

SURPLUS LINE ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

slai.org

41ST ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

The Metropolitan · Willis Tower · Chicago, Illinois

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Grace Hanson

Founder & CEO, Elysian



A Welcome Message

41st Annual Meeting · May 20, 2026

SURPLUS LINE ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS



David L. Ocasek

Chief Executive Officer
Surplus Line Association of Illinois

Dear Friends, Members, and Colleagues,

Welcome to the 41st Annual Meeting of the Surplus Line Association of Illinois. We are honored to gather with you today at The Metropolitan — a fitting venue for a milestone that reflects four decades of dedication, growth, and partnership.

Since our founding in 1985, SLAI has existed for one purpose: to support the regulators and professionals who keep Illinois's surplus line marketplace operating with integrity and excellence. That purpose hasn't changed. What has changed is the scale of what we do together and the strength of the community we've built along the way.

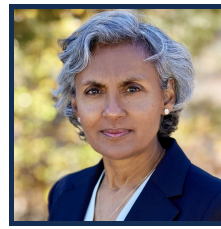
This year's Annual Meeting is a chance to pause, reflect, and celebrate. The Illinois surplus line market processed nearly \$5 billion in premiums in 2025 — a testament to the essential work our members do every day. Behind every filing, every policy, and every declination is a professional who showed up and did the job right.

I am especially proud to welcome our keynote speaker, Grace Hanson, Founder and CEO of Elysian, whose vision for the future of insurance is both timely and inspiring. Her perspective on technology, human judgment, and the promise we make to policyholders speaks directly to what this industry is all about.

Thank you for being here. Thank you for your continued trust in SLAI. And thank you for the work you do. This work that matters more than most people know.

With gratitude,

David L. Ocasek



Grace Hanson

Founder & CEO, Elysian
2026 Keynote Speaker

ABOUT OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Grace Hanson serves as Elysian's CEO and founder, bringing an unparalleled depth of experience in both U.S. and global personal and commercial property and casualty insurance. Her career is distinguished by leadership at industry giants, where she consistently drove innovation in claims operations, digital distribution, analytics, and cognitive computing.

Her tenure as Chief Claims Officer at Allied World, Homesite, Hiscox, and Hippo gave her a panoramic view of the challenges facing claims professionals — particularly the administrative workload that detracts from strategic, human-centered work.

Grace's philosophy is rooted in the belief that technology should empower, not replace, claims professionals. Her vision for Elysian is to harmonize AI and human expertise — creating a system that is both machine-driven and human-empowering.

She has repeatedly emphasized that the industry's true value lies in the promise made to policyholders, the stories embedded in every claim, and the critical role of human judgment in resolving complex scenarios.

41 Years & A Growing Market

From a Statutory Mandate to a \$4.86 Billion Marketplace

SURPLUS LINE ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

OUR FOUNDING

In 1985, the Illinois legislature created the Surplus Line Association of Illinois by statute – establishing a self-funded body charged with bringing order, compliance, and transparency to a marketplace that had long operated in the margins of traditional insurance.

The founding vision was straightforward: create a liaison between the Illinois Department of Insurance and the producers placing specialty and non-admitted risks, and make sure the marketplace operated with integrity and consistency.

Donald D. Mauger was instrumental in building SLAI from the ground up and his legacy lives on not only in the association's DNA, but in the scholarship that bears his name, awarded annually to the next generation of surplus line professionals at the Katie School of Insurance & Risk Management at Illinois State University.

Forty-one years later, SLAI serves more than 4,300 licensed Illinois surplus line producers, processes hundreds of thousands of policy filings each year, and facilitates compliance in a market that now exceeds \$4.86 billion in annual premiums.



David Ocasek with SLAI founder Donald D. Mauger

THE ILLINOIS SURPLUS LINE MARKET

Surplus line insurance exists to cover what the standard market cannot – the emerging, the complex, the unique. Every surplus line policy placed in Illinois is a story of a business or individual finding coverage when the admitted market said no.

The Illinois market has grown substantially over four decades. In 2025, producers filed nearly 224,000 documents, representing everything from cyber liability and commercial auto to all-risk property and professional lines.

That growth reflects both the increasing complexity of risk in modern life and the expanding role of the surplus line marketplace as the front line of insurance innovation.

