EXAMINATION REPORT

of

COMMONWEALTH MUTUAL

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

St. Louis, Missouri

as of

December 31, 2010

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

JACQUELINE K. CUNNINGHAM COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION BUREAU OF INSURANCE

P.O. BOX 1157
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23218
TELEPHONE: (804) 371-9741
TDD/VOICE: (804) 371-9206
http://www.scc.virginia.gov/division/boi

I, Jacqueline K. Cunningham, Commissioner of Insurance of the Commonwealth of Virginia, do hereby certify that the annexed copy of the Examination Report of Commonwealth Mutual Fire Insurance Company as of December 31, 2010, is a true copy of the original report on file with this Bureau.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed to the original the seal of the Bureau at the City of Richmond, Virginia this 24th day of June, 2011

Jacqueline K. Cunningham Commissioner of Insurance

Jaquelie K. Cenfan

(SEAL)

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Description	1
History	1
Management and Control	
Service Agreement	3
Fidelity Bond and Other Insurance	4
Territory and Plan of Operation	
Growth of the Company	5
Reinsurance	6
Scope	7
Financial Statements	•••••
Conclusion	11

Honorable Jacqueline K. Cunningham Commissioner of Insurance Commonwealth of Virginia Richmond, Virginia

Dear Madam:

Pursuant to your instructions and by the authority of the provisions of § 38.2-1317 of the Code of Virginia, an examination of the affairs and financial condition of

#### COMMONWEALTH MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

St. Louis, Missouri

hereinafter referred to as the Company has been completed. The report thereon is submitted for your consideration.

#### **DESCRIPTION**

The Company is a mutual assessment property and casualty insurer licensed pursuant to Chapter 25 of Title 38.2 of the Code of Virginia. The last examination was made by representatives from the State Corporation Commission's Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) as of December 31, 2007. This examination covers the period from the last examination through December 31, 2010.

## **HISTORY**

The Company was incorporated under the laws of Virginia on December 29, 1953, and was licensed by the State Corporation Commission on September 30, 1957. The Company has been in operation since that date selling fire and extended coverage. In October 1989 the Company began offering burglary coverage. The Company's Certificate of Incorporation states its purpose as follows:

... to establish, conduct, and engage in the business of a mutual assessment fire insurance company, pursuant to and to the extent permitted under Chapter 15 of Title 38.1 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended; and to do all the acts

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION BUREAU OF INSURANCE and things therein permitted to be done and performed by a mutual assessment fire insurance company, subject to the limitations and prohibitions therein contained.

#### MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL

The business and affairs of the Company are managed by a board of five directors who must be members of the Company. Each director elected shall serve a term of five years and each serves until his successor is elected and qualified. The annual meeting of members is held on the third Thursday in February of each year at which time the directors are elected. At all meetings of the members, each member shall be entitled to one vote in person or by proxy. In accordance with the application for insurance, in the member's absence, the president of the Company will serve as proxy.

Officers of the Company are elected each year at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors for a term of one year. According to the bylaws, the Board of Directors' meeting is held immediately following the annual meeting of members. The president has general supervision over the officers and employees of the Company but shall be responsible to the Board of Directors. Effective control of the Company is exercised by officers and employees of United Insurance Company of America (United) through a service agreement covering all of the Company's business.

The Company's directors and officers were as follows at December 31, 2010:

#### Directors:

Principal Occupation
Central Virginia District Manager United Insurance Company of America Richmond, Virginia
President Unitrin Career Agency Companies St. Louis, Missouri
Sr. Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Unitrin Career Agency Companies St. Louis, Missouri

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION BUREAU OF INSURANCE Deborah L. Quaglia Sr. Vice President and Operations Officer

Unitrin Career Agency Companies

St. Louis, Missouri

Francis J. Sodaro Vice President, Planning and Analysis

**Unitrin Services Company** 

St. Louis, Missouri

Officers:

Edward J. Konar President

John R. Camillo Secretary

Thomas D. Myers Treasurer

Daniel G. Denton Vice President

Scott Renwick Vice President

All of the above listed officers and directors are employees of United or one of its affiliates.

#### **SERVICE AGREEMENT**

Effective January 1, 2009, the Company renewed its service agreement with United. The term of this agreement is continuous until terminated by United or the Company giving to the other not less than thirty days written notice. Pursuant to this agreement, United manages and controls its agency force in the selling and servicing of the Company's fire insurance policies and provides administrative services pertaining to these policies. Neither United nor its authorized agents shall have the authority to accept or reject risk on behalf of the Company. All such underwriting authority is expressly reserved to the Company.

