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KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California FELIX E. LEATHER WOOD Supervising Deputy Attorney General LESLIE BRANMAN SMITH Deputy Attorney General TIM NADER Deputy Attorney General State Bar No. 106093 110 West A Street, Suite 1100 San Diego, CA 92101 P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 645-2210 Fax: (619) 645-2489 E-mail: Tim.Nader@doi.ca.gov Attorneys for Applicant, Insurance Commissioner of the State of California

Clerk of the Superior Court

AUG 17 2012

By: C. BANKS, Deputy

# SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

## INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

Plaintiff.

FRONTIER PACIFIC INSURANCE COMPANY, A California Corporation,

Defendants.

Case No. GIC 774028

## TWENTIETH STATUS CONFERENCE REPORT

Date:

August 31, 2012

Time:

1:00 P.M.

Dept:

71

Judge:

The Honorable Ronald S. Prager

Trial Date: None

Action Filed: September 7, 2001

#### INTRODUCTION

Frontier Pacific Insurance Company ("FPIC"), a California domiciled property and casualty company, was conserved by the Insurance Commissioner ("Commissioner") on September 7. 2001, based on a finding that further transaction of its business would be hazardous to policyholders and creditors pursuant to Insurance Code section 1011. Subsequently, the Commissioner determined that FPIC's financial condition was such that rehabilitation would be 111

the eleventh report on October 17, 2008, the twelfth report on April 17, 2009, the thirteenth report on November 6, 2009, the fourteenth report on March 12, 2010, the fifteenth report on July 16, 2010, the sixteenth report on April 15, 2011, the seventeenth report on July 8, 2011, the eighteenth report on October 7, 2011 and the nineteenth report on February 24, 2012. The nineteenth status report is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

futile and the Commissioner's Application for Order Appointing Commissioner as Liquidator and Restraining Orders was granted on November 30, 2001 (the "Liquidation Order"). Prior to the Commissioner's actions, in August 2001, FPIC's parent company, Frontier Insurance Company of New York ("FIC") voluntarily entered rehabilitation under the control of the New York Superintendent of Insurance, acting through the New York Liquidation Bureau ("NYLB"). As a

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result of FIC's rehabilitation, certain reinsurance recoverables due to FPIC from FIC were not received and could therefore no longer be carried as assets on the books of FPIC. An examination by the California Department of Insurance's Financial Analysis Division found that based on the disallowance of the FIC reinsurance credit in the amount of \$12,842,609, FPIC's surplus as regards policyholders was a negative \$5,289,995. At the time of the initial case management conference in this matter on March 15, 2002, the Court announced its intention to hold semi-annual status conferences in this matter so that the Court could periodically be informed regarding the status of the liquidation of FPIC. For the convenience of the Court, the Liquidator presented the first status report on September 13, 2002, the second on March 24, 2003, the third on February 24, 2004, the fourth on September 30, 2004, the fifth on April 29, 2005, the sixth on January 13, 2006, the seventh on June 9, 2006, the eighth report on January 5, 2006, the ninth report on October 5, 2007, the tenth report on April 16, 2008,

STATUS OF THE NICO LITIGATION/ARBITRATION

As previously noted, the Liquidator instituted an action for declaratory relief against National Indemnity Insurance Company entitled Steve Poizner, Insurance Commissioner for the State of California in his capacity as Liquidator of Frontier Pacific Insurance Company vs. National Indemnity Company, San Diego Superior Court, Case No. 37-2008-00080104-CU-MC-CTL. NICO removed the case to the United States District Court for the Southern District of

California, where it was assigned Case No. 08 CV 772 L. Upon NICO's application, the court granted its request to stay the proceeding pending completion of arbitration. The last Federal Status Conference was held on November 16, 2011 at which time the case was dismissed, at the joint request of the parties, due to the conclusion of arbitration between the Liquidator and NICO.

As noted in the Reinsurance portion of prior Statements, the Liquidator commenced arbitration with NICO seeking recovery of all amounts due from NICO. The arbitration was completed March 25, 2011, and was taken under submission by the arbitration panel. On August 12, 2011, the arbitration panel awarded FPIC \$13,039,326.28 and interest at the rate of 6% simple interest to be paid within 30 days. On August 27, 2011, the arbitration panel awarded interest of \$4,700,000.00 payable no later than September 11, 2011. Pursuant to the terms of the awards, NICO has paid FPIC \$17,739,326.28.

The award excluded FPIC's pre-liquidated Unallocated Loss Adjustment Expenses (ULAE) claims against NICO that are in excess of \$3,000,000 without interest. These claims will be the subject of negotiation or a subsequent arbitration proceeding. In June 2012, this Court signed a commission for out of state discovery (deposition and production of documents) in connection with these claims. As of this writing, the deposition is scheduled to commence August 28, 2012.

#### EARLY DISTRIBUTION

At a hearing on June 22, 2012, this Court granted the Commissioner's Application for Early Distribution. The Liquidator has made the distributions provided for in the Court's order.

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## **CONCLUSION**

Plaintiff requests the Court accept this report and schedule the next status conference.

Dated: August 17, 2012

Respectfully Submitted,

KAMALA D. HARRIS Attorney General of California FELIX E. LEATHER WOOD Supervising Deputy Attorney General LESLIE BRANMAN SMITH Deputy Attorney General

TIM NADER

Deputy Attorney General

Attorneys for Applicant, Insurance Commissioner of the State of California

## **DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY U.S. MAIL**

Case Name:

Insurance Commissioner of the State of California v. Frontier Pacific

Insurance Company, a California Corporation

I L E D

No.:

GIC 774028

Clerk of the Superior Court

I declare:

AUG 1 7 2012

By: C. BANKS, Deputy
I am employed in the Office of the Attorney General, which is the office of a member of the
California State Bar, at which member's direction this service is made. I am 18 years of age or
older and not a party to this matter. I am familiar with the business practice at the Office of the
Attorney General for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United
States Postal Service. In accordance with that practice, correspondence placed in the internal
mail collection system at the Office of the Attorney General is deposited with the United States
Postal Service with postage thereon fully prepaid that same day in the ordinary course of
business.

On <u>August 17, 2012</u>, I served the attached **TWENTIETH STATUS CONFERENCE REPORT** by placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope in the internal mail collection system at the Office of the Attorney General at 110 West A Street, Suite 1100, P.O. Box 85266, San Diego, CA 92186-5266, addressed as follows:

Al Escobar, Chief Executive Officer Frontier Insurance Company 195 Lake Louise Marie Rock Hill, NY 12775-2100

Joseph Termine
Special Deputy Superintendent
State of New York Insurance Dept.
Liquidation Bureau
123 William Street
New York, NY 10038

New York Property and Casualty Insurance Guarantee Fund 1 Commerce Plaza, 20th Floor New York, NY 12257

Willard Roberts Estate Trust Officer Conservation & Liquidation Office P.O. Box 26894 San Francisco, CA 94126-0894 Christopher L. Dueringer, Esq. Bryan Cave LLP 120 Broadway, Suite 300 Santa Monica, CA 90401-2305

Andrew Pearson, Esq. Marks, Golia & Finch, LLP 3900 Harney Street, First Floor San Diego, CA 92110-2825

South Carolina Property and Casualty Insurance Guaranty Association One Greystone Building, Suite 101 240 Stoneridge Drive Columbia, CA 29201 Attn: Edward Moon, Claims Supervisor

Wayne Wilson Executive Director California Insurance Guarantee Assn. P.O. Box 29066 Glendale, CA 91209