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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Markel Corporation promotes Richard Grinnan to general counsel

Richmond, VA, July 1, 2014 — Markel Corporation (NYSE: MKL) has promoted Richard Grinnan to general counsel and secretary. Grinnan succeeds Mike Jones, who has retired. Grinnan joined the company in 2012 as assistant general counsel.

Markel's president and co-chief operating officer, Richie Whitt said, "Richard is an astute and trusted legal advisor. As a key member of the management team, his depth of knowledge and breadth of experience will be instrumental as we continue to grow both domestically and abroad."

Before joining Markel, Grinnan served as deputy general counsel at Alpha Natural Resources. Prior to that, he was vice president and corporate secretary at Massey Energy. Grinnan began his legal career at McGuireWoods LLP in Richmond, VA, as a corporate and securities lawyer.

Grinnan graduated with distinction from The University of Virginia in 1990 and earned his joint law and business degrees from The University of Virginia's School of Law and Darden Graduate School of Business in 2000.

About Markel Corporation

Markel Corporation is a diverse financial holding company serving a variety of niche markets. The Company's principal business markets and underwrites specialty insurance products. In each of the Company's businesses, it seeks to provide quality products and excellent customer service so that it can be a market leader. The financial goals of the Company are to earn consistent underwriting and operating profits and superior investment returns to build shareholder value. Visit Markel Corporation on the web at markelcorp.com.

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