



PRESS RELEASE – *For Immediate Release*

**Arizona Captive Insurance Association
Announces New 2010-11 Directors and Officers
And Winner of the Crystal Cactus Award**

Phoenix, AZ – April 7, 2010 - At its 7th Annual Membership Meeting held at the Arizona Biltmore Hotel in Phoenix, the names were announced for Arizona Captive Insurance Association’s (AzCIA) new Directors for 2010-2011 as follows:

- Julie Ekdorn, ACAS, MAAA, ASLI, ARM – Bartlett Actuarial Group, Ltd.**
- Lee Filener, Marsh**
- Marcia Philpott, SRP/Captive Risk Solutions Ltd.**
- Joseph Pieksza, CPA – Saslow, Lufkin & Buggy, LLP**
- Patricia Dillon Villarreal, ARM, Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.**

Following the Annual Meeting, the Board elected its 2010-2011 Officers as follows:

- President – Joel Chansky**
- Vice President – Marcia Philpott**
- Treasurer – Joseph Pieksza**
- Secretary – Peter Joy**

The highlight of the Annual Meeting was the presentation of the **AzCIA Crystal Cactus Award** to **J. Michael Low, Esq.** Mr. Low served as Arizona’s Director of Insurance from 1980 – 1984 and was extremely instrumental in the passage of Arizona’s captive-enabling legislation. He is a partner in the Low & Cohen law firm in its Phoenix office. Past Crystal Cactus Award winners include Marc J. Lapointe of USA Risk Group (West), Inc. and Charles R. Cohen, Esq. of the Low & Cohen law firm.

AzCIA’s Annual Meeting was held in conjunction with the 2010 Western Region Captive Insurance Conference, a collaborative effort between AzCIA and the Utah Captive Insurance Association. The event attracted over 150 registrants from over 27 states in the country and three foreign countries, as well as many Arizona- and Utah-based captive industry professionals.

For more information about AzCIA and its activities, contact the AzCIA Office at 1.800.423.4134 or info@azcia.org.

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