EXAMINATION REPORT

of

COMMONWEALTH MUTUAL

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

St. Louis, Missouri

as of

December 31, 2018

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

SCOTT A. WHITE
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
BUREAU OF INSURANCE

P.O. BOX 1157 RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23218

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I, Scott A. White, Commissioner of Insurance of the Commonwealth of Virginia, do hereby certify that the annexed copy of the Examination Report of Commonwealth Mutual Fire Insurance Company as of December 31, 2018, is a true copy of the original report on file with this Bureau.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed to the original the seal of the Bureau at the City of Richmond, Virginia this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April 2020

Scott A. White Commissioner of Insurance

(SEAL)

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Honorable Scott A. White Commissioner of Insurance Commonwealth of Virginia Richmond, Virginia

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to your instructions and by the authority of the provisions of § 38.2-1317 of the Code of Virginia, we have performed an examination of the financial condition, records, and affairs of

## COMMONWEALTH MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

St. Louis, Missouri

hereinafter referred to as the Company. The report thereon is submitted for your consideration.

### SCOPE OF THE EXAMINATION

The last examination of the Company was made by representatives of the State Corporation Commission's Bureau of Insurance (Bureau) as of December 31, 2013. The current examination covers the five-year period from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018.

The examination was conducted in accordance with the NAIC Financial Condition Examiners Handbook (Handbook). The Handbook requires that the Bureau plan and perform the examination to evaluate the Company's financial condition, assess corporate governance, identify current and prospective risks of the Company, and evaluate system controls and procedures used to mitigate those risks. An examination also includes identifying and evaluating significant risks that could cause an insurer's surplus to be materially misstated both currently and prospectively.

All accounts and activities of the Company were considered in accordance with the risk-focused examination process. This may include assessing significant estimates made by management and evaluating management's compliance with Statutory Accounting Principles. The examination does not attest to the fair presentation of the financial statements included herein.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION BUREAU OF INSURANCE This examination report includes significant findings of fact and general information about the insurer and its financial condition. There may be other items identified during the examination that, due to their nature (e.g., subjective conclusions, proprietary information, etc.), are not included within the examination report but separately communicated to other regulators and/or the Company.

#### **HISTORY**

The Company was incorporated under the laws of Virginia on December 29, 1953 and was licensed by the State Corporation Commission on September 30, 1957. The Company has been in operation since that date selling fire and extended coverage. In October 1989 the Company began offering burglary coverage. The Company's Certificate of Incorporation states its purpose as follows:

... to establish, conduct, and engage in the business of a mutual assessment fire insurance company, pursuant to and to the extent permitted under Chapter 15 of Title 38.1 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended; and to do all the acts and things therein permitted to be done and performed by a mutual assessment fire insurance company, subject to the limitations and prohibitions therein contained.

### MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL

The business and affairs of the Company are managed by a board of five directors who must be members of the Company. Each director elected shall serve a term of five years and each serves until his successor is elected and qualified. The annual meeting of members is held on the third Thursday in February of each year at which time the directors are elected. At all meetings of the members, each member shall be entitled to one vote in person or by proxy. In accordance with the application for insurance, in the member's absence, the president of the Company will serve as proxy.

Officers of the Company are elected each year at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors for a term of one year. According to the bylaws, the Board of Directors' meeting is held immediately following the annual meeting of members. The president has general supervision over the officers and employees of the Company but shall be responsible to the Board of Directors. Effective control of the Company is exercised by officers and employees of United Insurance Company of America (United) through a service agreement covering all of the Company's business.

