

ACTUARIAL OPINION

1. There is to be included with or attached to Page 1 of the Annual Statement, the statement of ~~a Qualified the~~ Appointed Actuary, entitled "Statement of Actuarial Opinion" (Actuarial Opinion) setting forth his or her opinion relating to reserves specified in the SCOPE paragraph. The Actuarial Opinion, both the narrative and required exhibits, shall be in the format of and contain the information required by this section of the *Annual Statement Instructions – Title*.

Upon initial engagement, the Appointed Actuary must be appointed by the Board of Directors by Dec. 31 of the calendar year for which the opinion is rendered. The Company shall notify the domiciliary commissioner within five business days of the appointment with the following information:

- a. Name and title (and, in the case of a consulting actuary, the name of the firm).
- b. Manner of appointment of the Appointed Actuary (e.g., who made the appointment and when).
- c. A statement that the person meets the requirements of a Qualified Actuary (or was approved by the domiciliary commissioner).

Once this notification is furnished, no further notice is required with respect to this person unless the Board of Directors takes action to no longer appoint or retain the actuary or the actuary no longer meets the requirements of a Qualified Actuary.

If an actuary who was the Appointed Actuary for the immediately preceding filed Actuarial Opinion is replaced by an action of the Board of Directors, the Insurer shall within five (5) business days notify the Insurance Department of the state of domicile of this event. The Insurer shall also furnish the domiciliary commissioner with a separate letter within ten (10) business days of the above notification stating whether in the twenty-four (24) months preceding such event there were any disagreements with the former Appointed Actuary regarding the content of the opinion on matters of the risk of material adverse deviation, required disclosures, scope, procedures, type of opinion issued, substantive wording of the opinion or data quality. The disagreements required to be reported in response to this paragraph include both those resolved to the former Appointed Actuary's satisfaction and those not resolved to the former Appointed Actuary's satisfaction. The letter should include a description of each disagreement and the nature of its resolution (or that it was not resolved). Within this same ten (10) business days, the Insurer shall in writing also request such former Appointed Actuary to furnish a letter addressed to the Insurer stating whether the Appointed Actuary agrees with the statements contained in the Insurer's letter and, if not, stating the reasons for which he or she does not agree. The former Appointed Actuary shall provide a written response to the insurer within ten (10) business days of such request, and the Insurer shall furnish such responsive letter from the former Appointed Actuary to the domiciliary commissioner together with its own responses.

The Appointed Actuary must report to the Board of Directors each year on the items within the scope of the Actuarial Opinion. The Actuarial Opinion and the Actuarial Report must be made available to the Board of Directors. The minutes of the Board of Directors should indicate that the Appointed Actuary has presented such information to the Board of Directors and identify the manner of presentation (e.g., webinar, in-person presentation, written). A separate Actuarial Opinion is required for each company filing an Annual Statement. When there is an affiliated company pooling arrangement, one Actuarial Report for the aggregate pool is sufficient, but there must be addendums to the Actuarial Report to cover non-pooled reserves for individual companies.

The Actuarial Opinion and the supporting Actuarial Report and workpapers, should be consistent with the appropriate Actuarial Standards of Practice (ASOPs), including but not limited to ASOP No. 23, ASOP No. 36, ASOP No. 41, and ASOP No. 43, as promulgated by the Actuarial Standards Board.

1A. Definitions

“Appointed Actuary” is a Qualified Actuary (or individual otherwise approved by the domiciliary commissioner) appointed by the Board of Directors in accordance with Section 1 of these instructions.

“Board of Directors” can include the designated Board of Directors, its equivalent or an appropriate committee directly reporting to the Board of Directors.

“Qualified Actuary” is a person who is either:

- (i) A member in good standing of the Casualty Actuarial Society; or
- (ii) An actuary evaluated by the Casualty Practice Council of the American Academy of Actuaries and determined to be a Qualified Actuary for title insurance.

“Insurer” or “Company” means a reporting entity authorized to write title insurance under the laws of any state and who files on the Title Blank.

