

NATIONAL WESTERN LIFE INSURANCE CO  
Form DEF 14A  
April 29, 2014

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities  
Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant  [X]  
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant  [ ]

Check the appropriate box:

- [ ] Preliminary Proxy Statement
- [ ] Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- [X] Definitive Proxy Statement
- [ ] Definitive Additional Materials
- [ ] Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

National Western Life Insurance Company

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- [X] No fee required.
- [ ] Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

- 1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
  
- 2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
  
- 3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
  
- 4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:
  
- 5) Total fee paid:

- [ ] Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.  
Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

- 1) Amount Previously Paid:
  - 2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No:
  - 3) Filing Party:
  - 4) Date Filed:
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National Western Life Insurance Company  
850 East Anderson Lane  
Austin, Texas 78752-1602  
(512) 836-1010

May 5, 2014  
To Our Shareholders:

We cordially invite you to attend the 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders of National Western Life Insurance Company to be held on Friday, June 20, 2014 at 9:00 a.m., local time, at the Moody Gardens Hotel at Seven Hope Boulevard, Galveston, Texas 77554.

Pursuant to the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, we are using the "Notice and Access" method of providing proxy materials to you via the Internet. We believe this process will provide you with a convenient way to access your proxy materials and vote your shares, while also allowing us to reduce associated printing and distribution costs and help us conserve our resources. On or about May 5, 2014, we will mail to our shareholders of record a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials containing instructions on how to access our proxy statement and our 2013 Annual Report and vote via the Internet. The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials also contains instructions on how to receive paper copies of the proxy materials and our 2013 Annual Report.

Each of the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials that will be mailed and the Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders and proxy statement contained herein identifies the items planned to be addressed at the Annual Meeting. We encourage you to read the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, the Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders, and the Proxy Statement so that you may be informed about the business to come before the meeting.

Your participation in our business is important, regardless of the number of shares you own. As such, we encourage you to cast your vote via the Internet or by telephone, or, if you previously requested paper copies of the proxy materials, by completing the accompanying proxy and returning it in the prepaid envelope provided.

We look forward to seeing you on June 20, 2014.

Sincerely,

/S/ Robert L. Moody  
Robert L. Moody  
Chairman of the Board  
and Chief Executive Officer

National Western Life Insurance Company  
850 East Anderson Lane  
Austin, Texas 78752-1602  
(512) 836-1010

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

To the Shareholders of National Western Life Insurance Company:

The 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (“Annual Meeting”) of National Western Life Insurance Company (the “Company” or “National Western”) will be held on Friday, June 20, 2014 at the Moody Gardens Hotel at Seven Hope Boulevard, Galveston, Texas 77554 at 9:00 a.m. local time for the following purposes:

1. To elect four designees of holders of Class A Stock and six designees of holders of Class B Stock, for a total of 10 members for election to the board of directors, who shall hold office until the next annual shareholders’ meeting or until their respective successors have been elected or appointed;
2. To ratify the appointment of the firm of BKD LLP as the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2014;
3. To consider and act upon, by a non-binding advisory vote, a resolution to approve the compensation of our named executive officers; and
4. To transact other business that may properly come before the Annual Meeting, or any adjournment or adjournments thereof.

These items are fully described in the proxy statement, which is part of this notice. The Company has not received notice of other matters that may be properly presented at the Annual Meeting.

Pursuant to the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission, National Western has elected to provide access to our proxy materials over the Internet. Accordingly, we will mail, beginning on or about May 5, 2014, a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials to our shareholders of record and beneficial owners as of the record date of April 21, 2014. All shareholders and beneficial owners will have the ability to access all of the proxy materials on a website referenced in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials as of the date of mailing of the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS:** Copies of the proxy statement and the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013, are available at <http://www.cstproxy.com/nationalwesternlife/2014>.

