

# INSURANCE COUNCIL OF TEXAS

*service, information, and representation for the property and casualty insurance industry*

## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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### For Immediate Release

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### **ERNIE STROMBERGER RECEIVES RAYMOND MAUK LEADERSHIP AWARD** ***IIAT Executive Director Recognized at Annual Mid-Year Symposium***

AUSTIN—Ernie Stromberger, Executive Director of the Independent Insurance Agents of Texas (IIAT), received the prestigious Raymond Mauk Leadership Award from the Insurance Council of Texas (ICT). The award was announced July 18 at ICT's Mid-Year Property and Casualty Insurance Symposium in Austin.

ICT presents the Raymond Mauk Leadership Award each year at the symposium. It is ICT's highest honor and is intended to bestow recognition on those whose labor has made a significant difference in the business of insurance.

Mr. Stromberger was selected because of his many accomplishments as Executive Director of IIAT. His innovative work in the areas of agent education and his leadership during the merger between IIAT and the Professional Insurance Agents of Texas highlight his impressive tenure in that position.

“Mr. Stromberger's leadership skills as a manager and innovator were of lasting benefit to the business of insurance in Texas and made him an easy choice for this year's award,” said ICT Executive Director Rick Gentry. “His vision and leadership have made IIAT one of the state's outstanding trade associations.”

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Mr. Stromberger is the fifth recipient of the Mauk Award, which honors former Texas Fire Commissioner and industry executive Raymond Mauk.

Stromberger had an impressive 20-year career as head of one of the nation's largest insurance associations of independent insurance agents. He was a persistent champion and advocate for the independent agency system. As executive director, he guided the development of IIAT's E&O program.

Before joining IIAT, Stromberger had worked as a journalist with the Dallas Times Herald, followed by stints in public relations. He was press aide for John Hill during the 1978 governor's race. He joined IIAT in 1979 as director of public relations and two years later he was named executive director.

Raymond Mauk enjoyed a long and distinguished career and held many positions of leadership within his company and industry organizations.

Some 65 years ago, then Commissioner Mauk was convinced that fundamental change was needed to protect the insurance buying public and the integrity of the marketplace from the misapplication of rates and forms. After several years of hard work, he was able to convince both companies and agents to endorse the creation of the Texas Insurance Checking Office, an entity that has continuously served the Texas property and casualty insurance industry since 1935.

The Insurance Council of Texas is a trade association of 424 property and casualty insurance companies operating in Texas. ICT represents its members in

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regulatory matters and serves as an information clearinghouse for its members, consumers, the news media and public officials.

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