

To: CPCU Society Board of Governors
From: Mary C. King, CPCU
Subject: SOUTH COAST Chapter
Date: April 27, 2006

BACKGROUND

The South Coast Chapter has been inactive for several years. During the past 4 to 5 years there has been a drop off in attendance at the monthly meetings and the quality of the meetings has declined as well. When the chapter was monitoring the CPCU exams they were making money for the chapter and could afford better speakers and programs for the members. In the past two years, there have been less than 10 people at a meeting and there were many times there were only 5 – 7 at a meeting. It has been difficult to get members to volunteer for leadership positions.

The chapter did hold a 25th anniversary meeting in late 2005, which was attended by about 25 people. This was primarily retirees and their spouses and representatives from the Los Angeles Chapter and their spouses. No other regular meetings have been held recently.

There are currently 30 paid members and 26 unpaid members. There were no new designees in 2005, one in 2004 and one in 2003.

Letters were sent to chapter members in early 2005 advising them of the situation and informing the members there would be a meeting to discuss the future of the chapter: to see if members could be recruited to step up to leadership positions and if not, to discuss disbanding the chapter. This information was also posted on the website on 2 different occasions. The meeting was held on April 20, 2005 but there were only 4 people present. A vote was taken to disband the chapter. It was a vote of members present. The vote included a preference to merge back into the Los Angeles Chapter. South Coast was formed in 1979 as a subchapter of the Los Angeles Chapter.

RECOMMENDATION

As Governor, I have studied the situation, interviewed chapter leaders and members and discussed the situation with Society staff. According to the by-laws of the South Coast Chapter, dissolution of the Chapter “shall be under the supervision of the CPCU Society Board of Governors.”

After careful review, it is my recommendation that the Society’s Board of Governors revoke the charter of the South Coast Chapter. The chapter has expressed a preference to merge back into the Los Angeles chapter

and the Los Angeles Chapter would welcome these members. The distance between the two chapters is approximately a one-hour drive.

According to the Society bylaws, the Board of Governors may revoke or suspend a chapter "if it is deemed unable to meet the needs of members." It is my opinion that is the case with the South Coast Chapter. Members of South Coast will have a richer CPCU experience affiliating with another more active chapter.

Upon approval of this recommendation each member of the South Coast Chapter will receive an announcement and invitation to join a new chapter of their choice.