The Company's directors and officers were as follows at December 31, 2018:

#### Directors:

Representative <u>Principal Occupation</u>

Thomas C. Crisanti Assistant Vice President and Assistant Treasurer

United Insurance Company of America

St. Louis, Missouri

Daniel G. Denton Central Virginia District Manager

United Insurance Company of America

Richmond, Virginia

Tal B. Kaufmann Sr. Vice President and Assistant Treasurer

United Insurance Company of America

St. Louis, Missouri

Michael A. Plazony President

United Insurance Company of America

St. Louis, Missouri

Scott F. Snider Sr. Vice President, Secretary and Group Counsel

Reserve National Insurance Company

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Officers:

Michael A. Plazony President

Scott F. Snider Secretary

Vacant Treasurer

John R. Camillo Vice President

Kyle D. Conrad Vice President

Tal B. Kaufmann Vice President

All of the above listed officers and directors were employees of United or one of its affiliates.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION BUREAU OF INSURANCE

#### SERVICE AGREEMENT

Effective January 1, 2009, the Company renewed its service agreement with United. The term of this agreement is continuous until terminated by United or the Company giving to the other not less than thirty days written notice. Pursuant to this agreement, United manages and controls its agency force in the selling and servicing of the Company's fire insurance policies and provides administrative services pertaining to these policies. Neither United nor its authorized agents shall have the authority to accept or reject risk on behalf of the Company. All such underwriting authority is expressly reserved to the Company.

As compensation for the performance of services, the Company shall pay United a monthly fee based on the administrative costs of United, which is determined as follows:

- a. Commissions, taxes, licenses, fees and other direct expenses will be charged to the Company and United, respectively, as direct expenses.
- b. The net general insurance overhead expenses will be allocated as mutually agreed upon based on appropriate expense allocation studies which will be reviewed from time to time.

The Company paid United \$308,594, \$291,626, \$285,977, \$266,739 and \$273,504 pursuant to this agreement for the years ended 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018, respectively.

### TERRITORY AND PLAN OF OPERATION

The Company transacts its business throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia through United agents who produce and service the business. Monthly policies covering household goods and personal effects are issued in amounts up to \$20,000 insuring against fire, lightning, windstorm and several other miscellaneous property perils. The Company also issues burglary coverage up to a maximum of \$10,000. Employees of United handle all policy transactions including hiring of agents, soliciting, collecting premiums, processing claims and record keeping.

Risks are classified according to territory, availability of fire protection and types of structure in which the property is located, and rates vary accordingly.

#### REINSURANCE

The Company entered into a quota-share reinsurance agreement with Trinity Universal Insurance Company (Trinity), a Texas Corporation and an affiliate of United. The agreement became effective on January 1, 2009 and was amended on January 15, 2009. Termination requires 12 months written notice by either party wishing to cancel the agreement. Pursuant to the agreement, Trinity agrees to assume 100% of the risks arising under policies written by the Company. The Company shall pay Trinity the full net premiums on policies written and all subrogation, salvage and other recoveries.

In addition to the amounts withheld above, Trinity shall pay to the Company a ceding commission in an amount equal to 1% of premiums minus any return premiums.

This reinsurance agreement contains an insolvency clause.

### **GROWTH OF THE COMPANY**

The following data, obtained from the Company's Annual Statements and examination reports, indicates the growth of the Company for the ten-year period ending December 31, 2018:

<u>Year</u>	Admitted <u>Assets</u>	<u>Liabilities</u>	Surplus
2009	\$1,664,071	\$286,099	\$1,377,972
2010	1,632,226	243,319	1,388,907
2011	1,541,170	116,729	1,424,441
2012	1,629,483	177,534	1,451,949
2013	1,656,424	177,265	1,479,159
2014	1,677,907	174,837	1,503,070
2015	1,684,951	158,989	1,525,962
2016	1,700,531	151,570	1,548,961
2017	1,713,204	130,160	1,583,044
2018	1,679,937	78,760	1,601,177

<u>Year</u>	Gross <u>Assessments</u>	Investment <u>Income</u>	Direct Losses Paid	Number of <u>Policies</u>
2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017	\$1,344,899 1,317,609 1,289,687 1,244,741 1,209,090 1,177,140 1,125,191 1,082,440 1,018,242	\$18,986 1,008 23,245 20,376 20,423 18,511 16,454 16,977 18,619	\$162,096 244,399 249,143 240,940 212,369 165,494 150,505 137,914 94,998	9,499 9,289 8,779 8,278 7,877 7,399 6,903 6,454 6,041
2018	988,219	28,222	137,734	5,700

### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following financial statements present the financial condition of the Company for the period ending December 31, 2018. No examination adjustments were made to the statutory financial statements filed by the Company with the Bureau for the period ending December 31, 2018.