The Board of Directors of the Company has fixed the close of business on April 21, 2014 as the record date for the determination of the shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting or any adjournment or adjournments thereof. A complete list of shareholders will be open to examination by any shareholder for any purpose germane to the Annual Meeting between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., local time, at the offices of the Company at 850 East Anderson Lane, Austin, Texas 78752-1602 for ten days prior to the Annual Meeting. If you would like to view the shareholder list, please call the Company Secretary at (512) 836-1010 to schedule an appointment. The list will also be available at the Annual Meeting and may be inspected by any shareholder who is present.

Regardless of the number of shares of National Western Life Insurance Company common stock you hold, as a shareholder your vote is important and the Board of Directors of the Company strongly encourages you to exercise your right to vote. To ensure your vote is recorded promptly, please vote as soon as possible, even if you plan to

attend the Annual Meeting.

By Order of the Board of Directors

May 5, 2014

/S/ James P. Payne  
James P. Payne  
Senior Vice President and Secretary

**IMPORTANT**

SHAREHOLDERS WHO DO NOT EXPECT TO ATTEND IN PERSON ARE URGED TO VOTE VIA THE INTERNET OR BY PHONE, OR REQUEST PAPER COPIES OF THE PROXY MATERIALS AND COMPLETE, SIGN, DATE, AND RETURN A PROXY CARD AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE TO ENSURE ITS ARRIVAL IN TIME FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING.

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National Western Life Insurance Company  
850 East Anderson Lane  
Austin, Texas 78752-1602  
(512) 836-1010

PROXY STATEMENT FOR  
2014 ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS: Copies of this Proxy Statement and the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2013 are available at <http://www.cstproxy.com/nationalwesternlife/2014>.

This Proxy Statement and the accompanying proxy are being made available to shareholders on or about May 5, 2014 in connection with the solicitation by the Board of Directors (the "Board of Directors") of National Western Life Insurance Company of proxies to be used at the 2014 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the "Annual Meeting") of National Western Life Insurance Company to be held on Friday, June 20, 2014 at the Moody Gardens Hotel at Seven Hope Boulevard, Galveston, Texas 77554 at 9:00 a.m. local time. Our principal executive offices are located at 850 East Anderson Lane, Austin, Texas 78752-1602. Unless the context requires otherwise, references in this Proxy Statement to "National Western," "the Company," "we," "us," or "our" refer to National Western Life Insurance Company.

QUORUM AND VOTING

Holders of record of our Class A common stock, par value \$1.00 per share (the "Class A Stock"), and our Class B common stock, par value \$1.00 per share (the "Class B Stock" and, together with the Class A Stock, the "Common Stock"), at the close of business on April 21, 2014, will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting or any adjournment or adjournments thereof. As of April 21, 2014, there were 3,434,765 shares of Class A Stock outstanding, held by 3,591 holders of record and 200,000 shares of Class B Stock outstanding, held by two holders of record. The number of holders of record does not include any beneficial owners for whom shares of Common Stock may be held in "nominee" or "street" name.

Shareholders of record at the close of business on April 21, 2014 will be entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. Each shareholder is entitled to one vote per share held by such holder on all matters coming before the Annual Meeting, except as otherwise described below.

Article 4 of the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company provides that the Class A stockholders have the exclusive right to elect one-third (1/3) of the members of the Board of Directors, plus one director for any remaining fraction, and that the Class B stockholders have the exclusive right to elect the remaining members of the Board of Directors. In view of Robert L. Moody's ownership, as of April 21, 2014, of more than 99% of the Class B Stock outstanding, as well as Mr. Moody's ownership of 33.9% of the Class A Stock outstanding (see Stock Ownership table below), Mr. Moody holds the voting power to elect a majority of the Board of Directors. The Company is considered to be a controlled company and Mr. Moody is the controlling shareholder.

The presence, in person or by proxy, of the holders of one-half (1/2) of the total of each of the Class A Stock and the Class B Stock will constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting. If a quorum is not present or represented at the Annual Meeting, the shareholders entitled to vote thereat, present in person or represented by proxy, have the power to adjourn the Annual Meeting from time to time without further notice, other than announcement at the Annual Meeting, until a quorum is present. At such reconvened Annual Meeting at which a quorum is present, any business may be transacted as originally noticed. Abstentions and broker non-votes (shares held by a broker or nominee that

does not have the authority to vote on a matter, and has not received instructions from the beneficial owner) are counted as present in determining whether the quorum requirement is met.

