nature of Home’s insurance products, operations and supporting reinsurance programs, an experienced and stable liquidation staff operating under the management of a well-qualified and competent Special Deputy Liquidator will materially contribute to the efficient collection of assets and adjudication of claims. This is illustrated by the increase in Home’s liquid invested assets from the day the Order of Rehabilitation was entered, approximately \$12.7 million as of March 2003, to an estimated \$1.4 billion as of September 30, 2011. (These figures include USI Re, \$212 million of Class II early access distributions to guaranty associations to date, \$36 million in Class I distributions to

guaranty associations and \$12 million of additional Class I guaranty association claims that are currently being processed.) Most of this increase is attributable to a combination of reinsurance recoveries and other financial settlements negotiated by the Special Deputy Liquidator and Home's experienced staff. Maximizing the prompt collection of assets advantages Home's creditors and is one of the principal statutory goals of the liquidation. RSA 402-C:25, VI. The Liquidator believes that this objective can be facilitated through an alignment of creditor interests with the interests of Home's employees. Seigny Aff. ¶ 3; Bengelsdorf Aff. ¶¶ 3, 4.

4. Performance Based Compensation Plans are Appropriate for Large Insurer Receiverships. The Liquidator seeks to continue to provide compensation consistent with best practices with respect to compensation in insurance company liquidations, provide competitive annual and long-term earnings opportunities and balance performance-based rewards with short-term and long-term retention. As set forth in the 2004 Compensation Motion, the Liquidator engaged nationally recognized compensation consultants to assist in the design of employee compensation plans for 2004. The consultants had experience in the design of compensation plans for large insurers, like Home, in liquidation. They concluded that Home's base salaries were approximately at the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile among comparable companies and recommended that total direct compensation (base salary and incentive bonuses) range between the 50<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentile. Seigny Aff. ¶ 2; Bengelsdorf Aff. ¶ 5, 6. E&Y also reviewed the scope and duties of the Special Deputy Liquidator position and, based on its experience in working with other companies in liquidation and distressed situations as well as "healthy" companies, identified comparable positions against which to evaluate market competitiveness of the 2012 Special Deputy Plan. The overall compensation framework includes compensation and

incentive/retention components designed to align incentives to the Special Deputy Liquidator with liquidation goals. *Sevigny Aff.* ¶¶ 2, 8, 9.

5. The Three 2004 Employee Compensation Programs. As set forth in the 2004 Compensation Motion, the Liquidator engaged nationally recognized compensation consultants to assist in the design of employee compensation plans for 2004. The consultants had experience in the design of compensation plans for large insurers, like Home, in liquidation. They concluded that Home's base salaries were approximately at the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile among comparable companies and recommended that total direct compensation (base salary and incentive bonuses) range between the 50<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentile. To retain and compensate the necessary staff for Home, the Liquidator accordingly developed and requested approval for three integrated compensation plans for 2004: a Retention Incentive Plan for non-exempt full time employees, an Annual Incentive Plan for exempt full time employees including executives, and a Collection Incentive Plan for executives. As set forth in the 2004 Compensation Motion, the Liquidator's consultants advised that the plans represented best practices with respect to compensation in insurance company liquidations, provided competitive annual and long-term earnings opportunities, and balanced performance-based rewards with short-term and long-term retention. The individual programs were integrated across employee levels and would provide, if performance goals were met or exceeded, total direct compensation between the 50<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentile market levels. This was the level of compensation recommended by the Liquidator's consultants in order to retain experienced employees. The Court approved the compensation plans for 2004 by order issued April 21, 2004 and the similar 2005 compensation plans by order dated March 4, 2005. *Bengelsdorf Aff.* ¶¶ 5, 6.

6. The Proposed 2012 Employee Compensation Plans are Based on the 2006 Compensation Plans. After consulting with E&Y in 2006, the Liquidator proposed to eliminate the Retention Incentive Plan and continue the Annual Plan and Collection Incentive Plan on essentially the same terms as in 2005. The Court approved the 2006 Compensation Plans, including the elimination of the Retention Incentive Plan, by order dated February 8, 2006. During 2004 and 2005 the Retention Incentive Plan applied to Home's 15 non-exempt (Federal Wage and Hour Law) employees. Beginning in 2006 those employees had individual performance goals and were included in the Annual Plan. The proposed 2012 Employee Compensation Plans are based on the 2006 Compensation Plans. Bengelsdorf Aff. ¶ 7.

7. The 2012 Employee Compensation Plans. The Liquidator seeks to continue to provide compensation consistent with best practices with respect to compensation in insurance company liquidations, provide competitive annual and long-term earnings opportunities and balance performance-based rewards with short-term and long-term retention. The 2012 Employee Compensation Plans therefore consist of annual base salary programs supplemented, in certain cases, by the Annual Plan and the Collection Plan. Bengelsdorf Aff. ¶¶ 2, 7

a. Annual Plan. This plan is designed to provide additional cash compensation based on the overall performance of Home's liquidation and the individual employee during the annual plan cycle. Fifteen full time employees as of January 1, 2012, would be eligible to participate in the Annual Plan. Bengelsdorf Aff. ¶ 10.

i. The Annual Plan was a component of the 2004 Employee Compensation Plans. In 2011, the Liquidator proposed to reduce participation in the Annual Plan by eliminating participation for employees with base salaries less than \$75,000. In lieu of the Annual Plan, up to 70% of the amount that would otherwise be paid in incentive payments to

these employees was used to increase their salaries and the remainder was applied toward the annual 401(k) safe harbor contribution. This change, which did not increase total expenses, was based on the conclusion that, in the prevailing circumstances, the nature of these positions was such that the affected employees had less ability to directly affect operating results. Compensation based solely on annual salary was therefore deemed most appropriate. The court approved this change in an order dated December 30, 2010. Bengelsdorf Aff. ¶¶ 6, 8.

ii. In 2012 the Liquidator proposes to further reduce participation in the Annual Plan by eliminating participation for employees with base salary less than \$150,000. This change is based on the conclusion that, in continuation of the trend underlying the 2011 changes to the Annual Plan, the nature of these positions is such that they have less ability to directly affect operating results. As a result, Compensation based solely on annual salary is therefore deemed most appropriate and, in lieu of the Annual Plan the Liquidator proposes that up to 60% of the amount that would otherwise be paid in incentive payments to these employees (approximately \$320,000) would be used to increase their salaries and the remainder (approximately \$103,000) would be applied toward the annual 401(k) safe harbor contribution. This change is expected to reduce total expenses by approximately \$110,000. Bengelsdorf Aff. ¶ 9.

iii. As with the Annual Plan for preceding years, the Liquidator will determine the annual goals, performance measures and payouts. The 2012 goals will include: operation within budget, accomplishment of enumerated claim determination processing objectives and reaching asset marshalling targets. Annual cash payments will be made after the close of the performance year (no later than March 15, 2013). If an employee voluntarily leaves or is terminated for cause, then no Annual Plan payment would be made. In the event of death,

disability or an involuntary termination, the employee will be entitled to a pro rata share of any Annual Plan payment. The estimated 2012 cost for the Annual Plan is approximately \$1.17 million (compared with \$1.52 million estimated to be paid for 2011, \$1.73 million estimated to be paid for 2010, \$1.86 million paid for 2009, \$2.29 million paid for 2008, \$2.23 million paid for 2007, \$2.28 million paid for 2006, \$2.28 million paid for 2005, and \$2.61 million paid for 2004). Bengelsdorf Aff. ¶ 10.

