# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TOGETHER WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

**DECEMBER 31, 2015** 

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Certified Public Accountants & Consultants

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Plan Administrator and the Commerce Department of the State of Minnesota Minnesota Workers' Compensation Assigned Risk Plan Minneapolis, Minnesota

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Assigned Risk Plan (the Plan), which comprise the balance sheet as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the related statements of income and comprehensive income, changes in policyholders' surplus, and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

# **Auditors' Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Plan as of December 31, 2015 and 2014, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

St. Paul, Minnesota June 2, 2016

# BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

ASSETS		
	2015	2014
INVESTMENTS: Fixed Maturities - at Fair Value	¢ 220 677 527	\$232,384,604
Equity Securities - at Fair Value	\$238,677,537 55,573,262	61,190,519
Short-Term Investments	8,435,327	7,753,187
Total Investments	302,686,126	301,328,310
Cash	2,603,431	2,514,376
Accrued Interest and Dividends	801,840	700,007
Premiums Receivable	13,011,508	14,942,287
Reinsurance Recoverable on Unpaid Losses	342,242,000	357,713,000
Reinsurance Recoverable on Paid Losses	7,148,370	7,427,758
Deferred Service Carrier Fees	3,746,109	4,167,843
Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs	1,253,845	1,417,262
Due From Broker for Security Sales	139,109	206,876
Other Assets	17,654	13,744
TOTAL ASSETS	\$673,649,992	\$690,431,463
TOTAL ASSETS  LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE	<u> </u>	\$690,431,463
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE	<u> </u>	\$690,431,463
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE LIABILITIES: Reserve for Losses	RS' SURPLUS \$549,866,000	\$547,864,000
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE LIABILITIES: Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses	RS' SURPLUS \$549,866,000 36,264,000	\$547,864,000 35,461,000
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE  LIABILITIES: Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses Unearned Premiums	\$549,866,000 36,264,000 27,844,341	\$547,864,000 35,461,000 32,389,693
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE  LIABILITIES: Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses Unearned Premiums Due to Broker for Pending Purchases	\$549,866,000 36,264,000 27,844,341 2,048,977	\$547,864,000 35,461,000 32,389,693 102,490
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE  LIABILITIES: Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses Unearned Premiums Due to Broker for Pending Purchases Special Compensation Fund Assessment Payable	\$549,866,000 \$6,264,000 27,844,341 2,048,977 2,653,792	\$547,864,000 35,461,000 32,389,693 102,490 2,704,251
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE  LIABILITIES: Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses Unearned Premiums Due to Broker for Pending Purchases Special Compensation Fund Assessment Payable Servicing Carrier Administration Fee Payable	\$549,866,000 36,264,000 27,844,341 2,048,977 2,653,792 3,279,767	\$547,864,000 35,461,000 32,389,693 102,490 2,704,251 3,542,481
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE  LIABILITIES: Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses Unearned Premiums Due to Broker for Pending Purchases Special Compensation Fund Assessment Payable Servicing Carrier Administration Fee Payable Other Liabilities	\$549,866,000 36,264,000 27,844,341 2,048,977 2,653,792 3,279,767 337,892	\$547,864,000 35,461,000 32,389,693 102,490 2,704,251 3,542,481 614,128
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE  LIABILITIES: Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses Unearned Premiums Due to Broker for Pending Purchases Special Compensation Fund Assessment Payable Servicing Carrier Administration Fee Payable Other Liabilities Total Liabilities	\$549,866,000 36,264,000 27,844,341 2,048,977 2,653,792 3,279,767	\$547,864,000 35,461,000 32,389,693 102,490 2,704,251 3,542,481
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE  LIABILITIES: Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses Unearned Premiums Due to Broker for Pending Purchases Special Compensation Fund Assessment Payable Servicing Carrier Administration Fee Payable Other Liabilities Total Liabilities POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS:	\$549,866,000 36,264,000 27,844,341 2,048,977 2,653,792 3,279,767 337,892 622,294,769	\$547,864,000 35,461,000 32,389,693 102,490 2,704,251 3,542,481 614,128 622,678,043
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE  LIABILITIES: Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses Unearned Premiums Due to Broker for Pending Purchases Special Compensation Fund Assessment Payable Servicing Carrier Administration Fee Payable Other Liabilities Total Liabilities POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS: Restricted - Terrorism Coverage	\$549,866,000 36,264,000 27,844,341 2,048,977 2,653,792 3,279,767 337,892 622,294,769	\$547,864,000 35,461,000 32,389,693 102,490 2,704,251 3,542,481 614,128 622,678,043
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE  LIABILITIES: Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses Unearned Premiums Due to Broker for Pending Purchases Special Compensation Fund Assessment Payable Servicing Carrier Administration Fee Payable Other Liabilities Total Liabilities  POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS: Restricted - Terrorism Coverage Appropriated for State of Minnesota	\$549,866,000 36,264,000 27,844,341 2,048,977 2,653,792 3,279,767 337,892 622,294,769 4,262,713 1,355,223	\$547,864,000 35,461,000 32,389,693 102,490 2,704,251 3,542,481 614,128 622,678,043 4,117,455 17,753,420
LIABILITIES: Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses Unearned Premiums Due to Broker for Pending Purchases Special Compensation Fund Assessment Payable Servicing Carrier Administration Fee Payable Other Liabilities Total Liabilities  POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS: Restricted - Terrorism Coverage Appropriated for State of Minnesota Unassigned	\$549,866,000 36,264,000 27,844,341 2,048,977 2,653,792 3,279,767 337,892 622,294,769 4,262,713 1,355,223 35,232,612	\$547,864,000 35,461,000 32,389,693 102,490 2,704,251 3,542,481 614,128 622,678,043 4,117,455 17,753,420 28,477,148
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE  LIABILITIES: Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses Unearned Premiums Due to Broker for Pending Purchases Special Compensation Fund Assessment Payable Servicing Carrier Administration Fee Payable Other Liabilities Total Liabilities  POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS: Restricted - Terrorism Coverage Appropriated for State of Minnesota Unassigned Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income	\$549,866,000 36,264,000 27,844,341 2,048,977 2,653,792 3,279,767 337,892 622,294,769 4,262,713 1,355,223 35,232,612 10,504,675	\$547,864,000 35,461,000 32,389,693 102,490 2,704,251 3,542,481 614,128 622,678,043 4,117,455 17,753,420 28,477,148 17,405,397
LIABILITIES AND POLICYHOLDE  LIABILITIES: Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss Adjustment Expenses Unearned Premiums Due to Broker for Pending Purchases Special Compensation Fund Assessment Payable Servicing Carrier Administration Fee Payable Other Liabilities Total Liabilities  POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS: Restricted - Terrorism Coverage Appropriated for State of Minnesota Unassigned	\$549,866,000 36,264,000 27,844,341 2,048,977 2,653,792 3,279,767 337,892 622,294,769 4,262,713 1,355,223 35,232,612	\$547,864,000 35,461,000 32,389,693 102,490 2,704,251 3,542,481 614,128 622,678,043 4,117,455 17,753,420 28,477,148