Our Amended and Restated Bylaws require the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares having voting power present in person or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting for all matters to be determined at the Annual Meeting, other than the election of directors, including Proposal Two to ratify the appointment of BKD LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm and Proposal Three, a non-binding advisory vote, to consider the compensation of our named executive officers. On these proposals, abstentions and broker non-votes, if any, will have the effect of a vote against the proposals. Our Bylaws provide that directors are elected by a plurality vote of each class of stock voting separately.

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The Inspector of Elections for the Annual Meeting will be James P. Payne, our Senior Vice President - Secretary, and he will tabulate the votes. We will announce preliminary voting results at the Annual Meeting. The final official voting results from the Annual Meeting will be disclosed in a Current Report on Form 8-K to be filed within four business days after the Annual Meeting.

You may vote your proxy by Internet, telephone, or mail, as explained below. Votes submitted electronically over the Internet or by telephone must be received by 7:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, on June 19, 2014. Voting your proxy does not limit your right to vote in person should you decide to attend the Annual Meeting. The law of Colorado, under which National Western is incorporated, specifically permits electronically transmitted proxies, provided that each such proxy contains or is submitted with information from which the Inspector of Elections of the Annual Meeting can determine that such electronically transmitted proxy was authorized by the shareholder. If your shares are held in the name of a broker, bank, or other holder of record, you will be provided voting instructions from the holder of record. If you vote by Internet or telephone, please do not mail in a proxy card as it will revoke your Internet or telephone proxy.

- Internet. Access the Internet voting site at <http://www.cstproxy.com/nationalwesternlife/2014>. Follow the on-screen instructions and be sure to have the control number listed on your proxy card available when you access the Internet voting site. Please note that shareholders that vote through the Internet must bear all costs associated with electronic access, including Internet access fees.
- Telephone. Dial the toll free number found on your proxy card. Follow the voice prompts and be sure to have the control number listed on your proxy card available when you call.
- Mail. If you requested printed copies of the proxy materials, you may vote by mail by simply marking, signing, dating, and returning the proxy card in the postage-prepaid envelope provided for your convenience.

If a shareholder properly uses the Internet voting procedures described on the proxy card, or calls the toll-free telephone number, or completes, signs, dates, and returns the proxy card, by 7:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, on June 19, 2014, his, her, or its shares will be voted at the Annual Meeting in accordance with his, her, or its instructions. If a shareholder returns a proxy card unsigned or undated, his, her, or its vote cannot be counted. If a shareholder signs and dates a proxy card, but does not fill out the voting instructions on the proxy card, the shares represented by the proxy will be voted in accordance with the Board of Directors' recommendations, as follows:

- FOR the election of each of the nominees to the Board of Directors to hold office until the next annual shareholders' meeting or until their respective successors have been elected or appointed;
- FOR the ratification of the appointment of the firm of BKD LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2014; and
- FOR the approval, on a non-binding advisory basis, of the compensation of our named executive officers.

In addition, if any other matters properly come before the Annual Meeting, Ross R. Moody, our President and Chief Operating Officer, and James P. Payne, our Senior Vice President - Secretary, the named proxies, have discretionary authority to vote on those matters in accordance with their best judgment. The Board of Directors is not currently aware of any other matters that may come before the Annual Meeting.



## REVOCABILITY OF PROXY

The proxy is for use at the Annual Meeting if a shareholder will be unable to attend in person. The proxy (whether submitted by mail, telephone, or Internet) may be revoked by a shareholder at any time before it is exercised on the date of the Annual Meeting by:

- executing and delivering a written notice of revocation to the Secretary of National Western at our principal executive offices;
- submitting a later-dated proxy by Internet in the manner specified above, by telephone in the manner specified above, or in writing to the Secretary of National Western at our principal executive offices; or
- attending and voting in person at the Annual Meeting.

