

**2025 P&C Statement of Actuarial Opinion Instructions**  
**Draft for discussion by Actuarial Opinion (C) Working Group on 8/29/2024**

**ACTUARIAL OPINION**

1. There is to be included with or attached to Page 1 of the Annual Statement the statement of the Appointed Actuary, entitled “Statement of Actuarial Opinion” (Actuarial Opinion), setting forth his or her opinion relating to reserves specified in the SCOPE paragraph. The Actuarial Opinion, both the narrative and required Exhibits, shall be in the format of and contain the information required by this section of the *Annual Statement Instructions – Property and Casualty*.

Upon initial engagement, the Appointed Actuary must be appointed by the Board of Directors by Dec. 31 of the calendar year for which the opinion is rendered. The Company shall notify the domiciliary commissioner within five business days of the initial appointment with the following information:

- a. Name and title (and, in the case of a consulting actuary, the name of the firm).
- b. Manner of appointment of the Appointed Actuary (e.g., who made the appointment and when).
- c. A statement that the person meets the requirements of a Qualified Actuary (or was approved by the domiciliary commissioner) and that documentation was provided to the Board of Directors.

Once this notification is furnished, no further notice is required with respect to this person unless the Board of Directors takes action to no longer appoint or retain the actuary or the actuary no longer meets the requirements of a Qualified Actuary.

If subject to the *U.S. Qualification Standards*, the Appointed Actuary shall annually attest to having met the continuing education requirements under Section 3 of the *U.S. Qualification Standards* for issuing Actuarial Opinions. As agreed with the actuarial organizations, the Casualty Actuarial Society (CAS) and Society of Actuaries (SOA) will determine the process for receiving the attestations for their respective members and make available the attestations to the public. An Appointed Actuary subject to the *U.S. Qualification Standards* and not a member of the CAS or SOA shall select one of the above organizations to submit their attestation.

The Appointed Actuary shall provide to the Board of Directors qualification documentation on occasion of their appointment directly or through company management. The documentation should include brief biographical information and a description of how the definition of “Qualified Actuary” is met or expected to be met (in the case of continuing education) for that year. The documentation should describe the Appointed Actuary’s responsible experience relevant to the subject of the Actuarial Opinion. The Board of Directors shall document their review of those materials and any other information they may deem relevant, including information that may be requested directly from the Appointed Actuary. It is generally expected that the review of the Appointed Actuary’s qualification documentation should take place at the level within a holding company structure that is responsible for overseeing insurance operations. If a statutory entity is a subsidiary or a non-lead pool member with an Appointed Actuary whose qualifications were reviewed by the pool lead or principal’s Board, the statutory entity’s Board can satisfy the review requirement by acknowledging the parent Board’s review. This can be done by noting in the meeting minutes the name of the principal or lead entity and the date the parent Board reviewed the qualification documentation, or by attaching a copy of the parent Board’s meeting minutes reflecting their review of the qualification documentation. The qualification documentation shall be considered workpapers and be available for inspection upon regulator request or during a financial examination.

If an actuary who was the Appointed Actuary for the immediately preceding filed Actuarial Opinion is replaced by an action of the Board of Directors, the Insurer shall within five

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and the Insurer shall furnish such responsive letter from the former Appointed Actuary to the domiciliary commissioner together with its own responses.

The Appointed Actuary must report to the Board of Directors each year on the items within the scope of the Actuarial Opinion. The Actuarial Opinion and the Actuarial Report must be made available to the Board of Directors. The minutes of the Board of Directors should indicate that the Appointed Actuary has presented such information to the Board of Directors and identify the manner of presentation (e.g., webinar, in-person presentation, written). A separate Actuarial Opinion is required for each company filing an Annual Statement. When there is an affiliated company pooling arrangement, one Actuarial Report for the aggregate pool is sufficient, but there must be addendums to the Actuarial Report to cover non-pooled reserves for individual companies.

The Actuarial Opinion and the supporting Actuarial Report and workpapers should be consistent with the appropriate Actuarial Standards of Practice (ASOPs), including, but not limited to, ASOP No. 23, ASOP No. 36, ASOP No. 41 and ASOP No. 43, as promulgated by the Actuarial Standards Board.