b. Collection Plan. At the discretion of the Liquidator, the seven senior executives of Home would be eligible to participate in the Collection Plan. The Collection Plan is designed to provide focused incentives for the collection of assets, determination of claims and management of the liquidation in an efficient manner. Awards under this plan will be based on the accomplishment of annual corporate targets but may also vary, at the discretion of the Liquidator, based on achievement of individual performance goals. The objective of the Collection Plan, through deferred compensation, is to retain senior and experienced executives as long as deemed necessary by the Liquidator. Therefore, any Collection Plan award will be deferred and funded into a trust account. The employee will actually receive those funds only upon the involuntary termination of employment other than for cause, or at the dates established by the Liquidator (e.g., an interim 40% payout at July 1, 2014 and 60% payout at July 1, 2016). If an employee voluntarily terminates or is terminated for cause, then all Collection Plan amounts are forfeited. In the event of death or disability, the Collection Plan amounts will be distributed. The estimated 2012 cost for the Collection Plan is approximately \$844,809 (compared with \$895,145 estimated to be paid for both 2010 and 2011, \$1.06 million paid for 2009, \$1.32 million paid for 2008, \$1.31 million paid for 2007, \$1.45 million paid for 2006, \$1.51 million paid for 2005, and \$1.48 million paid for 2004). ). This figure reflects a 5%



reduction in the amounts that all but one of the Home executives are eligible to receive under the Collection Plan. This figure also represents a further \$5,000 reduction in Collection Plan eligibility for two executives whose compensation is highly competitive at the median market level. Bengelsdorf Aff. ¶ 11.

8. Market Comparability of Home's 2012 Employee Compensation Plans. The Liquidator's consultant, E&Y, advises that the 2012 Employee Compensation Plans are appropriate and consistent with general market practices and to insurance companies in liquidation. It further advises that the individual plan designs and mechanics are based upon accepted compensation practices for insurance companies in liquidation, and that the levels of pay provided by the individual plans, as well as the overall total compensation, represent market competitive compensation levels.<sup>2</sup> Bengelsdorf Aff. ¶ 14.

9. Home's Non-Contributory 401(k) Plan Safe Harbor Payment. The total incentive compensation budget (assuming performance goals are met) for 2012 has been reduced to reflect a safe harbor payment to permit full participation by employees in Home's 401(k) plan. As described in the Liquidator's reports, Home adopted a non-contributory 401(k) plan effective October 1, 2004. Further, effective January 1, 2005, Home adopted the safe harbor provision under Internal Revenue Service rules so that all employees who wish to do so may contribute the maximum amount to the 401(k) plan. The cost of adopting the safe harbor provision is three percent of employees' earnings (up to an individual employee earnings cap of \$225,000). The cost for 2012 is estimated to be approximately \$262,000, which has been applied to reduce the

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<sup>2</sup> E&Y's analysis has historically been based on national data and E&Y continues to apply to this data in analyzing the market competitiveness of compensation for Home's seven senior executives. For Home's remaining employees, however, E&Y has concluded that regional data is more appropriate. The analysis of the 2012 Employee Compensation Plans that is contained in E&Y's advisory letter is therefore based on data for New York and New Hampshire, the competitive markets for Home's purposes.

budget for the Annual and Collection Plans to the amounts set forth above. Bengelsdorf Aff.

¶ 12.

10. Purposes of the Proposed Special Deputy Plan. The proposed 2012 Special Deputy Plan is described in the E&Y letter and has four primary objectives. First, it recognizes the Special Deputy Liquidator's role as top executive of the Home liquidation operation. Although an independent contractor, the Special Deputy Liquidator works at least the hours of a full time employee and, because he is responsible for Home's day-to-day operations he has more responsibility than any other employee of Home. He provides similar services, at no cost to Home, respecting certain other pending New Hampshire insurer receiverships. Second, the Plan acknowledges the Special Deputy Liquidator's significant accomplishments to date as evidenced by the large increase in Home's cash and liquid invested assets and the resolution of numerous business issues as described in the Liquidator's quarterly reports. Third, the Special Deputy Plan aligns the Special Deputy Liquidator's incentives with those of Home's creditors and the Liquidator's goals for Home. Specifically, the Special Deputy Liquidator must marshal assets of Home; hire and maintain Home's staff; prepare and file timely and accurate reports for the Liquidator (and ultimately with the Court); and operate Home in a cost-effective manner. Fourth, the Special Deputy Plan is intended to provide the Special Deputy Liquidator with compensation consistent with competitive market positioning in relation to Home's current executive team. Sevigny Aff. ¶ 9.

11. The Proposed 2012 Special Deputy Plan. The Special Deputy Plan consists of three components: base compensation, an annual incentive bonus structure, and a "Stay Bonus". The 2012 Special Deputy Plan proposes an adjustment to the structure of the Special Deputy Liquidator's base compensation with his AI and "Stay Bonus" remaining unchanged (excepting

the possible deduction discussed below in subparagraph a). Assuming the Special Deputy Liquidator stays until December 20, 2012 and achieves all the annual incentive goals, the estimated 2012 cost for the incentive/retention portions of the Plan would be \$575,000. Estimated 2012 payments to the Special Deputy Liquidator under the Consulting Agreement are an additional \$600,000. Total compensation for 2012 would thus represent a \$12,000 deduction from estimated total compensation for 2011. Sevigny Aff. ¶ 10, 11.

a. *Base Compensation.* From 2003 through 2011, the Special Deputy Liquidator's base compensation was calculated by applying a \$250 per hour rate to the number of hours worked and billed. At this hourly rate, base compensation for the Special Deputy Liquidator in 2011 is anticipated to be \$612,000. Under the proposed 2012 Special Deputy Plan, as requested by the Special Deputy Liquidator, this structure would be modified with the Special Deputy Liquidator's hourly rate increased to \$285 and his total base compensation capped at \$600,000. Full payment of the \$600,000 would be contingent on the Special Deputy Liquidator working 2,100 hours between January 1, 2011 and December 20, 2012. The Special Deputy Liquidator would be paid twelve monthly installments of \$50,000. If he works fewer than 2,100 hours, an amount equal to the shortfall in hours multiplied by the \$285 hourly rate would be deducted from the "Stay Bonus" otherwise payable to him on December 20, 2012. If the Special Deputy Liquidator works more than 2,100 hours then no additional base compensation would be payable and there would be no adjustment to his "Stay Bonus". Sevigny Aff. ¶ 10(a).

b. *Annual Incentive.* The Special Deputy Plan provides an annual incentive bonus structure ("AI"). As with the AI component of the Special Deputy Liquidator's compensation plans from 2004 through 2011, the Liquidator will set annual goals for the Special Deputy Liquidator (e.g., success in marshaling assets, organization performance within budget,

implementation of an effective claim determination operation, obtaining an appropriate independent auditor opinion, timely and accurate reporting to the Liquidator and the Court throughout the performance year). After the end of the year, the Liquidator will evaluate the Special Deputy Liquidator's performance with respect to each of those goals and determine the AI bonus based upon those accomplishments. The 2012 AI provides the Special Deputy Liquidator with an opportunity to earn an AI bonus of \$175,000 (equal to the AI bonus in 2011 and down from the AI bonus of \$200,000 in 2010 and 2009, \$300,000 in 2008, 2007, and 2006, and \$400,000 in 2005). E&Y determined that this target dollar amount falls between the amounts available to other Home executives under the 2012 Employee Compensation Plans. Seigny Aff. ¶ 10(b).

c. *"Stay Bonus"*. Pursuant to his compensation plans from 2004 through 2011, the Special Deputy Liquidator has received a "Stay Bonus" of \$400,000. The "Stay Bonus" provides a cash incentive to this senior and experienced insurance industry executive and encourages him to remain with Home. As proposed in the 2012 Special Deputy Plan, a "Stay Bonus" covering a twelve month period from January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 of \$400,000 (adjustable as discussed above in subparagraph a) is payable on December 20, 2012.<sup>3</sup> Seigny Aff. ¶ 10(c).