Attendance at the Annual Meeting will not revoke a proxy unless a shareholder provides written notice of revocation to the Secretary of National Western before the proxy is exercised or unless the shareholder votes his or her shares in person at the Annual Meeting. Street name holders that vote by proxy may revoke their voting instructions in accordance with their broker's, bank's, or other nominee's procedures.

## SOLICITATION

This solicitation is made on behalf of the Board of Directors. The cost of preparing, assembling, printing, and mailing the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders, this Proxy Statement, the Proxy Card, and any additional materials, as well as the cost of soliciting the proxies will be borne by us, including reimbursement paid to brokerage firms and other custodians, nominees, and fiduciaries for reasonable costs incurred in forwarding the proxy materials to, and solicitation of proxies from, the beneficial owners of shares held by such persons. The solicitation will be made initially by mail. Our Board of Directors may later decide to make further solicitations by mail, telephone, telex, electronic mail, facsimile, or personal calls by our directors, officers, and employees. We will not pay additional compensation to our directors, officers, and employees for their solicitation efforts, but we will reimburse them for any out-of-pocket expenses they incur in their solicitation efforts.

## SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The information provided below sets forth certain information as of April 21, 2014, regarding (i) the ownership of voting securities of the Company by each person who is known to the management of the Company to have been the beneficial owner of more than five percent (5%) of the outstanding shares of the Company's Class A Stock or Class B Stock; (ii) the ownership interest of each director of the Company; (iii) the ownership interest of each named executive officer of the Company; and (iv) the ownership interest of officers and directors of the Company as a group. Insofar as is known to the Company, each such person, entity, or group has sole voting and investment power with respect to all such shares of Class A Stock and Class B Stock, except as may otherwise be noted.

For purposes of the tables below, the amounts and percentages of Class A Stock and Class B Stock beneficially owned are reported on the basis of regulations of the SEC governing the determination of beneficial ownership of securities. Under the rules of the SEC, a person is deemed to be a "beneficial owner" of a security if that person has or shares "voting power," which includes the power to vote or to direct the voting of such security, or "investment power," which includes the power to dispose of or to direct the disposition of such security. A person is also deemed to be a beneficial owner of any securities of which that person has a right to acquire beneficial ownership within 60 days,

including through the exercise of options or warrants. Beneficial ownership also includes securities that are the subject of a voting trust, proxy, power of attorney, or other similar agreement. Under these rules, more than one person may be deemed a beneficial owner of the same securities and a person may be deemed a beneficial owner of securities as to which he has no economic interest.

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## Owners of More Than 5% of Our Common Stock

Based solely upon filings made with the SEC, the following persons are the only persons known by us to own beneficially more than 5% of the outstanding shares of Class A Stock or Class B Stock as of April 21, 2014. Percent of class is calculated based on 3,434,765 shares of Class A Stock and 200,000 shares of Class B Stock outstanding as of April 21, 2014.

Name and Address of Beneficial Owners	Title of Class	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership	Percent of Class	
Robert L. Moody <sup>(1)</sup> 2302 Post Office Street, Suite 702 Galveston, Texas	Class A Stock	1,166,097	33.9	%
	Class B Stock	198,074	99.0	%

(1) Robert L. Moody is Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. Mr. Moody is the controlling shareholder of the Company, and he holds the voting power to elect more than a majority of the members of the Board of Directors. Of the Class A Stock listed as owned, 7,000 shares are issuable upon the exercise of stock options that are either currently exercisable or that will become exercisable within 60 days of April 21, 2014, and Mr. Moody may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of one share owned by his wife, Mrs. Ann M. Moody.

## Directors and Executive Officers

Except under applicable community property laws or as otherwise indicated in the footnotes to the table below, the persons named in the table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares of Common Stock beneficially owned. The address of all directors and executive officers in this table is c/o National Western Life Insurance Company, 850 East Anderson, Austin, Texas 78752-1602. Ownership amounts are as of April 21, 2014. Percent of class is calculated based on 3,434,765 shares of Class A Stock and 200,000 shares of Class B Stock outstanding as of April 21, 2014.