1A. Definitions

“Appointed Actuary” is a Qualified Actuary (or individual otherwise approved by the domiciliary commissioner) appointed by the Board of Directors in accordance with Section 1 of these instructions.

“Board of Directors” can include the designated Board of Directors, its equivalent or an appropriate committee directly reporting to the Board of Directors.

“Qualified Actuary” is a person who:

- (i) Meets the basic education, experience and continuing education requirements of the Specific Qualification Standard for Statements of Actuarial Opinion, NAIC Property and Casualty Annual Statement, as set forth in the *Qualification Standards for Actuaries Issuing Statements of Actuarial Opinion in the United States (U.S. Qualifications Standards)*, promulgated by the American Academy of Actuaries (Academy);

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The SOA educational materials for the revised FSA pathway (announced by the SOA on July 26, 2023), including the materials for the optional regulatory certificate, are not available as of July 2024, so regulators are unable to assess the conditions under which an actuary who obtains an FSA designation under the revised pathway would meet the definition of a “Qualified Actuary.”

The table below provides some allowable exam substitutions for (i), (ii) and (iii) in the definition of “Accepted Actuarial Designation:” Noting that CAS exams have changed over time, exceptions for (i) and (ii) provide for FCAS/ACAS designations achieved before an exam was created (e.g. CAS Exam 6-US) or with an earlier version of an exam or exam topic (e.g., 2010 CAS Exam 6 instead of the current CAS Exam 7 Section A). FCAS/ACAS qualified under the 2018 and prior Statement of Actuarial Opinion instructions can use the noted substitution rules to achieve qualification under the revised instructions.





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- D. Make a reasonable provision for the unearned premium reserves for P&C Long Duration Contracts and/or <insert Other Loss Reserve item on which the Appointed Actuary is expressing an Opinion> of the Company under the terms of its contracts and agreements.

If there is any aggregation or combination of items in Exhibit A, the opinion language should clearly identify the combined items.

Insurance laws and regulations shall at all times take precedence over the actuarial standards.

If the Appointed Actuary has made use of the analysis of another actuary not within the Appointed Actuary's control (such as for pools and associations, for a subsidiary or for special lines of business) for a material portion of the reserves, the other actuary must be identified by name, credential and affiliation within the OPINION paragraph. If the Appointed Actuary has made use of the work of a non-actuary (such as for modeling) for a material portion of the reserves, that individual must be identified by name and affiliation and a description of the type of analysis performed must be provided.

If the Appointed Actuary has made use of an analysis or opinion of another not within the Appointed Actuary's control for a material portion of the reserves, the Appointed Actuary should disclose whether he or she reviewed the other's underlying analysis. If a review was conducted, the Appointed Actuary should disclose the extent of the review including items such as the methods and assumptions used and the underlying arithmetic calculations.

A Statement of Actuarial Opinion should be made in accordance with one of the following sections (1 through 5). The Appointed Actuary must explicitly identify in Exhibit B which type applies.