12. Annual Renewal of the AI and "Stay Bonus". Prior to 2008, the term of the Consulting Agreement between the Liquidator and Mr. Bengelsdorf had been continuous until terminated but the term of the AI and "Stay Bonus" was annual. The AI and "Stay Bonus" had been negotiated and agreed upon each year but were not always submitted and approved before

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<sup>3</sup> In the event of death or disability both the AI bonus and the Stay Bonus are paid in full. In the event the Special Deputy Liquidator is terminated without cause or the Special Deputy Plan is terminated or not renewed, such bonuses will be pro-rated.

January 1 of the applicable year. This left a gap between the end of the performance year and the effective date of the next year's plan, creating substantial risk to Mr. Bengelsdorf and his estate in the event of his death or disability during the interim. In order to avoid such unintended consequences from a gap in entitlement to the AI and "Stay Bonus," in 2008 the Special Deputy Plan provided for the AI and "Stay Bonus" to remain in effect but be subject to annual review by the Liquidator and approval by the Court. If the Special Deputy Plan were to be terminated by the Liquidator or not approved for continuation by the Court, Mr. Bengelsdorf would receive a pro rata benefit. Seigny Aff. ¶ 12.

13. Market Competitiveness of the Proposed Special Deputy Plan. E&Y reviewed the scope and duties of the Special Deputy Liquidator position and, based on its experience in working with other companies in liquidation and distressed situations as well as "healthy" companies, identified comparable positions against which to evaluate market competitiveness of the 2012 Special Deputy Plan. E&Y advises that a competitive compensation level is one that approximates 85%-115% of the targeted market level (typically a range between the 50<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentile). E&Y found that the Special Deputy Liquidator's proposed 2012 total direct compensation (or TDC, defined as base salary plus annual incentive and "Stay Bonus") after adjustment for the absence of benefits is significantly below the market median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile), is significantly less than competitive and is less competitive than the total direct compensation for Home's other top executives, which is between the 50<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles. E&Y further advises that the proposed Special Deputy Plan provides variable or performance-based compensation while also encouraging a continuation of the existing working relationship. Seigny Aff. ¶¶ 8, 13.

14. The Liquidator's Consultant Advises that the Proposed Plans are Appropriate.

The Liquidator's consultant, E&Y, advises that the 2012 Employee Compensation Plans are appropriate and consistent with general market practices and to insurance companies in liquidation. E&Y also concludes that the overall levels of pay provided by the individual incentive plans, as well as the overall total compensation, represent market competitive compensation levels. Bengelsdorf Aff. ¶ 14. The 2012 Special Deputy Plan compensation, in E&Y's opinion, represents total direct compensation significantly below the competitive range of median market levels. Nevertheless, these terms are acceptable to the Special Deputy Liquidator. Seigny Aff. ¶ 13.

15. The Plans Are Necessary. The Liquidator believes that without the adoption of these plans the liquidation effort would be harmed because key employees would seek better, more long-term career opportunities elsewhere while the services and experience of the Special Deputy Liquidator might be lost. See Seigny Aff. ¶ 14; Bengelsdorf Aff. ¶ 15.

16. The Liquidator's Authority to Set the Terms of Employment. The Liquidator has authority under RSA 402-C:25, II, and paragraph (r) of the Order of Liquidation issued June 13, 2003, to engage employees and set the terms of their compensation "subject to the control of the court." The Liquidator also has authority pursuant to RSA 402-C: 25, IV, to use the property of Home and to defray the costs of collecting its assets and liquidating its property and business.

17. The Liquidator's Authority to Appoint a Special Deputy Liquidator. The Liquidator has authority under RSA 402-C: 25, I and paragraph (t) of the Liquidation Order entered June 13, 2003, to appoint a special deputy and determine his or her compensation "subject to the court's control." The Liquidator also has authority pursuant to RSA 402-C: 25,

IV to use the property of Home to defray the costs of collecting its assets and liquidating its property and business.

18. The Plans are Fair and Reasonable. For the reasons described above, in the Seigny Affidavit and in the Bengelsdorf Affidavit, the Liquidator submits that the Plans are fair and reasonable and in the best interests of the liquidation and of the policyholders and other creditors of Home.

WHEREFORE, the Liquidator requests that the Court enter an order in the form submitted herewith approving the Plans and grant such other and further relief as may be just.


Respectfully submitted,

ROGER A. SEVIGNY, COMMISSIONER OF  
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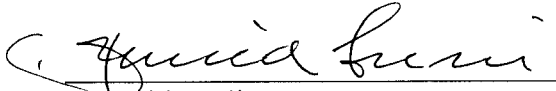


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December 14, 2011

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Motion for Approval of 2012 Compensation Plans, the Affidavit of Roger A. Sevigny, Liquidator, the Affidavit of Peter A. Bengelsdorf, Special Deputy Liquidator, and the proposed form of order were sent, this 14th day of December, 2011, by first class mail, postage prepaid to all persons on the attached service list.

  
J. David Leslie



THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

MERRIMACK, SS.

SUPERIOR COURT

In the Matter of the Liquidation of  
The Home Insurance Company  
Docket No. 03-E-0106

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The Home Insurance Company in Liquidation  
2012

**Annual Incentive Plan ("AIP")**

| Component        | Plan Design  |
|------------------|--|
| Administration   | Plan to be administered by the Liquidator who retains the authority to interpret the Plan, to establish or revise the Plan rules and policies, and to make any determinations necessary to administer the Plan including individual award determinations, funding, and distributions/payouts.  |
| Term             | Annual plan, renewable at the discretion of the Liquidator.  |
| Effective Date   | January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012  |
| Eligibility      | <p>Employees whose base salaries are greater than \$150,000 and who are employed full time as of January 1, 2012. In the case of a new hire, participation will be prorated for the Plan Year. All participants will be informed of their participation at the beginning of the Plan Year in writing.</p> <p>Eligible employees must be employed full time for no less than 90 days to fully participate in the Annual Plan Cycle. Payments will be pro rated in the event of a partial year of service.</p> <p>Eligibility and/or participation in this plan is not intended as a commitment by The Home Insurance Company in Liquidation for continued employment for the duration of the Plan Year. Participation is not to be construed as a guarantee of employment or any payments under the Plan.</p> |
| Payment Currency | <p>All awards under this Plan will be paid in cash via regular payroll, subject to all tax reporting and withholding.</p> <p>Employees must be employed full time as of the date checks are issued to receive payment under the Plan.</p>  |
| General Design   | The Plan is designed to provide additional annual cash compensation based on the overall performance of Home and the individual eligible employee during the Annual Plan Cycle. Performance will be assessed in relation to annual goals as determined by the Liquidator. The Liquidator retains sole authority to determine annual goals, performance measures, and payouts.  |