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

# STATEMENT OF INCOME AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

	2015	2014
REVENUES: Net Earned Premiums	¢62 707 927	\$61,548,640
Net Investment Income	\$62,707,827 4,454,533	3,980,481
Net Realized Capital Gains	4,814,061	9,141,066
Total Revenues	71,976,421	74,670,187
LOSSES AND EXPENSES INCURRED: Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses Servicing Carrier Fees Special Compensation Fund Assessments Other Underwriting Expenses Total Losses and Expenses Incurred	47,964,987 8,930,781 1,709,925 5,114,783 63,720,476	40,938,154 8,264,552 1,765,308 6,371,255 57,339,269
NET INCOME	8,255,945	17,330,918
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS): Change in Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) of Investments Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	(6,900,722) (6,900,722)	422,502 422,502
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	<u>\$ 1,355,223</u>	\$17,753,420

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

RESTRICTED - TERRORISM COVERAGE: Beginning of Year	<u>2015</u> \$ 4,117,455	<u>2014</u> \$ 3,966,000
Transfer From Unassigned Surplus End of Year	145,258 4,262,713	151,455 4,117,455
APPROPRIATED FOR STATE OF MINNESOTA: Beginning of Year Transfer From Unassigned Surplus Distributions to the State of Minnesota End of Year	17,753,420 1,355,223 (17,753,420) 1,355,223	16,683,262 17,753,420 (16,683,262) 17,753,420
UNASSIGNED: Beginning of Year Net Income Transfer to Restricted - Terrorism Coverage Transfer to Appropriated for State of Minnesota End of Year	28,477,148 8,255,945 (145,258) (1,355,223) 35,232,612	29,051,105 17,330,918 (151,455) (17,753,420) 28,477,148
ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME: Beginning of Year Change in Unrealized Appreciation of Investments End of Year	17,405,397 (6,900,722) 10,504,675	16,982,895 422,502 17,405,397
TOTAL POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS	<u>\$ 51,355,223</u>	\$ 67,753,420

