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For Immediate Release

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American Fraternal Alliance Board Announces New Leadership

INDIANAPOLIS, IN, February 12, 2021 – The American Fraternal Alliance announces that Cynthia Maleski was installed as Chair of the Board of Directors at the 2020 Annual Meeting held on December 14, 2020.

“The Alliance and its member societies welcome Cynthia as our new Chair of the Board,” said Alliance Chief Executive Officer Allison Koppel. “Her leadership with First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, executive positions in both the public and private sectors, and expertise in insurance law makes her uniquely qualified for this role. As a committee chair during the uncertain months of 2020, she ensured that the fraternal system accomplished key strategic goals, never wavering in the mission to unite fraternal member societies through advocacy, education, and networking.”

As Chair of the Board, Ms. Maleski will provide strategic direction to the association as it represents 54 fraternal benefit societies across the country. Fraternal benefit societies are not-for-profit membership organizations offering volunteer, social and networking opportunities, along with insurance and other financial products.

Ms. Maleski is the National President/CEO of First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association (FCSLA), a fraternal benefit society founded in 1892 with headquarters in Ohio and a membership footprint in 48 states. She has significant experience spanning several decades in executive leadership positions in insurance, regulatory nonprofit management, management of multiple constituencies, and governmental affairs. Under her leadership, FCSLA has experienced fraternal and financial growth, affirming an A- AM Best rating and achieving records in community service and volunteering. Prior to leading FCSLA, Ms. Maleski held executive positions at a large insurance company, a major hospital system, and in private practice. Her legal expertise also extended to the classroom where she designed curriculum for the next

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generation of jurists. In the public sector, Ms. Maleski served as Insurance Commissioner and Cabinet Secretary for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, playing an integral leadership role in insurance regulation and industry relations. Her notable accomplishments during this time included implementing the first Children’s Health Insurance Program in the United States, working to ensure the Department of Insurance was accredited by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), and strengthening solvency regulations.

Serving alongside Ms. Maleski are twelve members of the American Fraternal Alliance Board of Directors:

- Vice-Chair Greg Temple, President & CEO, Catholic Order of Foresters
- Secretary-Treasurer Craig Van Dyke, President & CEO, BetterLife
- Pat Dees, President & CEO, WoodmenLife
- Nicole Gourley, Chief Global Membership Officer, Foresters Financial
- Karen Himle, Senior Vice President Corporate and Government Affairs, Thrivent
- William Hunt, CEO, GBU Financial Life
- Theresa Kluchinski, President, Ladies Pennsylvania Slovak Catholic Union
- Tim Kuzma, President, Polish Falcons of America
- Chris Martin, National President, Woman’s Life Insurance Society
- Kenny Massey, President & CEO, Modern Woodmen of America
- Michael J. O’Connor, Supreme Secretary, Knights of Columbus
- William O’Toole, CEO, Catholic Financial Life

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About the American Fraternal Alliance

The [American Fraternal Alliance](#) unites 54 not-for-profit fraternal benefit societies operating in 50 states, the District of Columbia and Canada. Alliance member societies represent nearly 8 million individuals, making it one of America’s largest member-volunteer networks. The Alliance

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unites members through advocacy, education, and networking to advance the fraternal benefit society movement.

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