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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Markel announces Cathryn Curia's retirement

Richmond, VA, May 18, 2015 — Markel Corporation (NYSE: MKL) announced today that Cathryn Curia, Managing Director, North American Property Reinsurance, is retiring effective August 1, 2015.

"Cathryn's underwriting and leadership contributions have been invaluable to the growth and profitability of Markel Global Reinsurance," said Jed Rhoads, President and Chief Underwriting Officer of Markel Global Reinsurance. "She has had a truly remarkable career in the industry, and we are indebted to her for her many years of service."

Curia has been in the reinsurance industry for the past 46 years. She joined Markel as part of the Alterra acquisition in May 2013. Curia served in a similar capacity for Alterra, having joined the company in 2005. Prior to joining Alterra, she served as Executive Vice President - North American Property Treaty for Platinum Underwriters Re. She was employed by St. Paul Re, Inc. from 1983 to 2002 in various positions including Executive Vice President, North American Property Treaty. She began her career as a trainee at Atlantic Mutual Companies, where she ultimately served as Secretary, Reinsurance. Curia earned a CPCU designation and is a member and past president of the Association of Professional Insurance Women.

"Cathryn is well known and deeply respected by her colleagues and our reinsurance brokers and clients. She will be sorely missed, and we wish her all the best in the years to come," said Rhoads.

### 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](http://markelcorp.com).

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