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: Premiums Collected, Net of Reinsurance Investment Income Received Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses Paid, Net of Recoveries Special Compensation Fund Assessments Paid Underwriting and Other Expenses Paid Net Cash Provided By Operating Activities	2015 \$ 60,093,254 4,321,723 (29,409,599) (1,760,384) (14,003,273) 19,241,721	2014 \$ 63,985,225 3,950,687 (33,576,094) (1,815,151) (15,490,141) 17,054,526
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: Purchases of Fixed Maturities Purchases of Equity Securities Proceeds From Sales of Fixed Maturities Proceeds From Sales of Equity Securities Due to/Due From Broker for Security Purchases and Sales Paydowns of Fixed Maturities Net Change in Short-Term Investments Distributions to the State of Minnesota Net Cash Used In Investing Activities	(78,586,212) (24,749,195) 70,518,208 28,826,064 2,014,254 1,259,775 (682,140) (17,753,420) (19,152,666)	(88,164,010) (28,425,048) 76,162,683 37,664,527 (104,386) 1,573,423 957,808 (16,683,262) (17,018,265)
NET CHANGE IN CASH	89,055	36,261
CASH at Beginning of Year	2,514,376	2,478,115
CASH at End of Year	\$ 2,603,431	\$ 2,514,376

#### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### **NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF PLAN**

The Minnesota Workers' Compensation Assigned Risk Plan (the Plan) is the source of workers' compensation and employers' liability coverage for Minnesota employers who have been unable to obtain an insurance policy through the voluntary market. Coverage provided through the Plan is substantially the same as coverage available from licensed workers' compensation insurance companies.

The Plan was established in 1982 and contracts with servicing contractors who review applications, issue policies, collect premiums, pay claims, and perform other administrative duties for the Plan per contractual requirements. To the extent that the assets of the Plan are inadequate to meet its obligations, the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Commerce shall assess all licensed workers' compensation insurance companies doing business in the state of Minnesota an amount sufficient to fully fund the obligations of the Plan. The assessment of each insurer shall be in a proportion equal to the proportion that the amount of workers' compensation insurance written by that insurer in Minnesota during the calendar year preceding the assessment bears to the total workers' compensation insurance written in Minnesota during the same calendar year by all licensed insurers. No assessments were made in either 2015 or 2014. The servicing contractors bear no share of the Plan's liabilities.

Since inception, the Plan has contracted with seven servicing contractors to administer the program. These contractors are as follows:

- Berkley Risk Administrators Company, LLC (BRAC);
- RTW, Inc. (RTW);
- SFM Risk Solutions, Inc. (SFM);
- Employers Insurance of Wausau, a Mutual Company (EIW);
- Occupational Healthcare Management Services (OHMS);
- Deferred Compensation Administrators, Inc. (DCA); and
- St. Paul Risk Services, Inc. (SPRS)

Policies are allocated to servicing carriers according to each carrier's contractual percentage participation in the program. The percentage participations have varied over time, as outlined in the following chart:

	Percentage Participation						
Policy Inception Period	BRAC	RTW	SFM	EIW	OHMS	DCA	SPRS
Inception - 6/30/83	7.0%	-%	-%	30.0%	-%	3.0%	60.0%
7/1/83 - 12/31/86	18.0	_	_	67.0	_	15.0	_
1/1/87 - 3/31/89	50.0	_	_	33.0	_	17.0	_
4/1/89 - 3/31/92	65.0	_	_	35.0	_	_	_
4/1/92 - 3/31/94	50.0	_	_	50.0	_	_	_
4/1/94 - 3/31/97	50.0	_	_	25.0	25.0	_	_
4/1/97 - 6/30/00	50.0	_	_	50.0	_	_	_
7/1/00 - 6/30/04	100.0	_	_	_	_	_	_
7/1/04 - 12/31/09	75.0	25.0	_	_	_	_	_
1/1/10 - 12/31/15	33.3	33.3	33.3	_	_	_	_

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### **NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **Basis of Presentation**

The Plan's financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

#### **Risks and Uncertainties**

Certain risks and uncertainties are inherent in the Plan's day-to-day operations and in the process of preparing its financial statements. The more significant of those risks and uncertainties, as well as the Plan's methods for mitigating, quantifying, and minimizing such risks, are presented below and throughout the notes to the financial statements.