The Home Insurance Company in Liquidation  
2012

**Annual Incentive Plan**

| Component                                  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <p>Eligible positions/employees will have the opportunity to earn an additional annual cash incentive payment under this Plan. Individual earnings opportunities will be based on position level as determined by the Liquidator.</p> <p>Annually, at the outset of the Plan Cycle, the Liquidator will set the annual corporate goals for this plan. Both a "threshold" (or minimum) and "target" (or expected) level of net cash collections will be defined. When the "threshold" level is attained, AIP payments will be triggered at 50% of the "target" payout defined for each participating position. Achievement of "target" results will trigger the "target" payout. Results above "target" will be prorated.</p> <p>Annual performance goals for participating individuals may also include, at the discretion of the Liquidator, an individual component. Any individual performance goals will be defined at the outset of the plan year in the individual confirmation (of participation) letters. The relative weighting of these individual goals in relation to the total company financial goals will also be specified.</p> |
| Payout Frequency                           | <p>Payments are annual and will be made no later than 30 days following the release of unaudited annual financial results.</p>  |
| Coordination with employment offer letters | <p>Payments under this Plan will be coordinated with any annual bonus/incentive payments provided in individual employment offer letters. Annual payments under this plan to any eligible participating employees will be computed as the greater of either the AIP payment or the payment specified in the individual employment offer letter.</p>   |
| Payout Decision Rules                      | <p>If employment is terminated due to:</p> <p>Death - a pro rata share of any AIP payment will be paid to the employee's estate at the next regular year-end payout date.</p> <p>Disability - accrual ceases when the employee has been disabled for greater than 30 calendar days; a pro rata share of any partial year AIP payment will be paid to the employee at the next regular year end payout date. Participation</p>   |

The Home Insurance Company in Liquidation  
2012

**Annual Plan**

| Component |  |
|-----------|--|
|           | <p>can resume if the employee returns to full time employment; in such case a pro rata share of any AIP payment will be made for a partial year of participation. Voluntary resignation - no payments will be made to employees who voluntarily resign their employment.</p> <p>Involuntary termination "not for cause" or position elimination - a pro rata payment will be made to employees who are terminated involuntarily at the next regular year end payout date or, at the Liquidator's discretion, paid out at the next regular payroll cycle following the termination date.</p> <p>Involuntary termination "for cause" - no payments will be made to employees who are terminated "for cause".</p> |

The Home Insurance Company in Liquidation  
2012

Collection Incentive Plan ("CIP")

| Component        | Plan Design  |
|------------------|--|
| Administration   | Plan to be administered by the Liquidator who retains the authority to interpret the Plan, to establish or revise the Plan rules and policies, and to make any determinations necessary to administer the Plan including individual award determinations, funding, and distributions/payouts.  |
| Term             | Annual plan, renewable at the discretion of the Liquidator.  |
| Effective Date   | January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012  |
| Eligibility      | <p>Senior executive employees of The Home Insurance Company in Liquidation (the "Home") will be eligible for participation in this Plan at the sole discretion of the Liquidator.</p> <p>Except in the case of a newly hired senior executive, eligibility will be determined on or about the beginning of the Plan Cycle and all participants will be informed in writing of their participation, potential payouts (including interim payouts) under the Plan, performance goals and payout formula(s), and Plan administration protocols no later than 30 days after the start of the Plan Cycle.</p> <p>Eligible employees must be employed full time for no less than 90 days to participate in the annual Plan Cycle. Payments will be pro rated in the event of a partial year of service.</p> <p>Eligibility and/or participation in this plan is not intended as a commitment by The Home Insurance Company in Liquidation for continued employment for the duration of the Plan Year. Participation is not to be construed as a guarantee of employment or of any payments under the Plan.</p> |
| Payment Currency | <p>All annual awards made under this Plan will be funded into a trust account for eligible participants no later than 30 days following the release of unaudited annual financial results.</p> <p>The Trust account will be held by the Trustee in the name of Home Incentive Compensation and will be administered as follows:</p>  |



The Home Insurance Company in Liquidation  
2012

**Collection Incentive Plan**

| Component |  |
|-----------|--|
|           | <p>The Trustee shall invest Trust assets so as to preserve principal, however if market conditions affect the principal negatively Home will guarantee the original award amount. Capital appreciation of Trust assets is not an investment objective. The Liquidator, may agree however, to the establishment of a procedure which allows for individual informal and non-binding suggestions with respect to the manner in which their awards may be invested prior to payment. This is not currently in place but if the Liquidator or Trustee chooses to implement this option, he will provide appropriate notice to Participants. In such an event, Home will not guarantee the original award amount.</p> <p>A participant's allocation within the funded account will be distributed to participants at the close of the liquidation, or at a predetermined date set in the individual's employment offer letter, the Annual CIP letter or the Plan. Funds will be distributed or forfeited according to the Distribution Decision Rules noted below.</p> <p>Participants must take their allocated distribution from the incentive compensation Trust account at the time of distribution (assets cannot be held in the trust or rolled over to an IRA or other qualified pension plans). Distributions will be made in cash and will be subject to all normal tax withholding and reporting; the Trustee will be directed to file all necessary tax reporting upon distribution.</p> |

The Home Insurance Company in Liquidation  
2012

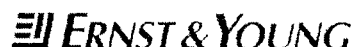
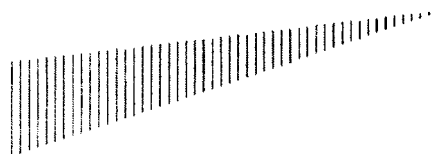
**Collection Incentive Plan**

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <p><b>Component</b></p>        | <p>The Plan is designed to serve as a retention incentive for senior executives to remain at Home through the successful close of the estate and to focus their energies on achieving the Liquidation's goals.</p> <p>Awards under this Plan will be based on annual financial results as determined by the Liquidator. For this Plan Cycle (January 1, 2012 through December 2012), the corporate goals are defined as net cash collected, expense control, and claim determination activity. Goals may vary in different Plan Cycles/Years. Annual goal(s) will be announced by the Liquidator at the outset of the Plan Year and communicated in writing to all eligible participants. Final results will be determined based on unaudited annual financial results at the end of the Plan Cycle.</p> <p>Target award levels will be defined and communicated at the outset of the Plan Year for all eligible participants. Target awards will be paid (i.e., funded into the Trust account as described herein) when the annual financial target(s) is achieved. Target awards for any participant may vary from Plan Year to year. Target awards will be defined in terms of a "percentage of base salary" and may vary from the target payout level based on company and individual performance.</p> <p>Annual awards may vary from the target amount based on the sole discretion of the Liquidator in assessing annual performance under the Plan.</p> <p>Annual performance goals for participating individuals may also include, at the discretion of the Liquidator, an individual component. Any individual performance goals will be defined at the outset of the Plan Year in the individual confirmation (of participation) letters. The relative weighting of these individual goals in relation to the total company financial goals will also be specified. Evaluation of results in relation to these individual goals will be made at year-end and integrated with the calculation of Annual Incentive Plan payouts.</p> |
| <p><b>Payout Frequency</b></p> | <p>Funding of the trust account for participants will be annual and the distribution of the funds will be made according to the annual document presented to the participants. Distributions of funds upon the participant's termination will be administered by the Trustee according to the Distribution Decision Rules below.</p>   |

