



Kansas Insurance Department

Sandy Praeger, Commissioner of Insurance

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 22, 2009

For more information, contact:

Bob Hanson
Public Information Officer
785-296-7807
bhanson@ksinsurance.org

Insurance Commissioner Praeger announces retirement, hiring in Producers Division

TOPEKA, Kan. — Kansas Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger has announced the retirement of long-time Producers Division Director LeRoy Brungardt and the hiring of his replacement, David McKee.

Brungardt, who has worked for the Kansas Insurance Department (KID) for 21 years, will retire on Sept. 30. Prior to joining KID, he was a general insurance agent, a teacher and a coach, both in Topeka and Hays, Kan. He joined the department in May 1988, and he became director of the Licensing Division (now the Producers Division) in 1999. He was the first former insurance agent to be the director of the division, which licenses agents.

“LeRoy’s years of dedicated service to the department are deeply appreciated,” said Commissioner Praeger, “and his firm yet compassionate leadership of the division will be missed.”

Brungardt’s replacement, McKee, is well-known in Kansas insurance circles, Commissioner Praeger said. In addition to being a licensed agent, he also has company experience as a district representative for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas and Prudential Insurance. He has worked as a senior sales consultant with Century Health Solutions and as a marketing manager for both Heartland Health and the Prescription Network of Kansas. Most recently he was an account executive with Coventry Health Care.

McKee has been an officer with the Greater Kansas City Association of Health Underwriters and has been very active in the Kansas Association of Health Underwriters, a group he led as president until his KID appointment. He holds Certified Health Consultant and Life Underwriting Training Fellow designations.

“Dave brings to the department extensive insurance industry knowledge, both as a producer and as a company official,” Commissioner Praeger said.

McKee began working with Brungardt in a transitional capacity on Sept. 14.

The Kansas Insurance Department, established in 1871, assists and educates consumers, regulates and reviews companies and licenses agents selling insurance products in the state. More about the department is online at www.ksinsurance.org.