“Actuarial Report” means a document or other presentation, prepared as a formal means of conveying to the state regulatory authority and the Board of Directors the Appointed Actuary’s professional conclusions and recommendations, of recording and communicating the methods and procedures, of assuring that the parties addressed are aware of the significance of the Appointed Actuary’s opinion or findings and of documenting the analysis underlying the opinion. The required content of the Actuarial Report is further described in paragraph 7. (Note that the inclusion of the Board of Directors as part of the intended audience for the Actuarial Report does not change the content of the Actuarial Report as described in paragraph 7. The Appointed Actuary should present findings to the Board of Directors in a manner deemed suitable for such audience.)

1B. Exemptions

An insurer who intends to file for one of the exemptions under this section must submit a letter of intent to its domiciliary commissioner no later than December 1 of the calendar year for which the exemption is to be claimed. The commissioner may deny the exemption prior to December 31 of the same year if the exemption is deemed inappropriate.

A copy of the approved exemption must be filed with the Annual Statement in all jurisdictions in which the company is authorized.

Exemption for Small Companies

An insurer that has less than \$1,000,000 total direct plus assumed written premiums during a calendar year, and less than \$1,000,000 total direct plus assumed loss and loss adjustment expense reserves at year-end, in lieu of the Actuarial Opinion required for the calendar year, may submit an affidavit under oath of an officer of the insurer that specifies the amounts of direct plus assumed written premiums and direct plus assumed loss and loss adjustment reserves.

Exemption for Insurers under Supervision or Conservatorship

Unless ordered by the domiciliary commissioner, an insurer that is under supervision or conservatorship pursuant to statutory provision is exempt from the filing requirements contained herein.

Exemption for Nature of Business

An insurer otherwise subject to the requirement and not eligible for an exemption as enumerated above may apply to its domiciliary commissioner for an exemption based on the nature of business written.

Financial Hardship Exemption

An insurer otherwise subject to this requirement and not eligible for an exemption as enumerated above may apply to the commissioner for a financial hardship exemption.

Financial hardship is presumed to exist if the projected reasonable cost of the Actuarial ~~Opinion~~ would exceed the lesser of:

- (i) One percent (1%) of the insurer's capital and surplus reflected in the insurer's latest quarterly statement for the calendar year for which the exemption is sought; or
 - (ii) Three percent (3%) of the insurer's direct plus assumed premiums written during the calendar year for which the exemption is sought as projected from the insurer's latest quarterly statements filed with its domiciliary commissioner.
2. The Actuarial Opinion must consist of an IDENTIFICATION paragraph identifying the Appointed Actuary; a SCOPE paragraph identifying the subjects on which an opinion is to be expressed and describing the scope of the Appointed Actuary's work; an OPINION paragraph expressing his or her opinion with respect to such subjects and one or more additional RELEVANT COMMENTS paragraphs. These four sections must be clearly designated.
3. The IDENTIFICATION paragraph should indicate the Appointed Actuary's relationship to the Company, qualifications for acting as Appointed Actuary, and date of appointment, and specify that the appointment was made by the Board of Directors.

If the Appointed Actuary was approved by the Academy to be a "Qualified Actuary", with or without limitation, or if the Appointed Actuary is not a Qualified Actuary but was approved by the domiciliary commissioner, the company must attach, each year, the approval letter and reference such in the identification paragraph.

4. The SCOPE paragraph should contain a sentence such as the following:

"I have examined the actuarial assumptions and methods used in determining reserves listed in Exhibit A, as shown in the Annual Statement of the Company as prepared for filing with state regulatory officials, as of December 31, 20__, and reviewed information provided to me through XXX date."

Exhibit A should list those items and amounts with respect to which the Appointed Actuary is expressing an opinion.

The Appointed Actuary should state that the items in the SCOPE ~~paragraph~~, on which he or she is expressing an opinion, reflect the Disclosure items (8 through 13) in Exhibit B.

The SCOPE paragraph should include a paragraph such as the following regarding the data used by the Appointed Actuary in forming the opinion:

"In forming my opinion on the loss and loss adjustment expense reserves, I relied upon data prepared by _____ (~~officer~~ ~~individual's~~ name and title at the Company). I evaluated that data for reasonableness and consistency. I also reconciled that data to Schedule P, Parts 1 and 2 of the Company's current Annual Statement. In other respects, my examination included such review of the actuarial assumptions and methods used and such tests of the calculations as I considered necessary."

