

Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones honors Allstate Insurance Company and Kaiser Permanente CEO with inaugural Supplier Diversity Awards

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Following the completion of the first ever survey of supplier diversity in the insurance industry in the nation, Insurance Commissioner Jones presented two awards for the first time on behalf of the Department of Insurance: the Supplier Diversity Champion Award and the Supplier Diversity Trailblazer Award.

The Supplier Diversity Champion Award honors an insurance company that is committed to supplier diversity through efforts such as: establishing a supplier diversity program, hiring dedicated supplier diversity staff, creating supplier diversity websites, and maintaining strategic communication efforts with diverse suppliers. Simply put, this award recognizes an insurance company for its successful and innovative approaches to developing and increasing contract opportunities for diverse suppliers.

The inaugural Supplier Diversity Champion Award was presented to Allstate Insurance Company for the company's years of dedication, commitment, and passion to supplier diversity. "Allstate's tremendous efforts to reach out to diverse suppliers, including the company's annual Supplier Diversity Exchange Event and its 12-month Supplier Mentorship Program, are just a few examples of the company's visionary work," said Commissioner Jones.

The Supplier Diversity Trailblazer Award is given to an individual who has a long history and proven track record of championing supplier diversity in the insurance industry. The award recognizes a leader with a vision for and commitment to supplier diversity in an industry that has not yet fully embraced the idea. The ideal candidate not only makes a tremendous impact within their own organization, but works beyond it to encourage supplier diversity throughout the insurance industry as a whole.

The inaugural Supplier Diversity Trailblazer Award was presented to Bernard Tyson, CEO of Kaiser Permanente Insurance Company. Mr. Tyson is known for his top-down commitment to diversity at all levels of corporate operations, with an emphasis on supplier diversity.

Commissioner Jones stated, "Mr. Tyson recognizes the significant impact that corporations can make in communities when partnering with diverse suppliers, and he believes in the value of supplier diversity and shares that philosophy with others. He truly exemplifies the spirit of the Insurance Diversity Initiative and increasing supplier diversity in the insurance industry."

Congratulations to both the honorees for their leadership in and commitment to supplier diversity!

Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones and the California Department of Insurance recently hosted the 2nd Annual Insurance Diversity Summit: "Insurer Supplier Diversity Survey – A Look at the First Year and Your Insight on What's Next" on November 1, 2013.

The Insurance Diversity Initiative was established by Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones in an effort to focus on diversity issues within California's \$123 billion insurance industry. Specifically, these efforts are meant to encourage diversity amongst insurer governing boards and increased procurement from diverse suppliers.