#### **Financial Statements Risk**

The preparation of financial statements requires the plan administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported financial statement balances, as well as the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. The most significant of these amounts is the liability for loss and loss adjustment expense (LAE) reserves. While the plan administrator believes the reserve for losses and LAE makes a reasonable provision to cover the ultimate liability, it is reasonably possible that the actual ultimate loss and LAE costs may vary from amounts provided, and the variance could be material to the financial statements.

#### **Investments Risk**

The Plan is exposed to risks that issuers of securities owned by the Plan will default or that interest rates will change and cause a decrease in the value of its investments. The Plan mitigates these risks by investing in high-grade securities and by matching maturities of its investments with the anticipated payouts of its liabilities.

#### **Premiums Receivable Risk**

Premiums receivable represent amounts to be received for policies issued. Premiums are calculated based upon information provided by the insured. Audits are performed on the information provided after the policy expiration date. These audits may result in an additional premium billing or a premium refund. Any difference between the initial premium and the audit premium is reflected in current operations when the audit premium is billed or premium refund is recorded. The Plan provides for probable uncollectible accounts through charges to earnings and credits to a valuation allowance based on prior experience and assessment of the current status of individual accounts. Balances that are still outstanding after the Plan has used reasonable collection efforts are written-off through charges to the valuation allowance and credits to receivable accounts. The Plan's allowance for uncollectible accounts at December 31, 2015 and 2014 amounted to \$2,991,269 and \$4,102,363, respectively.

#### Investments

The Plan's entire fixed maturity and equity investment portfolios are classified as available-for-sale, in accordance with the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) *Accounting Standards Codification*. Accordingly, the Plan carries these investments on the balance sheet at estimated fair value.

Short-term investments include investments maturing within one year and money market instruments and are carried at cost, which approximates fair value.

#### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

# **Investments (Continued)**

Realized gains and losses from sales of investments are reflected in earnings based on the average cost of the investments sold. The difference between the cost and estimated fair value of investments is monitored. If any investments experience a decline in value that the Plan believes is other than temporary, the asset is written down for the decline and a realized loss is reflected in earnings. Changes in unrealized appreciation or depreciation resulting from changes in the fair value of investments are reflected directly in policyholders' surplus as accumulated other comprehensive income (loss).

#### **Deferred Costs and Fees**

Policy acquisition costs, such as commissions and premium taxes which vary with and are primarily related to the production of business, are deferred and amortized over the effective period of the related insurance policies. If deferred policy acquisition costs were to exceed the sum of unearned premiums and related anticipated investment income less related losses and loss adjustment expenses, the excess costs would be expensed immediately.

Service carrier fees, which are primarily related to the production and maintenance of business, are deferred and amortized over the effective period of the related insurance policies.

#### **Unearned Premiums**

Premiums are earned ratably over the terms of the policies. Unearned premiums are calculated on the daily pro-rata method and represent the unexpired portion of premiums written.

#### Losses and LAE

The reserves for losses and LAE represent an estimate of the ultimate net cost of all claims that have occurred and are unpaid. The reserves are based on loss factors determined by independent consulting actuaries, using statistical analyses and projections and the historical loss experience of the Plan, and give effect to estimates of trends in claim severity and frequency. As claim settlements occur that differ from reserves estimates, these differences are included in current operations.

For policies with inception dates prior to April 1, 1992, the servicing contractors were responsible for all allocated and unallocated LAE incurred in the settlement of losses. Allocated loss adjustment expenses (ALAE) include legal fees and related expenses (expert testimony, investigations, etc.), medical examinations, and other costs paid to third parties associated with the defense and settlement of particular claims. Unallocated loss adjustment expenses (ULAE) include that portion of the cost of settling claims that cannot be attributed to a specific claim and are more in the nature of an overhead expense (servicing contractors' claim adjuster salaries, rent, etc.).