\$4.86B

Total Premiums
Filed in 2025

223,923

Documents
Filed in 2025

4,300+

Licensed IL
Producers

41

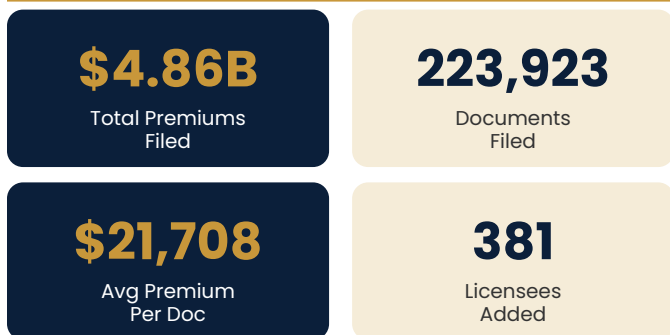
Years of
Service

By the Numbers

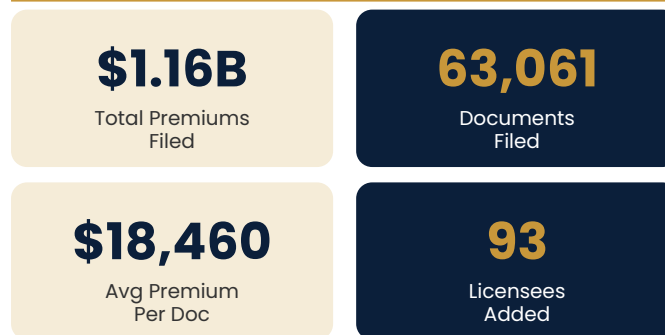
2025 Full Year · 2026 Q1 Snapshot

SURPLUS LINE ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

2025 FULL YEAR PERFORMANCE



2026 Q1 SNAPSHOT



TOP 10 INSURERS — 2025

Company	Premiums
Lloyd's of London	\$888,479,259
Lexington Insurance Co	162,960,228
Liberty Surplus Ins Corp	144,348,527
National Fire & Marine Ins Co	128,384,709
Starr Surplus Lines Ins Co	108,435,979
Columbia Casualty Co	102,797,115
Endurance American Specialty Ins Co	102,323,878
Allianz Global Corp & Specialty SE	89,884,794
Indian Harbor Insurance Co	85,244,924
AXIS Surplus Insurance Co	82,517,747

TOP 10 INSURERS — 2026 Q1

Company	Premiums
Lloyd's of London	\$226,500,868
Lexington Insurance Co	38,416,176
Liberty Surplus Ins Corp	38,129,149
National Fire & Marine Ins Co	29,332,867
Indian Harbor Insurance Co	28,761,232
Starr Surplus Lines Ins Co	23,331,224
Ironshore Specialty Ins Co	22,147,148
Endurance American Specialty Ins Co	21,856,409
AXIS Surplus Insurance Co	21,634,504
Chubb Custom Insurance Co	18,651,769

TOP 10 COVERAGES — 2025

Coverage	Premiums	Filed
All Risk: All	\$1,086,099,340	23,300
GL: Excess CGL	768,959,955	18,509
GL: CGL	470,781,595	56,307
GL: Cyber	357,381,170	11,880
E&O: Other	333,400,071	10,029
Auto Liab: Comm'l	301,866,375	5,755
Umbrella: All	237,105,883	3,034
Auto Phys Dam: Comm'l	165,790,347	13,064
GL: Misc	163,683,359	5,885
Property: Fire	113,647,710	11,935

TOP 10 COVERAGES — 2026 Q1

Coverage	Premiums
All Risk: All	\$199,655,712
GL: Excess CGL	176,701,247
E & O: Other	111,557,402
GL: CGL	111,354,197
GL: Cyber	98,900,781
Auto Liab: Comm'l	73,770,745
GL: Misc	51,921,823
Auto Phys Dam: Comm'l	44,173,212
Property: Fire	36,933,196
GL: Pollution	31,904,438

The Market We Serve

Illinois Surplus Line Insurance — 41 Years of Growth

SURPLUS LINE ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

WHAT SURPLUS LINE INSURANCE MAKES POSSIBLE

Surplus line insurance serves the risks that require a more specialized approach. The hard-to-place, the one-of-a-kind, the emerging. It's the coverage behind the stadium renovation, the cannabis dispensary, the autonomous vehicle startup, the celebrity event. If it's complex, it probably came through a surplus line producer.

In Illinois, that market runs through SLAI. For 41 years we've been the infrastructure behind every filing. The compliance backbone, the data steward, the liaison that keeps producers, carriers, and regulators connected.

KEY MILESTONES

- 1985 — SLAI Founded**
Created by Illinois statute as the official liaison between surplus line producers and the Illinois Department of Insurance.
- 2000 — SLAI Goes Digital**
Launched our first website, bringing compliance resources and member information online for the first time.
- 2007 — EFS Launched**
Introduced the Electronic Filing System, transforming how producers submit policies and endorsements.
- 2011 — NRRRA Reform**
Navigated federal reform under the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act, streamlining multi-state surplus line compliance.
- 2025 — A Record Year**
Illinois surplus line premiums surpassed \$4.86 billion — a record — as SLAI refreshed its brand for the next chapter.

