CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC INSURANCE ADJUSTERS

SPECIAL EDITION

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## CAPIA First Legislative Conference

***by Rolf Eidbo, CFM - CAPIA President***

Since the formation of CAPIAinc, this was our first Legislative Conference. Held February 28th and March 1st, 2023, at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Sacramento, CA. The conference's intent was for CAPIA Members to become familiar with how laws and regulations are formed and enacted, how CAPIA can become more proactive in this process, and familiarize our Members with some of their local lawmakers. Overall, it was a great success. Our venue was the penthouse meeting room at the Hyatt Regency, which overlooks our state capitol. The day was windy, cold, and rainy, and we were all happy to be inside.

Our day began after lunch when CAPIA attendees heard from Amy Bach of United Policyholders and "Chip" Merlin from the Merlin Law Group discussing recent laws and regulations enacted by the state and the CA DOI. The two-hour discussion opened the floodgates to many attendees' questions. Attendees wished they had more time to interact with the dynamic duo to ask more questions.

Joel Gumbiner, Esq., with Williams & Gumbiner LLP, also provided our attendees with an introductory "Ethics" Course, which was simple and to the point. An Ethics course is required as part of our CE's every two years.

The meeting concluded with a presentation from John Norwood Esq. of Norwood Associates, CAPIA's lobbyist over the past two decades. John's presentation was well received, leaving our attendees with multiple questions on how CAPIA moves forward with future legislative battles. CAPIA's reception followed.

The following day we were greeted by sunshine, a little breeze, and breakfast. Teams

Day 1
Amy Bach, UP & Chip Merlin, MLG - The dynamic duo...

Lobbyist, John Norwood

CAPIA Legislative Conference attendees—Day 1

# CAPIA Legislative Conference

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of CAPIA attendees were dispatched in the morning to various legislators and their staff. They provided an abbreviated overview of CAPIA and our focus on helping consumers with their insurance losses. Some meetings proved more productive than others, but CAPIA's name was exposed.

Although this was CAPIA's first attempt to interact with legislators and began the process to become more proactive in the legislative process, basic infrastructure was established. We now have a better understanding of how momentous this effort becomes.

Legislative assignments - Day 2

Multiple CAPIA Members like Ron Reitz, SPPA, Robb Greenspan, SPPA, and Denise Sze, Esq. – 1st VP, helped make this conference one of our best. The word 'best' refers to – CAPIA attendees felt that they had a sense of accomplishment, making CAPIA's name stand out just a little bit more in the minds of legislators.

We need to single out Jennifer Barrack, CAPIA's Executive Director, for her efforts in planning and organizing this event. She stepped out of her comfort zone and took the lead in scheduling the legislators and staff for our team meetings. The task was a huge logistical nightmare, and CAPIA's Executive Officers had provided initial resources for an outside concern to ensure legislative sessions occurred. Thank you, Jennifer! Jennifer, on her own, took charge and made this conference a success for all who attended.

The association also wishes to thank all our attendees and sponsors for making this conference something special to remember. You will walk away feeling great, with a sense of accomplishment, camaraderie, and bonding experiences. If you weren't in attendance, consider participating in our future Legislative Conferences.

## *Thank You!* CAPIA Legislative Conference Sponsors

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