

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
for the **NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF INSURANCE GUARANTY FUNDS**

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**AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE'S BRANDON LASALLE TAPPED AS  
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF INSURANCE GUARANTY FUNDS  
BOARD CHAIRMAN**

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**Indianapolis, IN, April 24, 2013** – The Board of Directors of the National Conference of Guaranty Funds (NCIGF) has elected Brandon LaSalle of American Family Insurance as the NCIGF's new board chairman. He will serve a one-year term, with eligibility for reelection the following year.

LaSalle assumed the board chairman post at the NCIGF's 2013 annual meeting in Phoenix on April 17.

LaSalle has served on the NCIGF board since 2009. He also serves on the boards of the Colorado Insurance Guaranty Fund, the Idaho Insurance Guaranty Fund and the Oregon Insurance Guaranty Association.

The NCIGF is a nonprofit, member-funded association that provides national assistance and support to the property and casualty guaranty funds located in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The NCIGF coordinates information for multi-state insolvencies and provides legal, data management, administrative, communications and public policy support to its members across the nation.

LaSalle has served as Government Affairs Counsel for American Family Insurance Group in Denver, Colorado since 1989. He is responsible for advancing the interests of the company with legislative and regulatory authorities in the states of Colorado, Idaho and Oregon.

LaSalle joined American Family in 1984. Before joining the Government Affairs Division, Brandon worked as a litigation attorney in the company's first trial unit, Albers and Associates, in Minneapolis. Brandon taught no-fault insurance law for the Minnesota Community College system. In addition, he conducted no-fault arbitrations on behalf of the American Arbitration Association and served as a mediator for the Hennepin County (Minneapolis) District Court System.

In addition to the NCIGF board and three state guaranty fund boards, LaSalle is involved with a number of industry organizations, including the Colorado Defense Lawyers Association (CDLA), CDLA Legislative Issues Committee (Past Chairman) and the Colorado Democratic Leadership Council (Board of Advisors).

LaSalle received his bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota, and his law degree from Hamline University School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota.

In his address to the NCIGF membership, LaSalle said that a focus during his term would be on legislative services, guaranty fund best practices and the promotion of awareness of the guaranty fund system among state guaranty fund board members.

“We all know NCIGF is NOT a lobbying organization. But one of the enduring values the organization provides to state guaranty funds is legislative services: legislative information, legislative expertise,” said LaSalle. “This is an area where the NCIGF continues to build on its success in the public policy arena by providing timely legislative and regulatory information to member guaranty funds.”

NCIGF President and CEO Roger Schmelzer said LaSalle’s appointment to NCIGF board chairmanship will sharpen an emphasis on state legislative services and national public policy efforts at the NCIGF board level.

“Proven expertise in legislative services from the industry sector is always an asset to an organization such as ours, and that’s exactly what Brandon brings to the NCIGF board,” said Schmelzer. “All of us – NCIGF staff and his fellow board directors alike – look forward to Brandon’s leadership over the next two years.”

**National Conference of Insurance Guaranty Funds (NCIGF)**

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