

Announcement

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LICONY Elects New Members to Board of Directors

Albany, NY, October 14, 2021 – The Life Insurance Council of New York (LICONY) has appointed new members to the organization’s Board of Directors.

José Ramón González, Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary at Equitable Holdings, immediately joins the board and will serve through 2023.

Blake Bostwick, Chief Executive Officer of Individual Solutions Division at Transamerica and David Melman, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs and Chief Legal Officer at ShelterPoint Life Insurance Company will serve terms through 2025 beginning January 1, 2022.

“We are delighted to welcome our newest members to the LICONY Board of Directors,” said LICONY President and CEO Richard A. Loconte. “These veteran executives know our organization well and the diverse experience they bring from their combined decades of experience in the life insurance industry will be instrumental in advancing our advocacy with our legislative and regulatory stakeholders.”

José Ramón González’s term begins as his colleague David Hattem, Special Advisor to the CEO at Equitable Holdings, leaves the board after resigning earlier this month. Upon departing, Mr. Hattem praised the nomination of Mr. González and the expertise he will bring to the organization. In his roles at Equitable Holdings, Mr. González leads the Law Department with responsibility for all legal, compliance, regulatory and governmental affairs.

Blake Bostwick is responsible for Transamerica’s Individual Solutions business lines, which include annuities, mutual funds, and long-term care, life and supplemental health insurance – as well as Transamerica Agency Network, Transamerica Financial Advisors, and World Financial Group.

Among his duties at ShelterPoint, David Melman directs daily compliance monitoring and response activities, heads the special investigations unit, and oversees all legal activities as well as state lobbying and governmental affairs initiatives.

Also elected to new terms beginning on January 1, 2022 are Michael A. Zarcone, Executive Vice President of Corporate Affairs at MetLife who will become Chair. Mr. Zarcone succeeds current Chairman, Frederick L. Wortman, Senior Executive Vice President, Chief Marketing Officer & Chief Administration Officer at Security Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York.

Kermitt Brooks, Executive Vice President & General Counsel at The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America was elected as Chair-elect, and Natalie Lamarque, Senior Vice President & Deputy General Counsel at New York Life was elected Secretary-Treasurer.

A full list of LICONY's Board of Directors can be found [here](#).

LICONY is the trade association representing the life insurance industry doing business in New York State. LICONY's 58 domestic and 21 nondomestic member companies together provide the vast majority of life, disability income, long-term care insurance and annuity benefits for New Yorkers. LICONY is governed by a 16-member Board of Directors that meets at least four times a year.

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