For polices with inception dates after April 1, 1992, the Plan is responsible for legal and related expenses incurred in the settlement of losses and, accordingly, a liability for these amounts has been established. All other ALAE and all ULAE continue to be the responsibility of the servicing contractors.

#### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### NOTE 2 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### **Special Compensation Fund Assessments**

The Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry currently assesses all insurers writing workers' compensation insurance in Minnesota. The assessment pays for the operation of the Special Compensation Fund (SCF). The SCF pays the cost of administration by the State of Minnesota of the workers' compensation laws; reimburses supplementary benefits paid to claimants; reimburses certain benefits paid to claimants with qualifying, prior registered conditions; and pays claims of injured employees of uninsured employers.

In March 2002, legislation was passed by the Minnesota state legislature and signed into law to change the method of assessing insured employers from a loss-based assessment to a premium-based assessment. This change was effective beginning in 2003, from which point the obligating event for assessment liability became the writing of, or becoming obligated to write or renew, the premiums on which the future assessments are to be based. According to MN Senate File 3136, the premium-based method of assessment is to be collected through a policyholder surcharge.

The special compensation fund assessment payable represents those assessments currently due based on pure premiums and the estimated liabilities for future SCF assessments based on SCF surcharges collected on policies with an effective date on or after January 1, 2003.

#### **Restricted Surplus - Terrorism Coverage**

As a result of the "Terrorism Risk Insurance Act" passed by Congress and signed into law by the President in November 2002, the Plan is required to restrict a portion of its surplus for terrorism. Through December 31, 2015, the Plan restricted \$1 for every \$5,000 of payroll covered by the Plan's policies. The "Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2015" extends this program through 2020 and may require additional amounts to be restricted in future years.

#### **Income Taxes**

The Plan is exempt from paying income taxes under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code. Accordingly, no provision for income taxes is included in the accompanying financial statements. The Plan reviews income tax positions taken or expected to be taken to determine if there are any income tax uncertainties. This includes positions that the Plan is exempt from income taxes and as such has not filed Federal or Minnesota Income Tax Returns. The Plan recognizes tax benefits from uncertain tax positions only if it is more likely than not that the tax positions will be sustained on examination by taxing authorities, based on the technical merits of the positions. The Plan has identified no income tax uncertainties.

#### Credit RiskComp

Financial instruments which potentially subject the Plan to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash. The Plan places its cash with high credit quality financial institutions and, by policy, generally limits the amount of credit exposure to any one financial institution. The Plan had a credit risk concentration at December 31, 2015 as a result of depositing \$6,336,764 of funds in excess of Federal Deposit Insurance (FDIC) coverage.

#### **Subsequent Events**

In preparing these financial statements, the Plan has evaluated for recognition or disclosure the events or transactions that occurred through June 2, 2016, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. There were no subsequent events identified that required recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

#### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### **NOTE 3 - CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

A reconciliation of cash provided by operating activities to the amount reflected in the statement of cash flows is as follows:

	2015	2014
Net Cash Flow From Operating Activities:		
Net Income	\$ 8,255,945	\$ 17,330,918
Adjustments to Reconcile Net Income to		
Net Cash Provided By Operating Activities:		
Net Realized Capital Gains	(4,814,061)	(9,141,066)
Amortization and Accretion	(30,977)	31,287
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities:		
Reserve for Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses	2,805,000	(13,675,000)
Reinsurance Recoverable on Paid Losses	279,388	(249,940)
Reinsurance Recoverable on Unpaid Losses	15,471,000	21,287,000
Unearned Premiums	(4,545,352)	1,457,842
Premiums Receivable	1,930,779	978,743
Deferred Service Carrier Fees	421,734	(212,686)
Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs	163,417	(48,170)
Special Compensation Fund Assessment Payable	(50,459)	(49,843)
Servicing Carrier Administration Fee Payable	(262,714)	(275,822)
Other Liabilities	(276,236)	(326,301)
Accrued Interest and Dividends	(101,833)	(61,081)
Other Assets	(3,910)	8,645
Net Cash Provided By Operating Activities	<u>\$ 19,241,721</u>	\$ 17,054,526

#### **NOTE 4 - REINSURANCE**

The Plan is reinsured by the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Reinsurance Association (WCRA). There is not, nor has there ever been, any other applicable reinsurance. The following table lists the selected per-occurrence retentions by accident year for the past sixteen years:

Accident Year	Loss only Per-Occurrence Retention
1997	\$ 270,000
1998	280,000
1999	290,000
2000	310,000
2001	330,000
2002	350,000
2003	360,000
2004	360,000
2005	380,000
5006	780,000
2007	800,000
2008	820,000
2009	1,720,000
2010	1,800,000
2011	1,800,000
2012	1,840,000
2013	1,880,000
2014	1,920,000
2015	1,960,000

#### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# **NOTE 4 - REINSURANCE (Continued)**

A contingent liability exists with respect to reinsurance ceded to the extent that the reinsurer is unable to meet its obligations assumed under the reinsurance agreement.

The effect of ceded reinsurance on premiums written, premiums earned, and losses and LAE is reflected in the following table:

	2015	2014
Premium Written: Direct Ceded	\$ 59,718,771 (871,951)	\$ 63,822,881 (781,141)
Net Premiums Written	\$ 58,846,820	\$ 63,041,740
Premiums Earned: Direct Ceded Net Premiums Earned	\$ 63,579,778 (871,951) \$ 62,707,827	\$ 62,329,781 (781,141) \$ 61,548,640
Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses Incurred: Direct Ceded	\$ 58,755,921 (10,790,934)	\$ 53,445,835 (12,507,681)
Net Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses Incurred	\$ 47,964,987	\$ 40,938,154

#### **NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS**

# **Invested Amounts, Investment Income and Gains and Losses**

The amortized cost, gross unrealized appreciation and depreciation, and the estimated fair values of investments in fixed maturities are as follows:

	2015			
	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Appreciation	Gross Unrealized Depreciation	Estimated Fair Value
U.S. Treasury Securities and Other Obligations Mortgage-Backed Securities	\$207,890,871 29,900,346	\$1,516,761 7,374	\$ (507,964) (129,851)	\$ 208,899,668 29,777,869
Total Fixed Maturities	\$237,791,217	<u>\$1,524,135</u>	<u>\$ (637,815)</u>	\$238,677,537
			2014	
		Gross	Gross	
	Amortized Cost	Unrealized Appreciation	Unrealized Depreciation	Estimated Fair Value
U.S. Treasury Securities and Other Obligations Mortgage-Backed Securities	\$210,730,450 19,926,212	\$2,188,589 5,973	\$ (396,443) (70,177)	\$212,522,596 19,862,008
Total Fixed Maturities	\$230,656,662	\$2,194,562	<u>\$ (466,620)</u>	\$232,384,604

#### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# **NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS (Continued)**

# **Invested Amounts, Investment Income and Gains and Losses (Continued)**

The amortized cost and estimated fair value of investments in fixed maturities at December 31, 2015 by contractual maturity are shown below. Expected maturities will likely differ from contractual maturities, as borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

	Amortized Cost	Estimated Fair Value
Due in One Year or Less	\$ 14,120,083	\$ 14,108,813
Due After One Year Through Five Years	130,120,939	130,501,142
Due After Five Years Through Ten Years	63,649,849	64,289,713
Mortgage-Backed Securities	29,900,346	29,777,869
	\$237,791,217	\$238,677,537

The cost and fair values of equity securities available-for-sale at 2015 and 2014 were as follows:

	2015			
Description	Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Equity Securities	<b>\$ 45,954,907</b>	<b>\$ 11,393,579</b>	<u>\$ (1,775,224)</u>	\$ 55,573,262
		20	)14	
		Gross Unrealized	Gross Unrealized	Fair
Description	Cost	Gains	Losses	Value
Equity Securities	\$ 45,513,064	\$ 15,968,364	<u>\$ (290,909)</u>	\$ 61,190,519

At December 31, 2015 and 2014, gross unrealized losses and fair value, aggregated by investment category and length of time that individual securities have been in a continuous unrealized loss position, are as follows:

		2015						
	Less Than 12 Months		12 Months or More		Total			
Description	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Unrealized Losses		
Fixed Maturities: U.S. Treasury Securities								
and Other Obligations Mortgage-Backed	\$ 65,537,090	\$ (354,175)	\$45,927,917	\$ (153,789)	\$111,465,007	\$ (507,964)		
Securities	14,543,610	(87,961)	11,146,923	(41,890)	25,690,533	(129,851)		
<b>Total Fixed Maturities</b>	80,080,700	(442,136)	57,074,840	(195,679)	137,155,540	(637,815)		
Equity Securities	9,150,388	(883,964)	3,245,935	(891,260)	12,396,323	(1,775,224)		
Totals	\$ 89,231,088	<u>\$(1,326,100)</u>	\$60,320,775	<u>\$(1,086,939</u> )	\$149,551,863	<u>\$(2,413,039</u> )		

#### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# **NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS (Continued)**

# Invested Amounts, Investment Income and Gains and Losses (Continued)

	2014										
Less Than 12 Months		/lonths	12 Months or More		Total						
		Fair	U	Inrealized	Fair	L	Inrealized		Fair	U	Inrealized
Description	_	Value	_	Losses	<u>Value</u>	_	Losses	_	Value	_	Losses
Fixed Maturities:											
U.S. Treasury Securities	;										
and Other Obligations	\$	6,990,036	\$	(7,920)	\$51,180,380	\$	(388, 523)	\$	58,170,416	\$	(396,443)
Mortgage-Backed											
Securities		12,899,245		(26,809)	5,975,320		(43,368)		18,874,565		(70,177)
Total Fixed Maturities		19,889,281		(34,729)	57,155,700		(431,891)		77,044,981		(466,620)
Equity Securities	_	2,825,006	_	(253,594)	524,508	_	(37,315)	_	3,349,514	_	(290,909)
Totals	\$	22,714,287	\$	(288,323)	\$57,680,208	\$	(469,206)	\$	80,394,495	\$	(757,529)

The Plan has concluded that no investments have impairment that is other-than-temporary at December 31, 2015. The Plan believes that its unrealized losses in equity securities are caused by market conditions influenced by the existing economic downturn, as opposed to deterioration in the fundamentals of individual investments, and intends to maintain its investments through this downturn.

The Plan holds investments in a variety of investment funds. In general, its investments are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit and overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investments, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of the investments will occur in the near term and such changes could be material to the amounts reported in the balance sheet.

Net investment income for 2015 and 2014 is summarized as follows (fixed maturities include interest on short-term investments):

2045

2014

	2013	2014
Fixed Maturities	\$ 3,895,238	\$ 3,215,964
Equity Securities	1,103,103	1,077,740
Total	4,998,341	4,293,704
Investment Expenses	(543,808)	(313,223)
Net Investment Income	<u>\$ 4,454,533</u>	\$ 3,980,481

Cash proceeds received from sales and paydowns of investments in fixed maturities during 2015 and 2014 were \$70,518,208 and \$76,162,683, respectively. In 2015 and 2014, gross gains of \$351,275 and \$193,725 and gross losses of \$(55,926) and \$(53,914), respectively, were realized on those sales.

Gross gains of \$5,408,571 and \$9,433,307 and gross losses of \$(889,859) and \$(432,052) were realized on sales of equity securities in 2015 and 2014, respectively.

#### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS (Continued)

#### **Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The FASB *Accounting Standards Codification* establishes a three-tier fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value, as follows: Level 1, defined as observable inputs (i.e. quoted prices in active markets); Level 2, defined as inputs other than quoted prices in active markets that are either directly or indirectly observable; and, Level 3, defined as unobservable inputs for which little or no market data exists, which then requires an entity to develop its own assumptions.

The Plan utilizes a pricing service to estimate its fair value measurements for its fixed maturities and equity securities. Since fixed maturities other than U.S. Treasury securities generally do not trade on a daily basis, most fair value estimates for fixed maturities are based on observable market information rather than quoted prices. Accordingly, the estimates of fair value for fixed maturities, other than U.S. Treasury securities, are included in Level 2 of the Standard's hierarchy. U.S. Treasury securities are included in Level 1.

The fair value of the Plan's mortgage-backed securities and other debt obligations were determined based on Level 2 inputs and are estimated as the present value of expected future cash inflows, taking into account (1) the type of security, its term, and any underlying collateral, (2) the seniority level of the debt security, and (3) quotes received from brokers and pricing services. In applying the valuation model, significant inputs including probability of default for debt securities, the estimated prepayment rate, and the projected yield based on estimated future market rates for similar securities.

All equity securities owned by the Plan have active markets and are included in Level 1 of the Standard's hierarchy.