## INCOME FOR THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Interest on bonds Interest on cash deposits Interest on short-term investments Other investment income	\$18,435 76	\$16,304 103 47	\$13,011 343 3,623	\$9,993 830 7,796	\$1,602 528 25,836 256
Other income: Quota share reimbursement	335,008	299,679	302,445	272,177	224,860
Total Income	\$353,519	\$316,133	\$319,422	\$290,796	\$253,082
Deduct total disbursements for the year	325,685	306,224	301,708	277,043	282,442
Net Income	\$27,834	\$9,909	\$17,714	\$13,753	(\$29,360)
Add Ledger Assets December 31, previous year	1,618,408	1,646,242	1,656,151	1,673,865	1,687,618
Ledger Assets December 31, current year	\$1,646,242	\$1,656,151	\$1,673,865	\$1,687,618	\$1,658,258

# DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Commissions and brokerage Directors' fees Service fees Bank service charges	(\$11,771) 500 308,594	(\$11,252) 500 291,626	(\$10,824) 500 285,977	(\$10,182) 500 266,739	(\$9,824) 273,504 426
Taxes, licenses and fees: Virginia premium license tax	21,379	21,888	20,605	19,044	17,442
Assessment for maintenance of Bureau of Insurance	294	300	300	300	300
Flood prevention & fraud prevention	689	662	642	642	594
Federal corporate income tax  Loss on disposal of investments	6,000	2,500	4,500		
Total disbursements	\$325,685	\$306,224	\$301,708	\$277,043	\$282,442

## <u>ASSETS</u>

	Ledger Assets	Non- Ledger Assets	Assets Not Admitted	Net Admitted Assets
Cash on deposit	\$1,632			\$1,632
Cash equivalents	1,626,624			1,626,624
Assessments due		21,679		21,679
Reinsurance recoverable	24,617	ŕ		24,617
Accounts receivable	5,385			5,385
Net deferred tax		5,122	5,122	
Totals	\$1,658,258	\$26,801	\$5,122	\$1,679,937

## LIABILITIES, SURPLUS AND OTHER FUNDS

Taxes, licenses and fees:	
Virginia premium license tax	\$7,864
Ceded reinsurance payable	46,522
Federal corporate income tax	8,146
Assessments received in advance	16,228
Total liabilities	\$78,760
Excess of admitted assets over liabilities (surplus)	1,601,177
Totals	\$1,679,937

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

The courteous cooperation extended by the officers and employees of the Company during the course of the examination was sincerely appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer K. Blizzard, CFE, AIM, AIAF Insurance Principal Financial Analyst

Jennifer K. Blipanel

From: Isenberg, Kevin < kisenberg@kemper.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:55 PM

To: David Smith < David. Smith@scc.virginia.gov>

Cc: Jennifer Blizzard < Jennifer.Blizzard@scc.virginia.gov>; Nordby, Jane < jnordby@kemper.com>; Longacre, Taylor

<taylor.longacre@dhg.com>

Subject: RE: Commonwealth Mutual 2018 Examination Report

Mr. Smith,

This email is my response serving as confirmation of receipt of both the cover letter and Commonwealth Examination Report Draft. I do not foresee any issues taken with any of the matters disclosed within the report. We look forward to receipt of the final version once distributed.

Thank you.

B. Kevin Isenberg FLMI, FFSI, ASC, AAPA, ARA, CERT Manager, L&H/P&C Accounting & Financial Reporting

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#### **XEMPER**