5. The OPINION paragraph should include a sentence that at least covers the points listed in the following illustration:

“In my opinion, the amounts carried in Exhibit A on account of the items identified:

- A. Meet the requirements of the insurance laws of (state of domicile).
- B. Are computed in accordance with accepted actuarial standards.
- C. Make a reasonable provision for all unpaid loss and loss adjustment expense obligations of the Company under the terms of its contracts and agreements.”

If there is any aggregation or combination of items in Exhibit A, the opinion language should clearly identify the combined items.

Insurance laws and regulations shall at all times take precedence over the actuarial standards.

If the Appointed Actuary has ~~made use of the work of another actuary not within the Appointed Actuary's control~~ used another actuary's analysis that was not produced under the Appointed Actuary's direction (such as for pools and associations, for a subsidiary or for special lines of business) for a material portion of the reserves, the other actuary must be identified by name, credential, and affiliation within the OPINION paragraph. If the Appointed Actuary has ~~made use of~~ used the work of a non-actuary (such as for modeling) for a material portion of the reserves, that individual must be identified by name and affiliation and a description of the type of analysis performed must be provided.

A Statement of Actuarial Opinion should be made in accordance with one of the following sections (a through e). The Appointed Actuary must explicitly identify in Exhibit B which type applies.

- a. Determination of Reasonable Provision. When the carried reserve amount is within the Appointed Actuary's range of reasonable reserve estimates, the Appointed Actuary should issue a Statement of Actuarial Opinion that the carried reserve amount makes a reasonable provision for the liabilities associated with the specified reserves.
- b. Determination of Deficient or Inadequate Provision. When the carried reserve amount is less than the minimum amount that the Appointed Actuary believes is reasonable, the Appointed Actuary should issue a Statement of Actuarial Opinion that the carried reserve amount does not make a reasonable provision for the liabilities associated with the specified reserves. In addition, the Appointed Actuary should disclose the minimum amount that the Appointed Actuary believes is reasonable.
- c. Determination of Redundant or Excessive Provision. When the carried reserve amount is greater than the maximum amount that the Appointed Actuary believes is reasonable, the Appointed Actuary should issue a Statement of Actuarial Opinion that the carried reserve amount does not make a reasonable provision for the liabilities associated with the specified reserves. In addition, the Appointed Actuary should disclose the maximum amount that the Appointed Actuary believes is reasonable.
- d. Qualified Opinion. When, in the Appointed Actuary's opinion, the reserves for a certain item or items are in question because they cannot be reasonably estimated or the Appointed Actuary is unable to render an opinion on those items, the Appointed Actuary should issue a qualified Statement of Actuarial Opinion. The Appointed Actuary should disclose the item (or items) to which the qualification relates, the reason(s) for the qualification, and the amounts for such item(s), if disclosed by the Company. Such a qualified opinion should state whether the carried reserve amount makes a reasonable provision for the liabilities associated with the specified reserves, *except for* the item (or items) to which the qualification relates. The Appointed Actuary is not required to issue a qualified opinion if the Appointed Actuary reasonably believes that the item (or items) in question are not likely to be material.

- e. No Opinion. The Appointed Actuary's ability to give an opinion is dependent upon data, analyses, assumptions, and related information that are sufficient to support a conclusion. If the Appointed Actuary cannot reach a conclusion due to deficiencies or limitations in the data, analyses, assumptions, or related information, then the Appointed Actuary may issue a statement of no opinion. A statement of no opinion should include a description of the reasons why no opinion could be given.

6. The Appointed Actuary must provide RELEVANT COMMENT paragraphs to address the following topics of regulatory importance.

a. Company-Specific Risk Factors

The Appointed Actuary should include an explanatory paragraph to describe the major factors, combination of factors or particular conditions underlying the risks and uncertainties the Appointed ~~a~~Actuary considers relevant. The explanatory paragraph should not include general, broad statements about risks and uncertainties due to economic changes, judicial decisions, regulatory actions, political or social forces, etc., nor is the Appointed Actuary required to include an exhaustive list of all potential sources of risks and uncertainties.

b. Risk of Material Adverse Deviation.