WHAT SLAI DOES FOR YOU

As the official surplus line stamping office in Illinois, SLAI provides the infrastructure, tools, and guidance that keep the marketplace running. Here's what that means for producers every day.

Filing & Recording

Every surplus line policy in Illinois comes through SLAI. We review and record filings — giving producers and the DOI a complete, reliable record.

EFS — Electronic Filing System

Our online portal lets producers file policies, endorsements, and corrections quickly and accurately. Available 24/7 at efile.slai.org.

Tax Calculators

Free online tools for calculating Illinois surplus line and independent procurement taxes — accurate, fast, and always up to date.

Compliance Guidance

Bulletins, newsletters, procedures workshops, and direct staff support keep producers current with Illinois surplus line law and regulation.

Market Data & Reporting

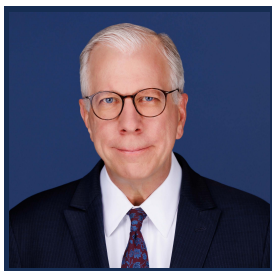
Quarterly and annual reports on Illinois premium volume, coverage trends, and market activity — data that helps producers understand the marketplace.

The People Behind the Work

SLAI Staff

SURPLUS LINE ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

The SLAI team is small by design – and extraordinary by any measure. Together, our staff brings decades of combined experience to every filing, every member question, and every compliance challenge that comes through our doors at 222 S. Riverside Plaza.



David L. Ocasek
Chief Executive Officer



Richard J. Dunlap
Director of Finance
& Administration



Joseph Goysich
Manager of Information
Services & Technology



Jarrett Cooper
Membership Services
Coordinator



Ariella Lakes
Operations Manager



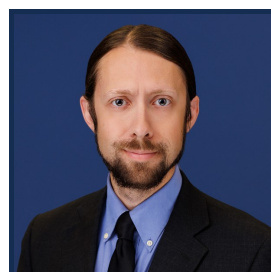
Dan Rodden
EFS Help Desk
Coordinator



Wendell Thrash
Policy Auditor & Insurer
Info Coordinator



Miguel Quiroz
Accounting, Billing
& Member Support



Alexander Sobecki
Membership Engagement
Manager



B Wynn
Membership Engagement
Coordinator

20+ YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

We proudly celebrate the following SLAI team members for over two decades of commitment to this association and the Illinois surplus line marketplace.

David L. Ocasek
34 Years

Richard J. Dunlap
28 Years

Wendell Thrash
39 Years

Dan Rodden
22 Years

Board of Directors

2026 – 2027

SURPLUS LINE ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

SLAI is governed by a dedicated Board of Directors drawn from across the Illinois surplus line community. Their leadership, expertise, and commitment to the marketplace guide the association's direction and ensure we continue to serve producers, insurers, and the Illinois Department of Insurance with excellence.



CHAIR

Patrick T. Muldowney
Alliant Insurance Services,
Inc.



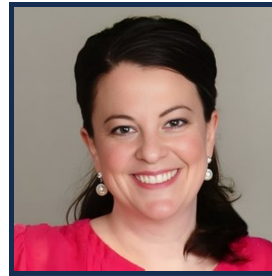
VICE CHAIR

Rodney T. Nubin
RT Specialty of Illinois



SECRETARY

Dennis A. Nevinski, Jr.
Aon Risk Solutions



TREASURER

Rachel M. Pignotti
Maximum Independent
Brokerage



BOARD MEMBER

Stephen A. Beard
RT Specialty of Illinois



BOARD MEMBER

Jennifer Fraser
CRC Group



BOARD MEMBER

Christopher T. Gaddis
Donald Gaddis Co., Inc.



BOARD MEMBER

Craig W. Howser
ProQuest



BOARD MEMBER

Thomas J. Levin
CRC Group

A Note of Gratitude

To our Board of Directors: Thank you. Your time, expertise, and perspective shape everything SLAI does. The surplus line marketplace is stronger because of your leadership, and we are grateful for your continued dedication to this association and the community it serves.

In the Community

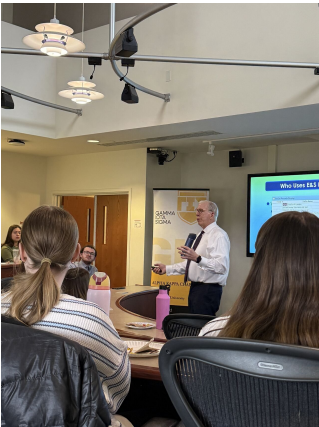
Education, Partnership & Investing in the Next Generation

SURPLUS LINE ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

KATIE SCHOOL OF INSURANCE — ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

SLAI's relationship with the Katie School of Insurance & Risk Management at Illinois State University is one of the association's longest-standing and most meaningful commitments. For decades, SLAI CEO David Ocasek has visited the ISU campus to speak with students about the surplus line industry — what it is, why it matters, and what a career in this space can look like.

