

International Fidelity Insurance Company

www.IFIC.com



ANNOUNCEMENT

February 19, 2009
Newark, New Jersey

Steve Lepere, AFSB & CPCU appointed Regional Manager of IFIC's new Seattle Contract Regional Office

During the fourth quarter of 2008, IFIC appointed Steve Lepere as Regional Manager of its new Seattle Contract Profit Center. This new Regional Profit Center serves agents in the northwestern region of the United States. Last month, Steve opened his new profit center's office in Issaquah, Washington.

Mr. Lepere holds both the AFSB and CPCU designations and is a graduate of the University of Oregon. He began in the surety business as a trainee with Continental Insurance Company. He spent 22 years of his career with the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company in both home office and field office roles that included servicing business in the northwestern region of the United States. For the six years prior to joining IFIC, Mr. Lepere worked for Zurich Surety as a Senior Account Executive in their Seattle, WA office.

Tony DeMartino, IFIC Chief Contract Officer, says "During Steve's short time with IFIC he has done a great job. I am impressed with his discipline in assessing accounts and providing responsive service to agents." Bob Minster, IFIC Chief Operating Officer says "Everyone at IFIC is pleased to have Steve join our company. I am excited to see IFIC finally have the opportunity to establish a surety franchise in the northwest. The current economic downturn does not sway our interest at all in this territory, as we are most interested in establishing and growing long term relationships with agents in the northwest."

About International Fidelity Insurance Company

IFIC is the largest independent writer of surety in the United States. With over 118 million in profitable 2008 writings, the company is dedicated to the independent agency system specializing in surety through its network of 25 regional profit centers.

The company's mission is: "...to be a leading, dynamic middle market surety that consistently delivers the required return on investment to its shareholders by providing long-term rewarding relationships with its employees, agents and reinsurers..."