The Appointed Actuary must provide specific RELEVANT COMMENT paragraphs to address the risk of material adverse deviation. The Appointed Actuary must identify the materiality standard and the basis for establishing this standard. The materiality standard must also be disclosed in U.S. dollars in Exhibit B: Disclosures. The Appointed Actuary should explicitly state whether or not he or she reasonably believes that there are significant risks and uncertainties that could result in material adverse deviation. This determination is also to be disclosed in Exhibit B.

c. Other Disclosures in Exhibit B

RELEVANT COMMENT paragraphs should describe the significance of each of the remaining Disclosure items (8 through 14) in Exhibit B. The Appointed Actuary should address the items individually and in combination when commenting on a material impact.

d. Reinsurance

RELEVANT COMMENT paragraphs should address reinsurance collectability, retroactive reinsurance, and financial reinsurance .

The Appointed Actuary's comments on reinsurance collectability should address any uncertainty associated with including potentially-uncollectable amounts in the estimate of ceded reserves. Before commenting on reinsurance collectability, the Appointed Actuary should solicit information from management on any actual collectability problems, review ratings given to reinsurers by a recognized rating service, and examine Schedule F for the current year for indications of regulatory action or reinsurance recoverable on paid losses over ninety (90) days past due. The comment should also reflect any other information the Appointed ~~a~~Actuary has received from management or that is publicly available about the capability or willingness of reinsurers to pay claims. The Appointed Actuary's comments do not imply an opinion on the financial condition of any reinsurer.

Retroactive reinsurance refers to agreements referenced in SSAP No. 62—*Property and Casualty Reinsurance of the NAIC Accounting Practices and Procedures Manual*.

Financial reinsurance refers to contracts referenced in SSAP No. 62—~~*Property and Casualty Reinsurance of the Accounting Practices and Procedures Manual*~~ in which credit is not allowed for the ceding insurer because the arrangements do not include a transfer of both timing and underwriting risk that the reinsurer undertakes in fact to indemnify the ceding insurer against loss or liability by reason of the original insurance.

e. Reserve Development

If the Company's reserves will cause the ratio of One-Year or Two-Year Known Claims Reserve Development (shown in Schedule P, Part 3) or One-Year or Two-Year Reserve Development (shown in Schedule P, Part 2) to the respective prior year's Policyholders' Surplus to be greater than 20%, the Appointed ~~a~~Actuary must include RELEVANT COMMENT on the factors that led to the exceptional reserve development.

f. Methods and Assumptions

If there has been any significant change in the actuarial assumptions and/or methods from those previously employed, that change should be described in a RELEVANT COMMENT paragraph. If the Appointed Actuary is newly-appointed and does not review the work of the prior Appointed Actuary, then the Appointed Actuary should disclose this.

7. The Actuarial Opinion must include assurance that an Actuarial Report and underlying actuarial workpapers supporting the Actuarial Opinion will be maintained at the Company and available for regulatory examination for seven (7) years. The Actuarial Report contains significant proprietary information. It is expected that the Actuarial Report be held confidential and not be intended for public inspection. The Actuarial Report must be available by May 1 of the year following the year-end for which the Actuarial Opinion was rendered or within two (2) weeks after a request from an individual state commissioner.

The Actuarial Report should be consistent with the documentation and disclosure requirements of ASOP No. 41, Actuarial Communications. The Actuarial Report must contain both narrative and technical components. The narrative component should provide sufficient detail to clearly explain to Company management, the Board of Directors, the regulator, or other authority the findings, recommendations, and conclusions, as well as their significance. The technical component should provide sufficient documentation and disclosure for another actuary practicing in the same field to evaluate the work. This technical component must show the analysis from the basic data (e.g., loss triangles) to the conclusions.

