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OFFICE OF
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER 2011 NOV 17 A 9 20HEARINGS UNIT
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Chief Hearing Officer
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KellyC@oic.wa.gov**NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION****To:** Richard P. Quinlan, Sr. Vice President and Deputy General Counsel
Liberty Mutual Group
175 Berkeley Street
Boston, MA 02116Melvin N. Sorensen, Esq.
Carney Badley Spellman, P.S.
701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3600
Seattle, WA 98104-7010**From:** Patricia D. Petersen, Chief Hearing Officer **Date:** November 16, 2011**Hearing:** **Request for Approval of Proposed Redomestication of Safeco Insurance Company of America, Safeco Surplus Lines Insurance Company, General Insurance Company of America, and First National Insurance Company of America from Washington State to the state of New Hampshire Docket No. 11-0261**

This is to advise you that the Hearings Unit has received and filed your Applications for Redomestication for the above-referenced entities. As required, you request the Washington State Insurance Commissioner's approval to withdraw your status as Washington State domiciled insurance companies. I understand that Richard P. Quinlan, Sr. Vice President and Deputy General Counsel will be representing Liberty Mutual Group, the parent company of Safeco Insurance Company of America, Safeco Surplus Lines Insurance Company, General Insurance Company of America, and First National Insurance Company of America, and that Melvin Sorensen, Esq., will act as local counsel.

RCW 48.17.210(2) provides that the Washington State Insurance Commissioner shall approve any proposed transfer of domicile of a Washington domestic insurer unless the

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Commissioner determines, after a hearing, that the transfer is not in the best interests of the public or the insurer's policyholders in this state. Therefore this Notice of Receipt confirms receipt of your Application and commences the hearing process required by RCW 48.17.210(2).

In approximately 10 working days, you will be contacted by the Hearings Unit to schedule a date for the prehearing conference in this matter. This prehearing conference, which will be held by telephone, will include: 1) you, and/or your representative if you wish; 2) the individual who will be representing the Insurance Commissioner in this matter; and 3) Chief Hearing Officer Patricia D. Petersen. The purpose of the prehearing conference is to discuss basic procedure to be followed before, during and after the hearing, as well as any issues or concerns which have arisen or which you believe will arise in your preparation for the hearing. All stages of the hearing process, including the prehearing conference, are public and any interested party(ies) may participate either over the telephone upon request made to the Hearings Unit, or in person.

For your information, we have included a brief outline of hearing procedure below.

If you have any questions concerning this Notice or the prehearing conference to be scheduled, please contact Kelly Cairns, Paralegal, Hearings Unit, at the above telephone number or address.

HEARING PROCEDURES - OFFICE OF THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

The following is a brief summary of hearing procedure. Following the prehearing conference referred to above, a Notice of Hearing will be entered advising you of the date scheduled for the hearing. The specific rules which govern the hearing procedure, which include many more details, can be found primarily at Chapter 34.05 RCW (the Administrative Procedure Act) and Chapter 10-08 WAC. Your hearing will be presided over by the Chief Hearing Officer. It will be conducted in a fairly formal manner; however, pursuant to the mandate of the Administrative Procedure Act it will be as flexible as possible to accommodate the needs of the parties and any witnesses which may appear. You will be allowed to submit documents to support your version of the facts. Testimony may also be presented in the form of live witnesses, including the parties themselves; also, if requested, witnesses are allowed to testify over the telephone at the discretion of the Chief Hearing Officer.

The hearing normally begins with each party presenting an opening statement summarizing what they intend to prove; then each party presents its case-in-chief which includes presentation of documents and testimony, subject to cross examination by the opposing party; then the hearing concludes with each party presenting its closing arguments summarizing what they believe they have shown.

The Chief Hearing Officer is an individual who has not had any involvement with this case. The Chief Hearing Officer is responsible for all stages of this administrative proceeding before, during and after the hearing, and will conduct the case and make the final decision without any communication, input or review by the Insurance Commissioner or staff or any other individual who has knowledge of the case. The Chief Hearing Officer's final decision is appealable only to the Superior Court and not to another administrative official or tribunal.

Please note that, pursuant to General Rule 24, Washington Rules of Court, attorneys representing individuals or entities in Washington State adjudicative proceedings such as this, need not be licensed as an attorney in Washington State.