



## CIRMA Announces New Chairman, Vice Chairman

**New Haven, CT, March 14, 2012.** The Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency, CIRMA, is pleased to announce that John Elsesser, Town Manager of Coventry, has been named Chairman of the Board for the 2012-13 term. Elsesser has served on CIRMA's Board of Directors for nine years and served as its Vice Chairman for two years. CIRMA, a service program of the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, is the leading provider of Workers' Compensation and Liability-Auto-Property insurance and risk management services to Connecticut municipalities. The Board of Directors represents CIRMA's 216 member municipalities, school districts, and local public agencies.

Bruce A. Wollschlager, President and CEO of CIRMA, said, "Over 110 municipal leaders participate on CIRMA's Board of Directors, governing, and advisory committees, setting CIRMA's strategic direction and policies. This unique governance structure enables CIRMA to stay focused on meeting the insurance and risk management needs of Connecticut municipalities."

Elsesser noted that as a member-owned and governed organization, CIRMA is unique in that it works solely for the benefit of its members. CIRMA has been the Town of Coventry's Workers' Compensation insurer since 1983 and its Liability-Auto-Property insurer since 1993. In 2009, the Town and its Fire Department leadership worked with CIRMA to develop a Health Exam and Human Performance Evaluation (HPE) program guided by CONN-OSHA and NFPA requirements, that reduced the risk of injury to emergency personnel. In May, CIRMA will present the Town with a Risk Management Achievement Award for 2012 for its Park & Recreation program's innovative online training program aimed at reducing liability losses.

Ryan Bingham, the Mayor of Torrington since 2005, will serve as CIRMA's Vice Chairman. CIRMA has been the City of Torrington's Workers' Compensation insurer since 1983 and its Liability-Auto-Property insurer since 2002. Mayor Bingham has served on CIRMA's Board of Directors since 2008. One of Mayor Bingham's first initiatives was to make risk management a priority in town government, earning the city a Risk Management Achievement Award in 2011. By working with CIRMA, the City of Torrington achieved a 20% reduction in the total number of losses and a decline in the severity of losses over two years.

### **About the Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency**

*The Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA) was established as a service program of CCM in 1980. Today, CIRMA is Connecticut's leading provider of municipal risk financing and risk management services in Connecticut. CIRMA's financial strength enables it to provide assured rate stability, open availability, and expert risk management and claims services. A member-owned and governed agency, CIRMA provides high quality, tailored insurance for municipalities, school districts, and local public agencies. CIRMA operates two risk pools, the Workers' Compensation and the Liability-Auto-Property pool. It also provides Heart & Hypertension claims services and claims administration and risk management services to self-insured municipalities.*



John Elsesser, Town Manager,  
Coventry, CIRMA Chairman



Mayor Ryan Bingham,  
Torrington, CIRMA Vice  
Chairman