The Home Insurance Company in Liquidation  
2012

**Collection Plan**

| Component                   |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Distribution Decision Rules | <p>Funds in the CIP trust account will be distributed as follows based on the conditions as stated below:</p> <p><b>Death</b> - all funds in the participant's allocated portion of the trust account will be paid to the individual's estate within 30 days of the Trustee receiving written notice of the employee's death. A pro rata share of the deceased employee's partial Plan Year participation will be paid to the estate at as soon as reasonably possible following the conclusion of the Plan Cycle.</p> <p><b>Disability</b> -accrual of benefits under this plan ceases when the employee is disabled for more than one calendar month; a pro rata share of any annual CIP award payment will be funded to the trust account at the next regular annual funding date. Employees can re-enter the Plan upon return to full time employment, in such a case, a pro rata share of the annual CIP award will be funded to the Trust's participating employee's account for the partial year. If the employee remains disabled and employment terminates pursuant to policy, such termination shall be deemed to be "not for cause" and payment for the participants allocated portion of the trust account payment shall be made as soon as reasonably possible following the conclusion of the Plan Cycle.</p> <p><b>Voluntary resignation</b> – a participant's allocated portion of the Trust account will be forfeited should the participating employee resign employment with Home prior to the close of the liquidation or other predetermined payout dates as specified in the Plan document, employment offer letter, or employee agreement. The Trustee will return all previously allocated funds for the ex-employee to Home.</p> <p><b>Involuntary termination</b> "not for cause" or position elimination - if an employee is terminated "not for cause" or his/her position is eliminated during the course of the Liquidation the participant's allocated portion of the trust account will be distributed to the participant by the Trustee as soon as reasonably possible. In the case of any Plan Cycle which is not yet completed, payment shall be made as soon as reasonably possible following the conclusion of the Plan Cycle. Involuntary termination "for cause" - a participant's CIP allocation will be forfeited with respect to employees who are terminated "for cause".</p> <p><b>Close of the estate/liquidation</b> - at the termination of The Home Insurance Company liquidation proceeding, the Liquidator will direct the Trustee to distribute all remaining funds based on each participant's allocated portion of the trust account according to the procedures described above.</p> |



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November 8, 2011

Mr. Roger Sevigny

In his capacity as Liquidator of The Home Insurance Company in Liquidation  
State of New Hampshire Insurance Department  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 14  
Concord NH 03301-7317

Dear Commissioner Sevigny:

As a part of our engagement with Home Insurance Company in Liquidation ("Home" or "the Company"), Ernst & Young LLP's (EY) Performance & Reward Practice has been asked to review the competitiveness of Home's current compensation levels to current market levels and provide a letter summarizing our findings. The information included in this letter is based upon our knowledge and extensive experience in advising (1) insurance companies in liquidation, (2) non-insurance companies in liquidation, (3) a broad cross-section of companies undergoing a financial restructuring, and (4) the results of the competitive market studies we have historically completed on behalf of Home.

Last year, EY performed a comprehensive market analysis, the FY 2011 Market Competitive Compensation Analysis ("2011 Analysis"), with respect to employee compensation levels. Home provided EY with job descriptions for each of the benchmarked positions. Home, together with EY, reviewed the job descriptions and matched each position to positions available in published surveys based on the type and level of work performed by Home personnel. Based on this rigorous process, Home and EY believe that the benchmarked positions were properly matched to the benchmark positions and their corresponding market compensation levels. Over the past year, our industry experience indicates that overall market compensation levels for key employees and executives have not changed significantly. Accordingly, our FY 2012 Market Competitive Compensation Analysis ("2012 Analysis") conducted on behalf of Home reflects the forward trending of published survey data gathered in the 2011 Analysis to January 1, 2012 at a trend factor of 3% (based on the WorldatWork Total Salary Increase Budget Survey's 2011 projected increases for executives in the finance and insurance industry (median value)).

As part of updating our analysis, EY collected and reviewed information from Home that has changed since the 2011 Analysis in terms of organizational structure, key employee position descriptions, and executive compensation arrangements. We have also taken into consideration Home's proposed changes to its Annual Incentive Plan ("AIP") for FY 2012 (please see additional details below) and current compensation levels for the 27 positions (28 incumbents), included in this analysis.



In FY 2011, Home decided to reduce participation in the Annual Incentive Plan ("AIP") by eliminating participation for employees with base salaries less than \$75,000. To effectuate this change, Home applied 70% of the targeted annual AIP towards base salary increases for each employee within this group. For FY 2012 Home is proposing to further reduce participation in the AIP program to approximately fifteen employees by limiting participation to certain employees whose base salary is greater than \$150,000. The proposed change will impact employees in salary grades 18 - 20 and employees in salary grades 21 with base salaries less than or equal to \$150,000. Home is recommending applying up to 60% of the targeted annual AIP towards base salary increases for each employee affected by the proposed FY 2012 change. Our 2012 Analysis assumes that the proposed changes will be implemented at 60%. In addition, for FY 2012 Home is also proposing to decrease the CIP amounts for six of the Top 7 Executives by 5%. The CIP will further be reduced by an additional \$5,000 for two executives who are highly competitive at the median market level.

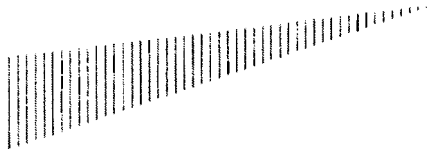
A separate 2012 published survey analysis was not conducted on behalf of Home due to the following reasons: i) the Company has not proposed any significant changes to their employee compensation levels in the past year (other than reducing participation in the AIP and reallocating a portion of their annual incentive awards to their base salaries), and ii) the survey data available for the insurance industry is highly volatile due to the significant impact the current economic environment has had on executive compensation overall. Therefore, we felt that performing a new market analysis in the current year would not be a cost effective undertaking at this time, and instead we intend to initiate a new study next year when more robust data is available. With that being said, we believe the current compensation levels in place for Home's employees, as a whole, remain consistent with market practices and our experience working with companies in liquidation.

In identifying the competitive market, companies in liquidation typically focus on "healthy company" pay levels because liquidating companies will continue to compete with healthy companies for talent during the liquidation process. Based upon our experience, companies in liquidation typically target base salaries at median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) market levels and TCC at or above median market levels of "healthy" companies within their specific and broader industry segments. In addition to TCC, companies typically provide their Senior Management Group with long-term incentives ("LTI") that are designed to provide additional performance-based incentives that can result in total direct compensation (or "TDC", defined as TCC plus LTI) levels between 50<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentile market levels of "healthy" companies within their specific and/or broader industry segment.

#### **HOME INSURANCE COMPANY IN LIQUIDATION**

##### **Background**

As Home approaches its ninth year of liquidation, it is critical to retain the individuals who hold key positions. Once Home entered liquidation, the Company hired 95 executives and employees that were considered to be critical to the success of the liquidation and valuable to the Company due to their significant industry and Company experience. Since 2004, 28



employees terminated employment with Home, either voluntarily or due to a reduction in force. Presently, there are 67 employees who remain with Home.

Beginning in the fall of 2003, Ernst & Young performed a market competitiveness study by reviewing executive and employee compensation in healthy insurance companies of similar size and scope to Home. This study approach and methodology employed the most prevalent techniques for assessing market competitiveness for companies in liquidation. The results of this study showed that, overall, Home's proposed 2004 base salaries approximated the market median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile). As a result, in 2004, Home's liquidation employees were provided with additional incentive opportunities so that compensation levels were sufficient to retain individuals and keep them focused on the goals and objectives of the Company's liquidation process.

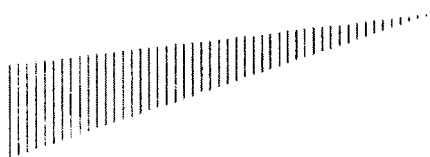
Three of the commonly used incentive plan designs for insurance companies in liquidation were selected and customized to the specific needs of Home in 2004. These new plans included: (1) the Retention Incentive Plan ("RIP"), (2) the Annual Incentive Plan ("AIP"), and (3) the Collection Incentive Plan ("CIP") which is a long-term incentive plan. For the performance-based plans (AIP and CIP), performance measures were selected that were (a) consistent with market practices of similarly situated companies and (b) aligned with the overall objectives of Home's liquidation.