As compensation for the performance of services, the Company shall pay United a monthly fee based on the administrative costs of United, which is determined as follows:

- a. Commissions, taxes, licenses, fees and other direct expenses will be charged to the Company and United, respectively, as direct expenses.
- b. The net general insurance overhead expenses will be allocated as mutually agreed upon

based on appropriate expense allocation studies which will be reviewed from time to time.

The Company paid United \$376,335, \$296,303 and \$320,140 pursuant to this agreement for the years ended 2008, 2009 and 2010, respectively.

# FIDELITY BOND AND OTHER INSURANCE

The Company had fidelity insurance in force at December 31, 2010, in the amount of \$25,000,000 with a \$750,000 deductible through an endorsement on Unitrin, Inc.'s financial institution bond. Unitrin, Inc. is the parent of United. The Company also has other coverages usual and customary to the nature of its business.

# TERRITORY AND PLAN OF OPERATION

The Company transacts its business throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia through United agents who produce and service the business. Monthly policies covering household goods and personal effects are issued in amounts up to \$20,000 insuring against fire, lightning, windstorm and several other miscellaneous property perils. The Company also issues burglary coverage up to a maximum of \$10,000. Employees of United handle all policy transactions including hiring of agents, soliciting, collecting premiums, processing claims and record keeping.

Risks are classified according to territory, availability of fire protection and types of structure in which the property is located, and rates vary accordingly.

# **GROWTH OF THE COMPANY**

The following data, obtained from the Company's Annual Statements and examination reports, indicates the growth of the Company for the ten-year period ending December 31, 2010:

Year	Admitted Assets	<u>Liabilities</u>	Surplus
2001	\$1,249,793	\$183,149	\$1,066,644
2002	1,266,473	198,948	1,067,525
2003	1,319,279	210,047	1,109,232
2004	1,352,704	182,568	1,170,136
2005	1,380,350	169,773	1,210,577
2006	1,426,861	164,156	1,262,705
2007	1,487,366	169,843	1,317,523
2008	1,529,114	167,462	1,361,652
2009	1,664,071	286,099	1,377,972
2010	1,632,226	243,319	1,388,907

Gross	Investment	Direct Losses	Number of
<u>Assessments</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<b>Policies</b>
¢1 709 152	\$40.524	\$327,002	13,514
. , ,		*	,
1,817,711	28,677	336,012	14,159
1,805,221	11,232	320,682	12,715
1,718,276	15,253	357,248	12,496
1,670,131	29,989	294,992	11,637
1,505,072	46,275	240,234	10,694
1,422,735	42,181	218,018	9,906
1,364,825	42,573	220,373	9,399
1,344,899	18,986	162,096	9,499
1,317,609	1,008	244,399	9,289
	\$1,708,153 1,817,711 1,805,221 1,718,276 1,670,131 1,505,072 1,422,735 1,364,825 1,344,899	Assessments         Income           \$1,708,153         \$49,524           1,817,711         28,677           1,805,221         11,232           1,718,276         15,253           1,670,131         29,989           1,505,072         46,275           1,422,735         42,181           1,364,825         42,573           1,344,899         18,986	Assessments         Income         Paid           \$1,708,153         \$49,524         \$327,002           1,817,711         28,677         336,012           1,805,221         11,232         320,682           1,718,276         15,253         357,248           1,670,131         29,989         294,992           1,505,072         46,275         240,234           1,422,735         42,181         218,018           1,364,825         42,573         220,373           1,344,899         18,986         162,096

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION BUREAU OF INSURANCE

#### REINSURANCE

The Company entered into a quota-share reinsurance agreement with Trinity Universal Insurance Company (Trinity), a Texas Corporation and an affiliate of United. The agreement became effective on January 1, 2009 and was amended on January 15, 2009. Termination requires 12 months written notice by either party wishing to cancel the agreement. Pursuant to the agreement, Trinity agrees to assume 100% of the risks arising under policies written by the Company. The Company shall pay Trinity the full net premiums on policies written and all subrogation, salvage and other recoveries.

In addition to the amounts withheld above, Trinity shall pay to the Company a ceding commission in an amount equal to 1% of premiums minus any return premiums.

This reinsurance agreement contains an insolvency clause.