The Actuarial Report must also include:

- A. A description of the Appointed Actuary's relationship to the Company, with clear presentation of the Appointed Actuary's role in advising the Board of Directors and/or management regarding the carried reserves. The Actuarial Report should identify how and when the Appointed Actuary presents the analysis to the Board of Directors and, where applicable, to the officer(s) of the Company responsible for determining the carried reserves.
- B. An exhibit that ties to the Annual Statement and compares the Appointed Actuary's conclusions to the carried amounts consistent with the segmentation of exposure or liability groupings used in the analysis. The Appointed Actuary's conclusions include the Appointed Actuary's point estimate(s), range(s) of reasonable estimates or both.
- C. An exhibit that reconciles and maps the data used by the Appointed Actuary, consistent with the segmentation of exposure or liability groupings used in the Appointed Actuary's analysis, to the Annual Statement Schedule P.
 - i. The reconciliation should compare the data used by the Appointed Actuary in the analysis to Schedule P. It is not sufficient to reconcile the data provided by the Company to the Appointed Actuary to Schedule P. It is important for the Appointed Actuary to demonstrate that in the process of performing the actuarial analysis, data was neither created nor destroyed. This is commonly accomplished by showing a clear mapping from the Appointed Actuary's analysis exhibits to the actuarial data shown in the Schedule P reconciliation.

ii. If the reconciliation was not produced under the Appointed Actuary's direction, the Appointed Actuary should identify who performed the reconciliation and confirm that the Appointed Actuary reviewed the reconciliation for reasonableness.

D. An exhibit or appendix showing the change in the Appointed Actuary's estimates from the prior Actuarial Report, including extended discussion of factors underlying any material changes. The exhibit or appendix should illustrate the changes on a net basis but should also include the changes on a gross basis, if relevant. If the Appointed Actuary is newly-appointed and does not review the work of the prior Appointed Actuary, then the Appointed Actuary should disclose this.

E. Extended comments on trends that indicate the presence or absence of risks and uncertainties that could result in material adverse deviation.

F. Extended comments on factors that led to exceptional reserve development, as defined in 6E, and how these factors were addressed in prior and current analyses.

G. If the Appointed Actuary has used an analysis or opinion not produced under the Appointed Actuary's direction for a material portion of the reserves:

i. The dollar amount of the reserves covered by the other's analysis or opinion and the percentage of the total reserves subject to the Appointed Actuary's opinion that these other reserves represent.

ii. Whether and to what extent the Appointed Actuary reviewed the other's underlying analysis, including items such as methods and assumptions used and underlying arithmetic calculations.

iii. If the Appointed Actuary reviewed the other's underlying analysis, the Appointed Actuary's conclusions from the review.

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8. The Actuarial Opinion should conclude with the signature of the Appointed Actuary responsible for providing the Actuarial Opinion and the date when the Actuarial Opinion was rendered. The signature and date should appear in the following format:

Signature of Appointed Actuary
Printed name of Appointed ~~a~~Actuary
Employer's name
Address of Appointed Actuary
Telephone number of Appointed Actuary
Email address of Appointed Actuary
Date opinion was rendered

The same information should be reproduced within the Actuarial Report, along with the date the Actuarial Report was finalized.

9. The Insurer required to furnish an Actuarial Opinion shall require its Appointed Actuary to notify its Board of Directors or its audit committee in writing within five (5) business days after any determination by the Appointed Actuary that the Actuarial Opinion submitted to the domiciliary commissioner was in error as a result of reliance on data or other information (other than assumptions) that, as of the balance sheet date, was factually incorrect. The Actuarial Opinion shall be considered to be in error if the Actuarial Opinion would have not been issued or would have been materially altered had the correct data or other information been used. The Actuarial Opinion shall not be considered to be in error if it would have been materially altered or not issued solely because of data or information concerning events subsequent to the balance sheet date or because actual results differ from those projected. Notification is required when discovery is made between the issuance of the Actuarial Opinion and Dec. 31 of that year. Notification should include a summary of such findings.

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If the Appointed Actuary learns that the data or other information relied upon was factually incorrect, but cannot immediately determine what, if any, changes are needed in the Actuarial Opinion, the Appointed Actuary, and the Company should quickly undertake procedures necessary for the Appointed Actuary to make such determination. If the Insurer does not provide the necessary data corrections and other support (including financial support) within ten (10) business days, the Appointed Actuary should proceed with the notification to the Board of Directors and the domiciliary commissioner.