This year, David presented to students from the Gamma Iota Sigma Alpha Kappa Chapter on Understanding Surplus Lines, offering an inside view of the marketplace and the role producers play in placing specialty and complex risks.



David Ocasek presenting to ISU students — Understanding Surplus Lines



With Katie School Director Jim Jones

THE DONALD D. MAUGER & SLAI BOARD SCHOLARSHIP

Each year, SLAI honors the legacy of its founder, Donald D. Mauger, by awarding a scholarship to a deserving student pursuing a career in the insurance industry. The Donald D. Mauger and SLAI Board of Directors Scholarship represents our commitment to building the pipeline of talent that will carry this industry forward.

Congratulations to Mitchel McAnally on being awarded the Donald D. Mauger and SLAI Board of Directors Scholarship for 2026. The award was presented at the Katie School of Insurance & Risk Management Scholarship Awards Dinner on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at the Bone Student Center at Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois.



David Ocasek presenting the Donald D. Mauger & SLAI Board of Directors Scholarship to Mitchel McAnally at the Katie School Awards Dinner

Recognized & Connected

Industry Leadership, Legislative Advocacy & Events

SURPLUS LINE ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

2026 WSIA RICHARD BOUHAN LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY AWARD

At the 2026 WSIA Underwriting Summit, SLAI CEO David Ocasek was honored with the Richard Bouhan Legislative Advocacy Award – recognizing his exceptional dedication to legislative advocacy on behalf of the surplus lines industry. David has been a tireless voice for Illinois producers at the state and federal level throughout his tenure at SLAI.

Richard Bouhan Legislative Advocacy Award

WSIA Underwriting Summit · 2026 · David L. Ocasek

SLAI AT WORK IN THE INDUSTRY



2026 Legislative Fly-In · Washington, D.C.



2026 Illinois Insurance Industry Legislative Day · Springfield, IL



2026 WSIA Underwriting Summit · Nashville, TN



2025 SILA National Education Conference · New Orleans, LA



2025 Big I Illinois Convo · Peoria, IL



2025 Fall Surplus Lines Law Group · Boise, ID

Giving Back

Community, Generosity & Investment in Our Own

SURPLUS LINE ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

COMMUNITY & CHARITABLE GIVING

Giving back has always been part of how SLAI operates. Each year, our team comes together to support organizations and causes that matter to the Chicago community and beyond.

This past holiday season, the SLAI team participated in USPS Operation Santa, fulfilling holiday wish letters and delivering gifts to children in need.

Whether it's a gift drive during the holidays, a charitable donation in honor of a colleague, or a contribution to a cause close to our members' hearts, SLAI believes in being a good neighbor — in Chicago and in this industry.

USPS Operation Santa

Fulfilling holiday wish letters and delivering gifts to children in need — the SLAI team's contribution this past holiday season.

INVESTING IN OUR SPACE

This year, SLAI invested in a meaningful upgrade to our offices at 222 S. Riverside Plaza — creating a workspace that better reflects the professionalism and energy of our team.

The centerpiece was a fully refreshed conference room, complete with updated AV equipment and a modernized display setup.

Beyond the conference room, the team's individual workspaces and offices also received a refresh — new furniture throughout, designed to create a more modern, collaborative environment that better supports both focused work and a welcoming atmosphere.

For a small team doing big work, having a space that supports collaboration, focus, and hospitality matters. We're proud of what we've built — and glad to welcome members and partners into a refreshed SLAI headquarters.



With Gratitude,

Thank You

to Our Members & Partners

SLAI exists because of the professionals who make up this community. Your commitment to compliance, your dedication to the marketplace, and your trust in this association are what drive everything we do.

To our 4,300+ licensed producers, our board, our industry partners, and the dedicated professionals who show up every day, thank you.

4,300+

Licensed Producers

41

Years of Service

223,923

Documents Filed
in 2025

\$4.86B

Total Premiums
in 2025

SURPLUS LINE ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS

Education · Reporting · Compliance · Est. 1985

41st Annual Meeting Program

Coffee & Networking	10:00 AM
Business Meeting	10:45 AM
Presentation — Grace Hanson	11:00 AM
Lunch & Networking	11:45 AM
Adjourn	1:00 PM

The Metropolitan · Willis Tower · Chicago, IL

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