As is typical among companies in restructuring and liquidation, Home's top executives currently participate in the AIP and the CIP programs. Exempt employees participate in the AIP. Non-exempt employees only participated in the RIP because they had the most limited ability to influence overall performance. However, in 2006 Home eliminated the RIP and moved the 13 non-exempt employees into the AIP. Because Home has implemented specific goals and a measurements assessment process, the Company believes all employees have the opportunity to contribute in specific and measurable ways.

In 2007 EY was asked to review the competitiveness of Home's compensation practices for 38 key employees. Based on the market competitiveness study performed, EY found that the compensation levels provided to Home's employees as a whole was generally competitive, while the compensation practices for employees in salary grades 15-19 were less than competitive. As a result, Home addressed this issue in 2007.

In 2009, Home made a budget decision to decrease the bonus opportunity for all employees, except for the lowest compensated group. Outside of the more highly compensated employees who received a 5% decrease to their AIP opportunity most employees received a 2% decrease.

In 2010 (effective for FY 2011), Home decided that employees with base salaries below \$75,000 would no longer participate in the AIP. Alternatively, these employees received a portion of their target AIP as base salary increases. The rationale for this change was threefold. First, the base salaries of this group (salary grades 16-18) were less than competitive to median market compensation levels. Second, AIPs for this group have



historically been paid out near target AIP levels. Third, Home believed this group of employees does not directly influence annual operating results. Therefore, Home re-allocated up to 70% of the targeted annual AIP for each employee within this group towards increases in their base salaries was warranted and aligned with the Company's compensation philosophy. The remaining 30% of the target AIP was used to fund annual 401(k) safe harbor contributions that Home makes each year. Under the new approach, Home did not incur any additional cost in 2011.

### **Compensation Analysis & Findings**

Generally, under EY's methodology, a level of pay that is 85% to 115% of the market consensus at the desired market position is considered competitive. This assumes that the incumbent has a moderate level of experience and is performing as expected. EY calculated the competitiveness of each incumbent's base salary, target TCC, and target TDC (Note: TDC was calculated for the Top 7 Senior Executives only) by dividing each component of pay by the market consensus at the 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles. The published survey sources provide actual base salary and actual TCC data points for specific positions based on industry, asset size, etc (trended to a specific date). The resulting percentage is used to categorize the competitiveness of compensation, as described by the following table:

| <b>Incumbent Pay vs. Market Consensus</b> | <b>Degree of Competitiveness</b>    |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 115% +                                    | Highly Competitive                  |
| 85% to 114.9%                             | Competitive                         |
| 75% to 84.9%                              | Less than Competitive               |
| Less than 75%                             | Significantly less than Competitive |

Overall, Home's base salary (99.9%), target TCC (104.4%) and target TDC (105.2%) compensation levels are competitive compared to the median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) of the competitive market. We suggest that the Company individually evaluate each incumbent relative to their indicated market compensation level to confirm that each individual's relative positioning to market is appropriate given the responsibility level, tenure and impact potential on Home's performance by the individual.

### **2012 Analysis Results (for FY 2012 Planning)**

The numbers in bold and underlined are outside EY's methodology for a competitive range (refer to the chart above for degrees of competitiveness). Values in red are less than competitive or significantly less than competitive while values in blue are highly competitive.

| Home Data vs. Market             | 25th Percentile |        |        | 50th Percentile (Median) |        |        | 75th Percentile |       |       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------|--------|--------------------------|--------|--------|-----------------|-------|-------|
|                                  | Base            | TCC    | TDC    | Base                     | TCC    | TDC    | Base            | TCC   | TDC   |
| 7 Senior Executives              | 118.0%          | 154.1% | 154.2% | 94.1%                    | 115.7% | 105.2% | 75.0%           | 87.8% | 79.7% |
| Salary Grades 21-22 <sup>1</sup> | 107.8%          | 120.9% | N/A    | 91.7%                    | 100.5% | N/A    | 76.7%           | 81.5% | N/A   |
| Salary Grades 18-21 <sup>2</sup> | 121.0%          | 114.4% | N/A    | 106.0%                   | 99.7%  | N/A    | 93.4%           | 86.7% | N/A   |
| Salary Grades 15-17              | 116.8%          | 112.8% | N/A    | 105.7%                   | 102.1% | N/A    | 94.8%           | 91.2% | N/A   |

#### Top 7 Senior Executives:

For the 7 Senior Executives, Home's target compensation data, which represents base salaries and incentive awards, are compared to national published survey analysis results.

**Competitiveness to Market:** Overall, the competitiveness of target TDC to current market compensation levels is as follows:

- ❑ **25th Percentile:** Target TDC for Top 7 is 54% above the 25th percentile, or is highly competitive compared to the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile market compensation levels.
- ❑ **50th Percentile:** Target TDC for Top 7 is 5% above the market median, or is competitive compared to median market compensation levels.
- ❑ **75th Percentile:** Target TDC for the Top 7 is 26% below the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile, or is significantly less than competitive compared to the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile market compensation levels.

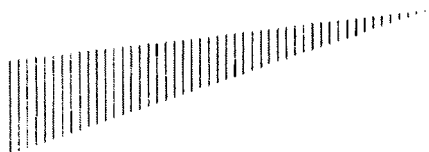
#### 20 Key Employee Benchmarked Positions:

Home's target data, which represents base salaries and incentive awards, are compared to regional published survey analysis results (e.g., New York and New Hampshire).

**Competitiveness to Market:** Overall, the competitiveness of target TCC to market levels is as follows:

- ❑ **25th Percentile:**
  - Salary grades 21 - 22<sup>1</sup>: Target TCC is highly competitive at 21% above the 25th percentile.
  - Salary grades 18 - 21<sup>2</sup>: Target TCC is competitive at 14% above the 25th percentile.
  - Salary grades 15 - 17: Target TCC is competitive at 13% above the 25th percentile.
- ❑ **50th Percentile:**
  - Salary grades 21 - 22<sup>1</sup>: Target TCC is competitive at the median (100.5%).
  - Salary grades 18 - 21<sup>2</sup>: Target TCC is competitive at the median (99.7%).
  - Salary grades 15 - 17: Target TCC is competitive at 2% above the median.





❑ **75th Percentile:**

- Salary grades 21 - 22<sup>1</sup>: Target TCC is less than competitive at 18% below the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile.
- Salary grades 18 - 21<sup>2</sup>: Target TCC is competitive at 13% below the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile.
- Salary grades 15 - 17: Target TCC is competitive at 9% below the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile.

**SUMMARY CONCLUSION**

Based upon our experience, the estimated 2012 compensation levels for Home's employee's as a whole are appropriate and consistent with general market practices and to insurance companies in liquidation. We suggest that the Company individually evaluate each incumbent relative to their indicated market compensation level to determine the appropriateness of individual variation from market.

The individual plan designs and mechanics that Home has employed over the last 8½ years are based upon commonly accepted compensation practices for insurance companies in liquidation. Overall, the levels of pay provided by the individual incentive plans, as well as the overall total compensation, represent market competitive compensation levels.

In addition, turnover does not appear to be a present risk within the organization.

\*\*\*\*\*

We appreciate the opportunity to continue to serve The Home Insurance Company in Liquidation. If you have any questions regarding this information please call Martha Cook at 404.817.5734 or Ana Fluke 216.583.4783.