1. Determination of Reasonable Provision. When the carried reserve amount is within the Appointed Actuary's range of reasonable reserve estimates, the Appointed Actuary should issue a Statement of Actuarial Opinion that the carried reserve amount makes a reasonable provision for the liabilities associated with the specified reserves.
2. Determination of Deficient or Inadequate Provision. When the carried reserve amount is less than the minimum amount that the Appointed Actuary believes is reasonable, the Appointed Actuary should issue a Statement of Actuarial Opinion that the carried reserve amount does not make a reasonable provision for the liabilities associated with the specified reserves. In addition, the Appointed Actuary should disclose the minimum amount that the Appointed Actuary believes is reasonable.
3. Determination of Redundant or Excessive Provision. When the carried reserve amount is greater than the maximum amount that the Appointed Actuary believes is reasonable, the Appointed Actuary should issue a Statement of Actuarial Opinion that the carried reserve amount does not make a reasonable provision for the liabilities associated with the specified reserves. In addition, the Appointed Actuary should disclose the maximum amount that the Appointed Actuary believes is reasonable.
4. Qualified Opinion. When, in the Appointed Actuary's opinion, the reserves for a certain item or items are in question because they cannot be reasonably estimated or the Appointed Actuary is unable to render an opinion on those items, the Appointed Actuary should issue a qualified Statement of Actuarial Opinion. The Appointed Actuary should disclose the item (or items) to which the qualification relates, the reason(s) for the qualification and the amounts for such item(s), if disclosed by the Company. Such a qualified opinion should state whether the carried reserve amount makes a reasonable provision for the liabilities associated with the specified reserves, *except for* the item (or items) to which the qualification relates. The Appointed Actuary is not required to issue a qualified opinion if the Appointed Actuary reasonably believes that the item (or items) in question are not likely to be material.
5. No Opinion. The Appointed Actuary's ability to give an opinion is dependent upon data, analyses, assumptions, and related information that are sufficient to support a conclusion. If the Appointed Actuary cannot reach a conclusion due to deficiencies or limitations in the data, analyses, assumptions, or related information, then the Appointed Actuary may issue a statement of no opinion. A statement of no opinion should include a description of the reasons why no opinion could be given.

**Commented [MF5]:** Previously discussed by AOWG in July 2024:

1. Does "affiliation" need to be clarified?
2. Is it necessary to have slightly different disclosure when relying on another actuary vs. a non-actuary?

**Commented [MF6]:** Comments from Julie Lederer:

This approach would not require the appointed actuary to disclose anything in the opinion that he wasn't already required to disclose under the combination of the old ASOP plus the NAIC instructions. Perhaps this would mitigate concerns over confidentiality. The old ASOP was adopted in 2010, and this is the first we've heard of confidentiality issues.

Note that the old ASOP didn't require the appointed actuary to identify or describe in the opinion the methods, assumptions, and calculations of the other; it only required a disclosure of the extent of the appointed actuary's review, which could involve disclosure of whether the actuary reviewed the assumptions, methods, or calculations. A confusion on this point might be contributing to the concerns.

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6. The Appointed Actuary must provide RELEVANT COMMENT paragraphs to address the following topics of regulatory importance.