The Plan's fixed maturities and equity investments fair value measurements at December 31, 2015 and 2014 are as follows:

	Total	Quoted Prices for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
2015:				
Fixed Maturities				
U.S. Treasury Securities				
and Other Obligations	\$208,899,668	\$208,899,668	\$ -	\$ -
Mortgage-Backed Securities	29,777,869		29,777,869	
Total Fixed Maturities	238,677,537	208,899,668	29,777,869	_
Equity Securities	55,573,262	55,573,262		
Totals	\$294,250,799	\$264,472,930	\$ 29,777,869	<u>\$</u>

#### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# **NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS (Continued)**

# **Fair Value of Financial Instruments (Continued)**

2014:	Total	Quoted Prices for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Fixed Maturities				
U.S. Treasury Securities				
and Other Obligations	\$212,522,596	\$212,522,596	\$ -	\$ -
Mortgage-Backed Securities	19,862,008		19,862,008	
Total Fixed Maturities	232,384,604	212,522,596	19,862,008	_
Equity Securities	61,190,519	61,190,519		
Totals	\$293,575,123	\$273,713,115	\$ 19,862,008	\$

#### NOTE 6 - LIABILITY FOR LOSSES AND LOSS ADJUSTMENT EXPENSES

A reconciliation of beginning and end of year balances in the liability for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses (LAE), net of reinsurance recoverable for the years ended December 31, 2015 and 2014, is as follows:

	2015	2014
Liability for Losses and LAE at Beginning of Year Reinsurance Recoverable on Unpaid Losses - Beginning of Year Net Liability for Losses and LAE at Beginning of Year	\$ 583,325,000 (357,713,000) 225,612,000	\$ 597,000,000 (379,000,000) 218,000,000
Provision for Losses and LAE for Claims Incurred: Current Year Prior Years Total Incurred	51,784,000 (3,819,013) 47,964,987	53,499,000 (12,560,846) 40,938,154
Losses and LAE Payments for Claims Incurred: Current Year Prior Years Total Paid	6,710,262 22,978,725 29,688,987	8,255,472 25,070,682 33,326,154
Net Liability for Losses and LAE at End of Year Reinsurance Recoverable on Unpaid Losses - End of Year	243,888,000 342,242,000	225,612,000 357,713,000
Liability for Losses and LAE at End of Year	\$ 586,130,000	\$ 583,325,000

As a result of changes in estimates of insured events in prior years, the losses and LAE incurred, net of reinsurance, decreased by approximately \$3,819,000 in 2015 and approximately \$12,561,000 in 2014.

#### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### **NOTE 7 - CONTINGENCIES**

Since inception, the Plan has contracted with seven servicing contractors to provide policy issuance, premium accounting, and claim settlement services in exchange for a service fee based upon standard written premium. Contingent liabilities exist with respect to the performance of the above services to the extent that the servicing carriers are unable to meet their obligations under terms of the general services agreement.

The Plan, through EIW, has purchased annuities to settle certain claims with the claimant as payee but for which the Plan remains contingently liable. The Plan eliminated its loss reserves for these claims at the time the annuities were purchased. A contingent liability exists to the extent that the issuer of the annuity contracts becomes unable to fulfill its contractual obligations. The issuer, Employers Life Insurance Company of Wausau, is an affiliate of EIW. The present value of all annuity contracts still in force at December 31, 2015 was approximately \$1,850,000.

The Plan is presently not engaged in any litigation that it considers will have a material adverse effect on its business. As is common with other insurance providers, the Plan is regularly engaged in the defense of claims arising out of the conduct of the insurance business.

## NOTE 8 - OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

Comprehensive income is defined as any change in policyholders' surplus originating from non-owner transactions. The Plan has identified those changes as being comprised of net income and change in unrealized appreciation or depreciation on investments. The components of comprehensive income, other than net income, are as follows:

	<u>2015</u>	2014
Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) Arising		
During the Period	\$ (2,086,661)	\$ 9,563,568
Less Reclassification Adjustment for Realized		
Capital Gains Included in Net Income	4,814,061	9,141,066
Total Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	\$ (6,900,722)	\$ 422,502

#### **NOTE 9 - POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS**

A Minnesota law requires the Plan to transfer its "excess surplus" (as defined in the statute) to the general fund of the State of Minnesota. The amount appropriated by the Plan for the State of Minnesota was \$1,355,223 at December 31, 2015 and \$17,753,420 at December 31, 2014.