#### **SCOPE**

This is a full scope financial condition examination initiated and conducted under the provisions of Article 4, Chapter 13 of Title 38.2 of the Code of Virginia. The examination covers the period from January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2010. Assets were verified and liabilities were established at December 31, 2010. A review of income and disbursements for the period was made to the extent deemed necessary.

This examination was conducted in accordance with the NAIC Financial Condition *Examiners' Handbook* (Handbook). The Handbook allows flexibility in the conduct of the examination based upon the nature and size of the entity being examined. This flexibility allows the examiners the ability to structure the examination in the manner best suited for each entity.

For this examination, all accounts and activities of the Company were considered in accordance with the risk-focused examination process.

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

There follows a statement of income and disbursements for the period under review and a statement of financial condition as of December 31, 2010.

# **INCOME FOR THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW**

	2008	2009	2010
Interest on bonds	\$36,451	\$18,526	
Interest on cash deposits	619	460	208
Interest on short-term investments	5,503		800
Other income:	·		
Quota share reimbursement	403,959	435,673	372,087
Increase in ledger liabilities			13,500
Total Income	\$446,532	\$454,659	\$386,595
Deduct total disbursements for the year	397,927	318,488	337,003
Net Income	\$48,605	\$136,171	\$49,592
Add Ledger Assets December 31, previous year	1,456,523	1,505,128	1,641,299
Ledger Assets December 31, current year	\$1,505,128	\$1,641,299	\$1,690,891

# DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

	2008	2009	2010
Commissions and brokerage	(\$13,648)	(\$13,449)	(\$13,176)
Directors' fees	500	500	500
Charitable contributions		4	16
Service fees	376,335	296,304	320,140
Penalties		105	
Taxes, licenses and fees:			
VA premium license tax	26,385	20,618	24,546
Assessment for maintenance of			
Bureau of Insurance	427	392	398
Flood prevention & fraud prevention	811	782	759
Federal corporate income tax	7,000	13,232	3,820
Loss on disposal of investments	117		
Total disbursements	\$397,927	\$318,488	\$337,003

# **ASSETS**

	Ledger Assets	Non- Ledger Assets	Assets Not Admitted	Net Admitted Assets
Cash on deposit	\$497,686			\$497,686
Short-term investments	1,050,030			1,050,030
Assessments due		24,495		24,495
Reinsurance recoverable	56,952			56,952
Accounts receivable	86,223	(83,933)		2,290
Net deferred tax		773		773
Totals	\$1,690,891	(\$58,665)	\$0	\$1,632,226

# **LIABILITIES, SURPLUS AND OTHER FUNDS**

Taxes, licenses and fees:	
VA premium license tax	\$11,841
Ceded reinsurance payable	195,284
Federal corporate income tax	(4,563)
Accounts payable	14,953
Assessments received in advance	25,804
Total liabilities	\$243,319
Excess of admitted assets over liabilities (surplus)	1,388,907
Totals	\$1,632,226

## **CONCLUSION**

The courteous cooperation extended by the Company's officers and employees during the examination is gratefully acknowledged.

In addition to the undersigned, Milton Parker, Jr. of the Bureau participated in the work of the examination.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer K. Blizzard, CFE Senior Insurance Examiner

# COMMONWEALTH MUTUAL JUN 17 AM 9: 18 FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

3600 WEST BROAD STREET, SUITE 166 RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23230-4013

Telephone: (804) 358-5927 Fax: (804) 353-2830

June 16, 2011

Commonwealth of Virginia State Corporation Commission Bureau of Insurance P.O. Box 1157 Richmond, VA 23218

Attn:

Mr. David H. Smith, CFE, CPA, CPCU

Chief Examiner

RE:

Commonwealth Mutual Fire Insurance Company Examination Report as of December 31, 2010

Dear Mr. Smith:

This correspondence is in response to your letter to Mr. Edward J. Konar, President of Commonwealth Mutual Fire Insurance Company, dated May 9, 2011 regarding the final examination report for Commonwealth Mutual Fire Insurance Company as of December 31, 2010.

As noted in your letter, the examination report does not contain any recommendations for corrective action. Therefore, the Company acknowledges receipt of the final examination report and requests that fifteen (15) copies of the final version of this examination report be provided to us, once it is available.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Steven D. McGinley Assistant Treasurer 12115 Lackland Road St. Louis, MO 63146

314-819-4497