Directors and Officers	Title of Class	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership†	Percent of Class	
Directors and Named Executive Officers:				
Robert L. Moody	Class A Stock	1,166,097	33.9	%
	Class B Stock	198,074	99.0	%
Ross R. Moody	Class A Stock	9,415	+	
	Class A Stock	625	(1) +	
	Class B Stock	481.5	(1) +	
Charles D. Milos	Class A Stock	8,634	+	



Directors and Officers	Title of Class	Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership†	Percent of Class	
Directors:				
Stephen E. Glasgow	Class A Stock	1,020	+	
E. Douglas McLeod	Class A Stock	3,000	+	
Ann M. Moody	Class A Stock	7,001	(2) +	
	Class B Stock	—	(2) +	
Frances A. Moody-Dahlberg	Class A Stock	2,850	+	
	Class A Stock	625	(1) +	
	Class B Stock	481.5	(1) +	
Russell S. Moody	Class A Stock	2,850	+	
	Class A Stock	625	(1) +	
	Class B Stock	481.5	(1) +	
Louis E. Pauls, Jr.	Class A Stock	2,910	+	
E. J. Pederson	Class A Stock	1,010	+	
Named Executive Officers:				
S. Christopher Johnson	Class A Stock	800	+	
Brian M. Pribyl	Class A Stock	800	+	
Directors and Executive Officers as a Group (17 Persons)	Class A Stock	1,203,661	34.8	%
	Class B Stock	199,518.5	99.8	%

(1) Shares are owned indirectly through the Three R Trusts. The Three R Trusts are four Texas trusts for the benefit of the children of Mr. Robert L. Moody (Robert L. Moody, Jr., Ross R. Moody, Russell S. Moody, and Frances A. Moody-Dahlberg). The Three R Trusts own a total of 2,500 shares of Class A Stock and 1,926 shares of Class B Stock.

(2) Mrs. Moody is not deemed to be the beneficial owner of shares held by Robert L. Moody, Mrs. Moody's husband. She may be deemed to be the indirect beneficial owner of 7,000 shares issuable to Mr. Robert L. Moody upon the exercise of stock options that are either currently exercisable or that will become exercisable within 60 days of April 21, 2014. Any determination regarding Mrs. Moody's beneficial ownership of such securities for purposes of federal securities laws has no impact on her ownership of those securities under state law, which ownership rights are governed by state law and agreements that have been entered into between Mr. Moody and Mrs. Moody.

+ Indicates ownership of less than one percent of the class.

† Class A Stock includes the below noted number of shares, and those of non Named Executive Officers, that are issuable upon the exercise of stock options that are either currently exercisable or that will become exercisable within 60 days of April 21, 2014.

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Robert L. Moody – 7,000	Ross R. Moody – 5,415	Charles D. Milos – 2,800	Stephen E. Glasgow –
1,000	E. Douglas McLeod – 1,000	Frances A. Moody-Dahlberg – 1,000	
Russell S. Moody – 1,000	Louis E. Pauls, Jr. – 2,000	E.J. Pederson – 1,000	Brian M. Pribyl –
800	S. Christopher Johnson – 800		

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## PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Our Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation and Amended and Restated Bylaws provide that the Board of Directors shall consist of a minimum of seven directors and a maximum of twenty-seven directors. The Board of Directors currently consists of 10 members. A Board of Directors composed of 10 persons is recommended by the Board of Directors to be elected at the 2014 Annual Meeting to serve until the next Annual Meeting of Shareholders, or until their successors have been duly elected and qualified. Article 4 of the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company provides that the Class A stockholders shall have the exclusive right to elect one-third of the Board of Directors, plus one director for any remaining fraction, and that the Class B stockholders shall have the exclusive right to elect the remaining members of the Board of Directors. Accordingly, the Board of Directors recommends the election of four Class A nominees and six Class B nominees indicated below. A plurality of each class of stock voting separately will be necessary to elect the directors of that particular class. It is the intention of the persons named in the enclosed proxy to vote for the nominees of the particular class, unless the proxy has been marked to withhold authority to vote for the nominees. The Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company do not permit cumulative voting for directors.

