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News Release

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FOR RELEASE: September 25, 2008

E & K's Auerbach Takes the Helm of National Insurance Association

AUSTIN, TX — E & K Agency, Inc., Eatontown, today announced that **Kenneth R. Auerbach, Esq., Managing Director & General Counsel for E & K,** was elected President of the **National Association of Professional Insurance Agents** at its Board Meeting in Austin, Texas. The National Association of Professional Insurance Agents is a trade association of independent insurance agencies representing over 100,000 insurance professionals throughout the country. During the last several years, Auerbach has traveled the country as a PIA leader speaking to elected officials, government and industry policy-makers on a variety of insurance issues. Auerbach's primary advocacy has been on business ethics and protecting consumer interests in insurance transactions.

In 2007, Auerbach received the **Distinguished Insurance Service Award** from the Professional Insurance Agents of New Jersey for his many years of service in the insurance field, for his dedication to PIA and for his work on behalf of independent agents throughout the country.

In 2005, Auerbach received a **Presidential Citation** from PIA National for his work on behalf of agents with regard to compensation and disclosure issues, policymaking and ethical concerns.

A more complete profile of Mr. Auerbach is attached.

E & K Agency is an independent insurance agency serving the business and personal insurance needs of over 5,000 clients for more than 77 years.



KENNETH R. AUERBACH, ESQ.
Managing Director & General Counsel

Prior to joining E & K, Mr. Auerbach was an attorney with the law firm of McCarter & English where he represented regional and national companies on insurance, corporate and litigation issues. He currently serves as the President of the National Association of Professional Insurance Agents. Mr. Auerbach is a Past President of the Professional Insurance Agents of New Jersey and recipient of its Distinguished Insurance Service and Director of the Year awards. In 2005, Mr. Auerbach received a Presidential Citation from the National Association of Professional Insurance Agents for his nationwide advocacy on behalf of agents specific to compensation disclosure issues, policymaking and ethical concerns.

In addition, Mr. Auerbach served as the President of Garden State Insurance Company, Ltd., a Bermuda based reinsurance company. Mr. Auerbach is also a past President of the Independent Insurance Agents of Monmouth County.

Mr. Auerbach has fulfilled a number of government appointments including membership on the Governor's Task Force on the Availability of Homeowners Insurance in the Coastal Region, New Jersey Department of Banking & Insurance Property & Casualty Producer Advisory Committee ("CPAC"), the Homeowners Insurance Availability Advisory Committee and other legislative advisory boards. He has also worked for a number of U.S. congressional committees.

As a national advocate for insurance agents on a variety of issues, Mr. Auerbach has addressed many organizations, including: the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, the National Conference of Insurance Legislators, the National CPCU Society, the NJ Water Environment Association, the New Jersey Legislature, various state insurance commissioners and departments of insurance and Professional Insurance Agents' organizations throughout the country.

Mr. Auerbach serves as an educator teaching error and omission avoidance, legal and technology issues to other professional agents. He is also the Director of a NJ Department of Banking & Insurance accredited insurance school and has served on several insurance company agent advisory councils.

He has served on the editorial board of the Essex County Bar Foundation's "Chronicle" and maintains his admission to the New Jersey Bar. Among his legal representations, Mr. Auerbach has assisted public entities with their insurance related contracts and serves as an arbitrator within the insurance industry. Mr. Auerbach also serves as an expert witness and litigation consultant concerning the professional standards for insurance agents.

His charitable efforts have included legal representation of indigent individuals, moot trial exhibition for public schools and chairing the Jersey Shore Medical Center Business & Industry Council's Annual Healthcare Perspectives Conference. He was also a member of the Corporate & Professional Council of Children Psychiatric Centers.

Mr. Auerbach holds a J.D., with Honors, from the National Law Center, George Washington University and a B.A., Cum Laude, from Franklin and Marshall College where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa. Mr. Auerbach lives in Ocean, New Jersey with his wife and 2 children. He enjoys backpacking, mountaineering, ice climbing, scuba diving and watching his kids teach karate.