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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Markel Announces Promotion in its Wholesale Division

Richmond, VA, February 5 —

Markel Corporation today announced the promotion of Wendy Houser to President, Mid South region, of Markel's Wholesale division. The Mid South region includes Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

She joined Markel in 2008 and helped to establish Markel's Mid South office. In 2010, she moved to Richmond to manage the Wholesale marketing team and was quickly promoted to Managing Director. Wendy was promoted again in August 2012 to Managing Director, Underwriting and Production and moved back to Plano to lead the Mid South's underwriting and marketing teams in achieving premium growth and profitability for the breadth of products written in the region.

Ms. Houser has more than 16 years of experience in marketing and insurance. She worked as a broker for 11 years at Commercial Insurance Underwriters, Inc. and Alexander Morford & Woo, Inc. Wendy is an instructor for the NAPSLO Advanced School and received the W. Dana Roerhig Award for her active role on the NAPSLO convention committee.

"Wendy is a highly regarded and experienced industry professional. We believe her demonstrated leadership and successful track record ideally position her to advance Markel's Wholesale operations in the region. Wendy has strong team building skills and a positive energy that is greatly valued by our organization and our clients," commented Bryan Sanders, President of Markel Wholesale.

About Markel Corporation

Markel Corporation is a diverse financial holding company serving a variety of niche markets. The Company's principal business markets and underwrites specialty insurance products. In each of the Company's businesses, it seeks to provide quality products and excellent customer service so that it can be a market leader. The financial goals of the Company are to earn consistent underwriting and operating profits and superior investment returns to build shareholder value. Visit Markel Corporation on the web at www.markelcorp.com.

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