It is the intention of the persons named in the proxy, in the absence of a contrary direction, to vote FOR the election of each of the 10 persons named in this proxy statement as nominees for director for a one-year term expiring at the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders or until their successors are duly elected and qualified or until their earlier death, resignation, or removal.

## Nominees for the Board of Directors

Our nominees for the election of directors include three independent directors, as defined by the NASDAQ Listing Rules and determined by the Board of Directors, and three members of our senior management. The names of the nominees for election as a director to serve until the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, or until their earlier resignation or removal, and certain additional information with respect to each of them, are set forth below. The nominees have consented to be named in this proxy statement and to serve as directors, if elected. Except as indicated in "Relationships among Directors and Executive Officers" below, there are no family relationships among any of our executive officers or the director nominees.

If, at the time of or prior to the Annual Meeting, any of the nominees is unable or declines to serve, the persons named as proxies may use the discretionary authority provided in the proxy to vote for a substitute or substitutes designated by the Board of Directors. If the proxy has been marked to withhold authority to vote for the nominees, the proxy will not then be voted either for or against such substitute nominees. The Board of Directors has no reason to believe that any substitute nominee or nominees will be required.

## Class A Nominees

Name of Director	Principal Occupation During Last Five Years and Directorships	Class Nominee	Age	Director Since
Stephen E. Glasgow (2) (4)	Partner, G-2 Development, L.P. Austin, Texas	Class A	51	2004
E. Douglas McLeod	Chairman and Director of Moody Gardens, Inc.	Class A	72	1979
Louis E. Pauls, Jr.	President, Louis Pauls & Company;	Class A	78	1971

(2) (4)	Investments, Galveston, Texas			
E. J. Pederson	Special Assistant to the Executive	Class A	66	1992
(2) (4)	Vice President and CEO of the Texas A&M Health Science Center			

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## Class B Nominees

Name of Director	Principal Occupation During Last Five Years and Directorships	Class Nominee	Age	Director Since
Robert L. Moody (1) (3)	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the Company	Class B	78	1963
Ross R. Moody (1) (3)	President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company	Class B	51	1981
Ann M. Moody	Director of Gal-Tex Hotel Corporation, Transitional Learning Center, and Moody Endowment	Class B	76	2014
Charles D. Milos (1) (3)	Senior Vice President of the Company	Class B	68	1981
Frances A. Moody-Dahlberg	Executive Director, The Moody Foundation, Dallas, Texas	Class B	44	1990
Russell S. Moody	Investments, League City, Texas	Class B	52	1988

(1) Member of Executive Committee.

(2) Member of Audit Committee.

(3) Member of Investment Committee.

(4) Member of Compensation and Stock Option Committee.

There are no arrangements or understandings pursuant to which any director was elected. All directors hold office for a term of one year or until their successors are elected and qualified.

## Class A Nominees

## STEPHEN E. GLASGOW

Managing Partner of Texas GSA Holdings, LP, G-2 Development, LP, and RAM Investments, real estate development and investment companies, since 2006, 2003, and 1990, respectively. Mr. Glasgow has developed and built a variety of different projects, including residential subdivisions, single and multi-family products, commercial office buildings, retail centers, and government properties. Mr. Glasgow's independence, experience, and financial acumen qualify him to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

## E. DOUGLAS McLEOD

Chairman and Director of Moody Gardens, Inc. (charitable corporation); Attorney; Past Director of Development of The Moody Foundation (charitable and educational foundation) from 1982 to 2013 (retired); Advisory Director of American National Insurance Company, Galveston, Texas; Director of ANREM Corporation (American National Insurance Company subsidiary real estate management corporation); Vice President and Director of Colonel Museum, Inc. (charitable organization); Director, San Jacinto Museum of History (charitable organization); Vice Chairman of Lone Star Coastal National Recreation Area (Congressionally-designated area with outdoor recreation potential of

national significance); Past Director and past Chairman of Center for Transportation and Commerce (charitable organization); Past Director and Executive Board Member, South Texas College of Law (law school); Past Member of State House of Representatives of the State of Texas (terms ended January 1983). Mr. McLeod's experience as an attorney and public official, including as a state legislator, as well as experience in real estate development and non-profit administration allow him to provide a varied set of problem-solving skills and valuable insight to the Company as a member of our Board of Directors.