An Insurer who is notified pursuant to the preceding paragraphs shall forward a copy of the amended Actuarial Opinion to the domiciliary commissioner within five (5) business days of receipt of such and shall provide the Appointed Actuary making the notification with a copy of the letter and amended Actuarial Opinion ~~being furnished~~ submitted to the domiciliary commissioner. If the Appointed Actuary fails to receive such copy within the five (5) business day period referred to in the previous sentence, the Appointed Actuary shall notify the domiciliary commissioner within the next five (5) business days that an amended Actuarial Opinion has been finalized.

No Appointed Actuary shall be liable in any manner to any person for any statement made in connection with the above paragraphs if such statement is made in a good faith effort to comply with the above paragraphs.

10. Data in Exhibits A and ~~Exhibit~~ B are to be filed in both print and data capture format.

STATEMENT OF ACTUARIAL OPINION

Exhibit A: SCOPE

DATA TO BE FILED IN BOTH PRINT AND DATA CAPTURE FORMATS

LOSS AND LOSS ADJUSTMENT EXPENSE RESERVES:	<u>Amount</u>
1. Unpaid Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses (Schedule P, Part 1, Total Column 24 * 1000 or Total Column 34 * 1000 if discounting is allowable under state law)	\$ _____
2. Unpaid Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses - Direct and Assumed (Should equal Schedule P, Part 1, Summary, Totals from Columns 17, 18, 20, 21, and 23, Line 12 * 1000)	\$ _____
3. Other items on which the Appointed Actuary is expressing an Opinion (list separately, adding additional lines as needed)	\$ _____

Exhibit B: DISCLOSURES

DATA TO BE FILED IN BOTH PRINT AND DATA CAPTURE FORMATS

NOTE: Exhibit B should be completed for Net dollar amounts included in the SCOPE. If an answer would be different for Direct and Assumed amounts, identify and discuss the difference within RELEVANT COMMENTS.

	Last	First	Middle
1. Name of the Appointed Actuary	_____	_____	_____
2. The Appointed Actuary's relationship to the Company.			
Enter E or C based upon the following:			
E - If an Employee of the Company or Group			_____
C - If a Consultant			_____
3. The Appointed Actuary has the following designation (indicated by the letter code):			
F - If a Fellow of the Casualty Actuarial Society (FCAS)			
A - If an Associate of the Casualty Actuarial Society (ACAS)			
M - If not a member of the Casualty Actuarial Society, but a Member of the American Academy of Actuaries (MAAA) is approved by the Casualty Practice Council, as documented with the attached approval letter.			_____ _____ _____ _____
O - For Other			_____

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4. Type of Opinion, as identified in the OPINION paragraph.
Enter R, I, E, Q, or N based upon the following:

R - If Reasonable

I - If Inadequate or Deficient Provision

E - If Excessive or Redundant Provision

Q - If Qualified (use Q when part of the OPINION is
Qualified)

N - If No Opinion

5. Materiality Standard expressed in U.S. dollars (used to
answer question #6) \$ _____

6. Are there significant risks that could result in Material
Adverse Deviation?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

7. Statutory Surplus (Liabilities, Surplus, and Other Funds Page, Line
32) \$ _____

8. Known claims reserve (Liabilities, Surplus, and Other Funds Page,
Line 1) \$ _____

9. Statutory premium reserve (Liabilities, Surplus, and Other Funds
Page, Line 2) \$ _____

10. Aggregate of other reserves required by law (Liabilities,
Surplus, and Other Funds Page, Line 3) \$ _____

11. Supplemental reserve (Liabilities, Surplus, and Other Funds Page,
Line 4) \$ _____

12. Anticipated net salvage and subrogation included as a
reduction to loss reserves as reported in Schedule P \$ _____

13. Discount included as a reduction to loss reserves and loss
adjustment expense reserves as reported in Schedule P \$ _____

14. Other items on which the Appointed Actuary is providing
relevant comment (list separately, adding additional lines as
needed) \$ _____

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