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11 CAA Insurance Agencies Earn IIABA's 2014 Best Practice Status ***2 CAA Members National #1 Top Performer in Revenue Category***

Austin, TX, October 16, 2014 – Today Combined Agents of America, LLC (CAA) announced eleven of its agencies have been recognized as 2014 “Best Practices” agencies by the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America (IIABA or the Big “I”) and Reagan Consulting, an Atlanta-based management consulting firm. With expansion into Oklahoma and Kansas, Texas-based CAA is a managing general agency (MGA) committed to further expansion across the country to strengthen the independent insurance agency system through profitable growth and exceptional service for its member agencies.

Two CAA members were also the top-performers nationally in their revenue category: Pierson & Fendley was the top-performer for the revenue category of between \$2.5 million to \$5 million, and Weatherby-Eisenrich was the top-performer for the revenue category of between \$1.25 million to \$2.5 million. A total of six agencies were singled out for having achieved the highest overall scores for their operational excellence, financial results and overall management achievement in their respective revenue-size categories.

In Texas alone, CAA agencies made up more than 34% of the Texas Best Practices agencies in 2014 with 9 CAA agencies out of 26 total. Also, Texas led all the states with 26 Texas agencies qualifying as Best Practice Agencies.

“The fact that each year such a large contingency of CAA agencies earn IIABA’s “Best Practices” status is one more indicator of the quality of agents, and the successful leadership that builds our ranks,” said Bill Martin, CAA president and president of Grona Boles Martin Bloxsom Insurance, San Antonio, Texas.

In 2014, CAA member Keller Leopold Insurance LLC acquired former CAA agency Bridges Group, Inc., (Norton, Kansas). In 2013, Bridges Group was also named a Best Practices agency.

CAA 2014 Best Practice Agencies include:

Barnard Insurance Agency LLP, Wichita Falls, Texas

Bigham Kliewer Chapman & Watts, Killeen, Texas

Bosworth & Associates, Tyler, Texas.

Bryan Insurance Agency Ltd., Graham, Texas

Duncan, Fraser & Bridges Insurance Agency, Inc., Pampa, Texas

Ed Berrong Insurance Agency, Weatherford, Oklahoma

Edmond, Deaton & Stephens Insurance Agency, Inc., Amarillo, Texas

Pierson & Fendley Insurance Agency, LLC, Paris, Texas

SBS Insurance Agency, Seneca, Kansas

Sun West Insurance Agency, Arlington, Texas

Weatherby-Eisenrich Insurance, Andrews, Texas

Barnard Insurance Agency, LLP is a family owned and operated independent insurance agency that has provided personal and business insurance to the North Texas area since 1931. With offices in Wichita Falls, Dallas, and Lubbock, Barnard Insurance offers risk management services along with a full line of insurance products to protect and serve their clients. URL: www.bigwf.com

BKCW Insurance Agency, Killeen, Texas, offers a full line of personal and business insurance products, alongside other financial services since 1952. The agency has producers located in Killeen, Austin, San Antonio and the Dallas-Fort Worth area. URL: bkcw.com

Bosworth & Associates is one of the oldest insurance agency in East Texas and headquartered in Tyler, Texas. An independent insurance agency founded in 1939, this second-generation firm is led by Michael J. Bosworth, AAI, CIC. URL: www.bosworth-associates.com

Bryan Insurance Agency Ltd., and its team of insurance specialists have provided insurance protection to the people in Graham and North Texas since 1921. Additionally as a full-lines insurance agency, today its grown to provide coverage to customers all across Texas and to many surrounding states. URL: www.bryanins.com

Duncan, Fraser & Bridges has built a reputation for fast, efficient and professional services since 1925. The agency offers a full line of insurance services for both commercial and personal insurance needs. In addition, it has risk management, claims management and compliance counseling for our clients. In addition to serving the Panhandle of Texas, it has offices also in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. In May 2014, this agency was consolidated under the name DFB Insurance Group, LLC. URL: dfbinsurance.com

Ed Berrong Insurance Agency, Weatherford, Oklahoma, serves Oklahoma and 17 additional states with a full line of insurance products, while specializing in oil and gas since 1948. This is the 20th consecutive year this agency has earned the status "Best Practices." URL: www.berrongins.com