Sincerely,

*Ernst + Young LLP*

Copies to: Peter Bengelsdorf - The Home Insurance Company in Liquidation  
Martha Cook, EY - Atlanta  
Ana Fluke, EY - Cleveland

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<sup>1</sup> Includes incumbents in job grade 21 with base salaries greater than \$150,000.

<sup>2</sup> Includes incumbents in job grade 21 with base salaries less than or equal to \$150,000.



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October 20, 2011

**PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL**

Mr. Roger Sevigny  
Commissioner of Insurance and Liquidator of The Home Insurance Company  
State of New Hampshire Insurance Department  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 14  
Concord NH 03301-7317

Dear Commissioner Sevigny:

At your request, as Liquidator of The Home Insurance Company ("Home" or "the Company"), Ernst & Young LLP's (EY) Performance & Reward Practice has reviewed the competitiveness of Home's current compensation levels to typical market levels. As a part of this engagement, you also asked that we update the 2011 Analysis for the Special Deputy Liquidator's (Peter Bengelsdorf's) existing compensation arrangements relative to typical market levels. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with our findings concerning the competitiveness of the Special Deputy Liquidator's estimated compensation levels to comparative market levels using the same methodology employed for our update of Home's 27 benchmarked positions (detailed under separate cover).

Please note that our industry experience indicates that overall market compensation levels for key employees and executives have not significantly changed over the last year. Accordingly, our FY 2012 Market Competitive Compensation Analysis ("2012 Analysis") conducted on behalf of Home reflects the forward trending of published survey data gathered in the 2011 Analysis to January 1, 2012 at a trend factor of 3% (based on the WorldatWork Total Salary Increase Budget Survey's 2011 projected increases for executives in the finance and insurance industry (median value)). In addition, based on discussions with Home, we also revised the position matches for the Special Deputy Liquidator in the 2012 Analysis. Instead of using only a Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") position, we blended CEO and Chief Operating Officer ("COO") positions together to arrive at typical market levels.

Similar to the analysis conducted for Home's Senior Executives and other key employees, companies in liquidation typically focus on "healthy company" pay levels to determine appropriate market compensation levels for their Special Deputy Liquidators because they will continue to compete with healthy companies for talent during the liquidation process.

**BACKGROUND**

Beginning in the fall of 2003, Ernst & Young developed three incentive compensation programs for the executives and other employees of Home specifically designed to meet the needs of the liquidation operations. These plans, the Retention Incentive Plan (RIP), the Annual Incentive Plan (AIP), and the Collection Incentive Plan (CIP) were approved by the State of New Hampshire Superior Court (Court) on April 21, 2004 (please see Docket No. 03-E-0106). In addition, the Liquidator decided to submit the incentive and retention plans for annual approval

by the Court. The Special Deputy Liquidator position does not participate in these incentive plans. The Liquidator is the administrator of the incentive and retention plans (now the AIP and CIP plans, only) and the Special Deputy Liquidator, by delegation, is responsible for monitoring the operation of the two plans. As such, it is appropriate for the Special Deputy Liquidator's compensation to be independent of these plans.

The Special Deputy Liquidator is the top executive of Home serving as an independent consultant to the State of New Hampshire and reporting directly to the Insurance Commissioner as Home's liquidator. We have reviewed the scope and duties of the Special Deputy Liquidator position and, based on our experience in working with other companies in liquidation and distressed situations as well as "healthy" companies, identified comparable positions against which to develop a market competitive compensation program for the Special Deputy Liquidator position. As noted above, for the 2012 Analysis, the comparable position results in a blend of the CEO and COO.

The Special Deputy Liquidator is presently subject to a one year compensation plan which expires on December 31, 2011. We understand that beginning with 2012, his compensation plan will continue, as does Mr. Bengelsdorf's consulting agreement, unless terminated on thirty days' notice by either of the parties or if the Court does not approve its continuation. We also understand that you wish for us to continue providing annual assessments with respect to the competitiveness of the Special Deputy Liquidator's compensation plan since his plan will be submitted to the Court annually for review and approval of its continuation.

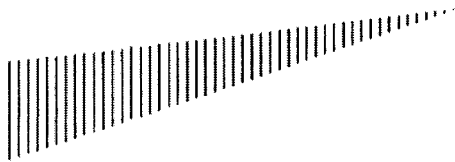
The proposed compensation plan for the Special Deputy Liquidator consists of Base Compensation, which is \$600,000 for 2012, payable at \$50,000/month with a minimum of 2,100 hours worked, a "Stay" Bonus of \$400,000 and a Performance Bonus of \$175,000. The summary below includes an assessment of the competitiveness of Mr. Bengelsdorf's proposed compensation plan for 2012.

#### **Compensation Program Objectives**

In 2003, an overall compensation framework for the Special Deputy Liquidator was developed based on four (4) primary objectives:

- 1. Recognize Mr. Bengelsdorf's role as the top executive of Home;**
  - Preserve the position's consultant status but recognize that, in terms of time spent, Mr. Bengelsdorf is more than a full-time employee and is filling the role of the top executive;
- 2. Acknowledge significant contributions that have already occurred;**

Acknowledge the significant amount of value that had already been contributed to the liquidation process by the Special Deputy Liquidator with liquid assets at March 5, 2003 of \$12.7 million rising to approximately \$1.4 billion (including USIRE, \$212 million of Class II early access distributions to guaranty associations, Class I distributions to guaranty associations of \$36 million) and \$12 million of additional Class I guaranty association claims currently being processed.
- 3. Align incentives with the Liquidation's goals;**
  - Provide Mr. Bengelsdorf with a structured incentive plan of performance objectives that aligns his objectives with Home's creditors.



- Mr. Bengelsdorf's primary responsibilities are to: (1) effectively marshal assets of the estate, (2) hire and maintain an adequate staff, (3) file timely and appropriate reports on the Liquidation's status and (4) operate the Liquidation in a cost effective manner;

**4. Use available comparable market compensation data;**

- Develop competitive market data consistent with Published Survey Analysis;
- Remain consistent with competitive market positioning in relation to the current executive team.

**Compensation Components (please see Exhibit I for details)**

The current and estimated Total Direct Compensation (TDC) for the Special Deputy Liquidator position consists of three (3) components:

**1. Base Compensation:**

- **Estimated 2012 Base Compensation Level:** Mr. Bengelsdorf's estimated 2012 Base Compensation will be \$600,000 payable in twelve monthly installments of \$50,000 conditioned on a minimum of 2,100 hours worked (if there is a shortfall based on actual hours worked during the year that shortfall amount would be deducted from the Stay Bonus otherwise payable, if more than 2,100 hours are worked no additional amount will be paid beyond the "base" pay.
- **Please Note:** In order to present Base Compensation in the same manner as other Home employees and to develop an "apples-to-apples" comparison with market data, we have adjusted the Base Compensation to reflect the fact that Mr. Bengelsdorf does not receive employee benefits from Home. As an independent consultant, Mr. Bengelsdorf, pays the full Social Security tax (employer and employee share) on his compensation. He does not receive any health and welfare, vacation, paid holidays, retirement or severance benefits from Home.)
  - Specifically, our experience indicates that the typical cost of employee benefits offered to Home employees is approximately 25% of employee base salary.
  - The estimated 2012 Base Compensation of \$600,000 (assumes minimal non-Home related activities), has been adjusted downward to reflect the absence of this typical benefit load/cost to Mr. Bengelsdorf.
  - This adjustment results in an estimated 2012 Base Compensation of \$480,000 (or \$600,000/1.25)

**2. Performance Bonus or Annual Incentive ("AI") Bonus Structure**

The current and estimated Performance Bonus is established and determined by the Liquidator in accordance with the process described below.

