

HEARINGS UNIT
OFFICE OF THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
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FILED

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NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION

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From: Judge George Finkle (Ret.), Presiding Officer

Date: November 20, 2014

Hearing: **Request for Approval of Proposed Redomestication of
Commonwealth Insurance Company of America, Docket No. 14-0214**

This is to advise you that the Hearings Unit has received and filed your Application for Redomestication of Commonwealth Insurance Company of America.

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 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 5 working days, you will be contacted by the Hearings Unit to schedule a telephonic prehearing conference. Participants in the prehearing conference will include: 1) you, and/or your representative (under GR 24 of the Washington Court Rules, attorneys in this proceeding need not be licensed to practice in Washington State); 2) a representative of the Insurance Commissioner; and 3) myself, as Presiding Officer. All stages of the hearing process, including the prehearing conference, are public, and interested persons may attend, upon request to the Hearings Unit. Following the prehearing conference, I will issue a Notice of Hearing, which will advise you of the date, time, and place of an evidentiary hearing.

The rules governing hearing procedures are primarily found at Chapter 34.05 RCW (the Washington State Administrative Procedure Act) and Chapter 10-08 of the Washington Administrative Code. Although the hearing will be somewhat formal, I will be as flexible as possible to accommodate the parties and witnesses. Hearings are normally conducted in three parts: 1) Each party presents an opening statement summarizing the evidence it expects to present. 2) Each party presents its case-in-chief, including the

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testimony of witnesses, subject to cross examination by the opposing party, and/or documents. Witnesses may be permitted to testify by telephone; 3) Each party presents closing arguments summarizing – from its perspective -- the application of pertinent statutes and/or regulations to the evidence.

As Presiding Officer, I have not had prior involvement with this case. Following the hearing, I will make a final written decision, appealable only to the Superior Court and not to another administrative official or tribunal.

Please direct any questions to Kelly Cairns, Hearings Unit Paralegal, (360) 725-7002; KellyC@oic.wa.gov.