Edmond, Deaton & Stephens Insurance Agency Inc., Amarillo, Texas, was purchased by CAA member agency Duncan, Fraser and Bridges in 2006. The agency serves the Panhandle of Texas with a full line of insurance products. The agency has offices in Amarillo, Pampa and Borger. In May 2014, this agency was consolidated under the name DFB Insurance Group, LLC. URL: dfbinsurance.com

Pierson & Fendley Insurance Agency, LLC, located in Paris, Bonham and DeKalb has been providing professional services for commercial and personal clients since 1935. URL: www.pierson-fendley.com

SBS Insurance Agency has six locations in northeast Kansas providing insurance solutions and superior customer service to clients in Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri. URL: www.sbsins.com

Sun West Insurance Agency, Arlington, Texas, was purchased by CAA member agency Duncan, Fraser and Bridges in 2010. The agency serves the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex of Texas with a full line of insurance products. In May 2014, this agency was consolidated under the name DFB Insurance Group, LLC. URL: dfbinsurance.com

Weatherby-Eisenrich Insurance, Andrews, Texas, is a full service insurance agency with two other locations in Granbury and Southlake. The agency is a leader in oilfield and business insurance in West Texas and across the state. URL: www.weinsure4you.com

The Best Practices Study was initiated by IIABA in 1993 as the foundation for efforts to improve agency performance. Every three years, IIABA collaborates with Reagan Consulting to select "Best Practices" firms

throughout the nation for outstanding management and financial achievement in six revenue categories (under \$1.25 million; \$1.25 million to \$2.5 million; \$2.5 million to \$5 million; \$5 million to \$10 million; \$10 million to \$25 million; and over \$25 million).

About Combined Agents of America, LLC

Founded in 1997, Combined Agents of America, LLC (CAA) is based in Austin, Texas, and is comprised of 52 independent insurance agencies located throughout Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas. By funneling the agencies' combined premiums, CAA brings larger volume commitments to insurance companies, while empowering its members to realize greater benefits from insurance companies, vendor discounts and other incentives. In 2013, CAA generated more than \$707.8 million in property and casualty premium, and currently works with 18 of the largest insurance companies in the nation. CAA is ranked #4 for the second year running on *Insurance Journal's* Top 20 list of largest agency partnerships in the nation. All CAA member agencies remain independent and are recognized by insurance companies as a key component to their future growth and goal commitments. Additional information is available at www.combinedagents.com.

CAA member agencies include: Aars & Nelson Insurance Agency, Barnard Insurance Agency, Bartlett, Baggett & Shands, Benchmark Insurance Group, Benton-Luttrell-Brown Company, Bigham-Kliwer-Chapman-Watts Insurance Agency, Bibby Brilling & Associates LLP, BRIA Insurance & Risk Consultants, Bosworth & Associates, Bryan Insurance Agency Ltd., Brownrigg Insurance Agency Inc., Cravens Warren & Co., Crockett Insurance Service, DFB Insurance Group LLC, Ed Berrong Insurance Agency, Ed Weeren Insurance Agency Inc., EFGI Insurance & Bonds LLC, Elliott Insurance Group, Evans-Ewan & Brady Insurance Agency Inc., First Insurance Services, First Texas Insurance Services LLC, Fouts, Davidson, Burks Agency LLC, Fuqua Ruth Typer Insurance, Henry Norris Insurance Agency, Inc., Garrett Insurance Agency, Inc., GBS Insurance Agency Inc., Grona Boles Martin & Bloxson Insurance, Hill County Insurance Agency, HC&H Insurance Group, ICI Insurance, Insurance Net Inc., JHC Insurance Agency Inc., J. S. Edwards & Sherlock Insurance Agency, Keller-Leopold Insurance, Inc., McCorkle Commercial Insurance Agency, Mr. Insurance Agency, Inc., NTX Insurance Group, Inc., Pierson-Fendley Insurance Agency, LLC, Pinnacle Insurance Group Inc., Porter Insurance Agency Inc., Purifoy Insurance Agency, LTD, SBS Insurance, The Shropshire Agency Inc., Siegeler Insurance Agency, Inc., Southern Star Insurance, Strong's Insurance Inc., Walthall-Sachse & Pipes, Inc., The Weatherby-Eisenrich Inc., Wellmann Insurance Agency, Inc., Western Insurance Agency, Whorton Insurance Services, and Wood-Dulohery Insurance, Inc.