- Annually, at the outset of the plan cycle, the Liquidator sets the annual goals for this plan (e.g. success in marshalling assets, organization performance within budget, implementation of an effective claim determination operation, extent of early access distributions, obtaining an appropriate independent auditor opinion, timely and accurate reporting to the Liquidator and the Court throughout the performance year).
- After the end of the plan cycle, the Liquidator evaluates Mr. Bengelsdorf's performance with respect to each of those goals and determines the AI bonus based upon those accomplishments.

- **Estimated 2012 Performance Bonus "AI" Target Level:** In 2006, Mr. Bengelsdorf asked to lower his targeted Performance Bonus amount from a target dollar amount of \$400,000 to \$300,000. Additionally, in 2009, Mr. Bengelsdorf asked to lower his targeted Performance Bonus amount from a target dollar amount of \$300,000 to \$200,000. These requests were approved and Mr. Bengelsdorf's Target AI level remained at \$200,000 for 2009 and 2010. In 2011, Mr. Bengelsdorf again requested to lower his Target AI to \$175,000 and intends for it to remain at \$175,000 for 2012.
- **Please Note:** Such "AI" Bonus will be pro-rated in the event Mr. Bengelsdorf is terminated without cause. In the event of death or disability, such amount will be paid in full. The AI Bonus was \$400,000 in 2005, \$300,000 in 2006 through 2008, \$200,000 in 2009 and 2010, and \$175,000 in 2011.

### 3. "Stay" Bonus

- **Estimated 2012 Stay Bonus Compensation Level:** Mr. Bengelsdorf's estimated "Stay" Bonus opportunity is \$400,000 (which would cover the twelve month period from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012) payable on or after December 20, 2012.
- **Please Note:** Such "Stay" Bonus will be pro-rated in the event Mr. Bengelsdorf is terminated without cause. In the event of death or disability, such amount will be paid in full.

## FINDINGS – COMPETITIVENESS OF COMPENSATION TO MARKET LEVELS

Among healthy companies, TDC typically reflects an incumbent's base salary plus annual and long-term incentives. For purposes of assessing the competitiveness of Mr. Bengelsdorf's TDC to market, TDC for Mr. Bengelsdorf reflects Base Compensation plus a Performance Bonus and "Stay" Bonus. Generally, under EY's methodology, a level of pay that is 85% to 115% of the market consensus at the desired market position (typically 50<sup>th</sup> percentile, to 75<sup>th</sup> percentile) is considered competitive.

Mr. Bengelsdorf's estimated 2012 TDC, after adjusting the estimated Base Compensation by 25% to account for the absence of Mr. Bengelsdorf's participation in the employee benefits currently provided to Home employees (and normally provided to persons occupying similar positions), is **significantly less than competitive** (or 60.5%) of median market levels and is **significantly less than competitive** (or 37.2%) of 75<sup>th</sup> percentile market levels. Please note that Mr. Bengelsdorf's estimated 2012 Total Cash Compensation (TCC, which is base salary plus annual incentives) is **highly competitive** (or 124.1%) of median market levels and is **less than competitive** (or 80.2%) of 75<sup>th</sup> percentile market levels.

## Exhibit I

### Estimated 2012 Compensation

| Position                               | Home Insurance<br>Projected 2012<br>Compensation (1) | 25TH PERCENTILE     | 50TH PERCENTILE     | 75TH PERCENTILE     | Overall Competitiveness (2) |                    |                    |
|--|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|  |  | Market<br>Consensus | Market<br>Consensus | Market<br>Consensus | 25th<br>Percentile          | 50th<br>Percentile | 75th<br>Percentile |
| CEO/COO (3)                            | Peter Bengelsdorf                                    |                     |                     |                     |                             |                    |                    |
| Base Salary Adjusted                   | \$480.0  | \$399.9             | \$556.1             | \$736.8             | 120.0%                      | 86.3%              | 65.1%              |
| Performance Bonus as a % of Base       | 36.5%  | 31.8%               | 52.9%               | 78.6%               |                             |                    |                    |
| Performance Bonus                      | \$175.0  | \$127.1             | \$294.1             | \$579.2             |                             |                    |                    |
| "Stay" Bonus                           | \$400.0  | \$0.0               | \$0.0               | \$0.0               |                             |                    |                    |
| Target Total Cash Compensation (4)     | \$1,055.0  | \$527.0             | \$850.2             | \$1,316.1           | 200.2%                      | 124.1%             | 80.2%              |
| Long-term Incentive as a % of Base (5) | 0.0%   | 88.5%               | 160.5%              | 273.0%              |                             |                    |                    |
| Long-term Incentive (6)                | \$0.0  | \$492.2             | \$892.5             | \$1,518.2           |                             |                    |                    |
| Total Direct Compensation (7)          | \$1,055.0  | \$1,019.2           | \$1,742.7           | \$2,834.2           | 103.5%                      | 60.5%              | 37.2%              |

(1) Assumes 2012 base salary and assumes achievement at target values for incentive compensation (e.g., annual incentive or long-term incentive).

(2) Incentive projected 2012 compensation as noted in (1) above compared to market consensus.

(3) The market consensus data is representative of a blend of CEO and COO positions from each of the various survey sources.

(4) Total Cash Compensation = Market Consensus Base Salary + Market Consensus Annual Incentive (Actual)

(5) Long-term incentive multiple is a blend of Black-Scholes multiples provided William M. Mercer and Watson Wyatt

(6) Long-term incentive value is derived by multiplying the median base salary by the applicable percentile LTI multiple

(7) Total Direct Compensation = Market Consensus Total Cash Compensation + Market Consensus Long-term Incentive

| SCOPE FACTORS  | SURVEY SOURCES   |
|--|--|
| Industry: Property & Casualty Insurance Carriers, All Organizations<br>Assets Under: \$1.5 Billion - \$5 Billion<br>Geographic: National Data<br>Trend Factor: 3.0% in January 1, 2012 based on the WorldatWork Total Salary Increase Budget Survey's 2011 projected increases for executives in the finance and insurance industry (median) | Economic Research Institute: Executive Compensation Assessor 2010, 2011<br>Towers Watson Compensation Survey: Top Management Compensation 2009-2010<br>Mercer HR Consulting: US Executive Survey Report 2009<br>LOMA: Executive Survey Report 2009 |

Please note: Under EY's methodology, a competitive compensation level is defined as one which falls within an 85% to 115% range of the indicated market consensus level.

### SUMMARY CONCLUSIONS

Overall, the TDC for the Special Deputy Liquidator represents a program that provides variable or performance-based compensation while also encouraging a continuation of the existing relationship. The TDC for the Special Deputy Liquidator, if performance objectives are achieved, is estimated to be \$1.055 million for 2012 (note, the Special Deputy Liquidator receives no employee benefits from Home; therefore, the base salary was adjusted by 25%). Based on our review, we find that the Special Deputy Liquidator's estimated 2012 TDC is **significantly less than competitive** compared to the market median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile); however, we note that TCC is **highly competitive** compared to the market median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile).

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We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to continue to provide human resource advisory assistance to the Liquidator on this engagement. Please do not hesitate to call Martha Cook at 404.817.5734 or Ana Fluke at 216.583.4783 if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

*Ernst + Young LLP*

Copy to: Martha Cook, EY - Atlanta  
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