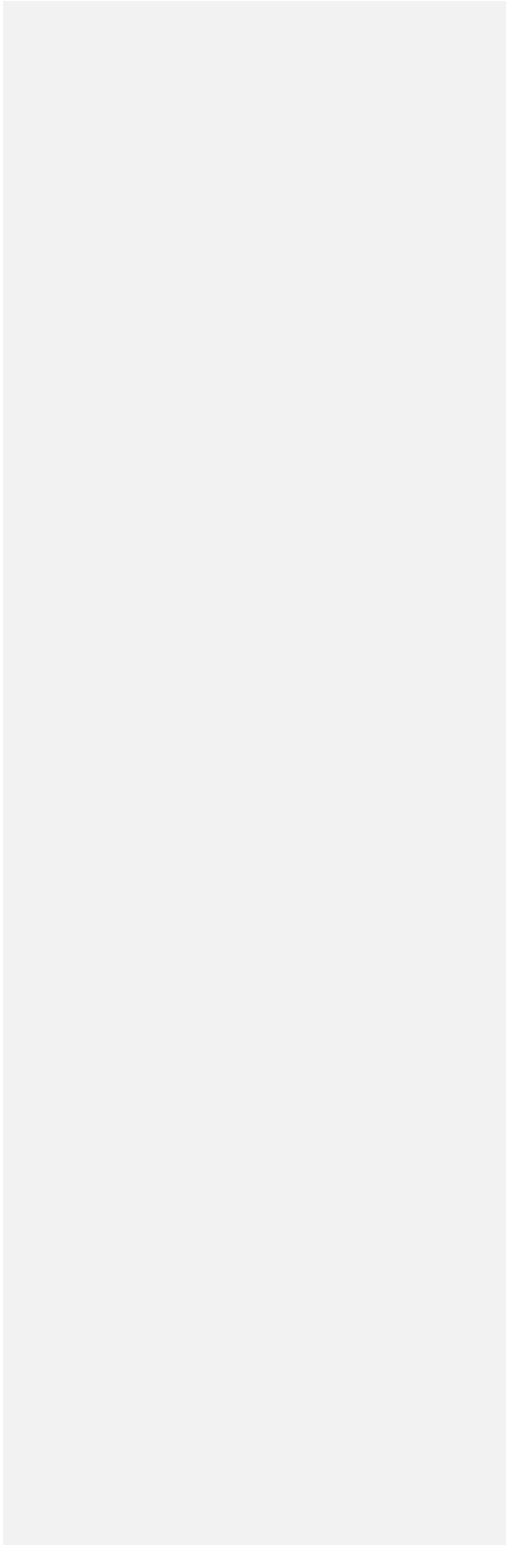
A. Company-Specific Risk Factors

The Appointed Actuary should include an explanatory paragraph to describe the major factors, combination of factors or particular conditions underlying the risks and uncertainties the Appointed Actuary considers relevant. The explanatory paragraph should not include general, broad statements about risks and uncertainties due to economic changes, judicial decisions, regulatory actions, political or social forces, etc., nor is the Appointed Actuary required to include an exhaustive list of all potential sources of risks and uncertainties.

B. Risk of Material Adverse Deviation

The Appointed Actuary must provide specific RELEVANT COMMENT paragraphs to address the risk of material adverse deviation. The Appointed Actuary must identify the materiality standard and the basis for establishing this standard. The materiality standard must also be disclosed in U.S. dollars in Exhibit B: Disclosures. The Appointed Actuary should explicitly state whether or not he or she reasonably believes that there are significant risks and uncertainties that could result in ma

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- G. If the Appointed Actuary has made use of an analysis or opinion of another not within the Appointed Actuary's control for a material portion of the reserves:
  - i. The dollar amount of the reserves covered by the other's analysis or opinion and the percentage of the total reserves subject to the Appointed Actuary's opinion that these other reserves represent.
  - ii. If the Appointed Actuary reviewed the other's underlying analysis, the Appointed Actuary's conclusions from the review.

8. The Actuarial Opinion should conclude with the signature of the Appointed Actuary responsible for providing the Actuarial Opinion and the date when the Actuarial Opinion was rendered. The signature and date should appear in the following format:

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Signature of Appointed Actuary  
Printed name of Appointed Actuary  
Employer's name  
Address of Appointed Actuary  
Telephone number of Appointed Actuary  
Email address of Appointed Actuary  
Date opinion was rendered

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10. Data in Exhibits A and B are to be filed in both print and data capture format.

**Exhibit A: SCOPE**

**DATA TO BE FILED IN BOTH PRINT AND DATA CAPTURE FORMATS**

**Loss and Loss Adjustment Expense Reserves:**

	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
1. Unpaid Losses (Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds page, Col 1, Line 1)	\$ _____
2. Unpaid Loss Adjustment Expenses (Liabilities, Surplus and Other Funds page, Col 1, Line 3)	\$ _____
3. Unpaid Losses – Direct and Assumed (Should equal Schedule P, Part 1, Summary, Totals from Cols. 13 and 15, Line 12 * 1000)	\$ _____
4. Unpaid Loss Adjustment Expenses – Direct and Assumed (Should equal Schedule P, Part 1, Summary, Totals from Cols. 17, 19 and 21, Line 12 * 1000)	\$ _____
5. The Page 3 write-in item reserve, “Retroactive Reinsurance Reserve Assumed”	\$ _____
6. Other Loss Reserve items on which the Appointed Actuary is expressing an Opinion (list below)	

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**Exhibit B: DISCLOSURES**

**DATA TO BE FILED IN BOTH PRINT AND DATA CAPTURE FORMATS**

NOTE: Exhibit B should be completed for Net dollar amounts included in the SCOPE. If an answer would be different for Direct and Assumed amounts, identify and discuss the difference within RELEVANT COMMENTS.

1. Name of the Appointed Actuary Last First Mid  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. The Appointed Actuary's relationship to the Company  
Enter E or C based upon the following:  
E if an Employee of the Company or Group  
C if a Consultant