**LOUIS E. PAULS, JR.**

Owner and President of Louis Pauls & Co., a municipal bond and investment firm, since 1958. Mr. Paul's longstanding business knowledge and experience directing the management of our Company qualifies him to serve as a member of the Board of Directors.

**E. J. PEDERSON**

Special Assistant to the Executive Vice President and CEO of the Texas A&M Health Science Center as of October 1, 2013; Interim President, Texas A&M Health Science Center and Interim Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs, The Texas A&M University System from October 2012 to October 2013; Management consultant from January 2007 to October 2012; Executive Vice President, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston from 1986-2007; Vice President Business Affairs of the University of Texas at San Antonio from 1984-1986; and Vice President Business Affairs of the University of Texas at Dallas from 1980-1984. Mr. Pederson's combination of independence, financial expertise, and experience qualify him to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

**Class B Nominees**

**ROBERT L. MOODY**

Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the Company from 1963-1968, 1971-1980, and 1981-Present; Chief Executive Officer of American National Insurance Company ("ANICO") (insurance services) since 1991 and Chairman of the Board since 1982; Director of American National Insurance Company since 1960; Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer, and Director of Moody National Bank (banking services); and Trustee of The Moody Foundation (charitable and educational foundation) since 1955. Mr. Moody's tenure as Chief Executive Officer affords him extensive insight into the Company's operations and qualifies him to serve as Chairman of our Board of Directors.

**ROSS R. MOODY**

President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company since 1992; Director, Officer, and/or Manager of various Company subsidiaries; Trustee of The Moody Foundation (charitable and educational foundation); and Director of the following indirect subsidiaries of American National Insurance Company (American National Property and Casualty Company, American National General Insurance Company, ANPAC Louisiana Insurance Company, Pacific Property and Casualty Company, Farm Family Holdings, Inc., Farm Family Life Insurance Company, United Farm Family Insurance Company, Farm Family Casualty Insurance Company, and American National County Mutual Insurance Company). Mr. Moody's experience as our President and Chief Operations Officer provides him with significant insight into our operations and qualifies him to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

**CHARLES D. MILOS**

Senior Vice President – Mortgage Loans and Real Estate of the Company since 1983; Director, officer, and/or manager of various Company subsidiaries; and President of Regent Care Management and Regent Care Management Services since 2005. Mr. Milos was Vice President of Seal Fleet, Inc. from 1981-1983 and an Investment Analyst for the Company from 1976-1981. Mr. Milos' considerable experience as a senior officer of the Company, along with his understanding of its operations, qualifies him to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

**ANN M. MOODY**

Mrs. Moody currently serves as a director on the Board of Directors of Gal-Tex Hotel Corporation, Transitional Learning Center, and Moody Endowment. She has previously served as a board member of Moody Gardens, First National Life Insurance Company, West Cap, Hometown Bank, Securities Management and Research, and the O'Connell High School Board. Mrs. Moody's extensive experience as a director of multiple regulated financial entities and her macroeconomic approach to management qualify her to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

**FRANCES ANNE MOODY-DAHLBERG**

Executive Director of The Moody Foundation (charitable and educational foundation) since January 1998; Coordinator, Charitable Requests for the Company since March 15, 2010; a Trustee of The Moody Foundation since February 2004; Director of American National Insurance Company since 1987; Past Director of Gal-Tex Hotel Corporation (hotel management corporation) from March 2000 to December 2003; and past Director of The Moody

Endowment (charitable corporation) from 1991 to February 2004. Mrs. Moody-Dahlberg's significant director experience affords her with the qualities necessary to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

**RUSSELL S. MOODY**

Investments, League City, Texas; Director of American National Insurance Company, since 1986; and past Director of Gal-Tex Hotel Corporation (hotel management company) from March 2000 to December 2003. Mr. Moody's longstanding directorships provide him with the experience and understanding to qualify him to serve as a member of our Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote "FOR" the election of the nominees for director to serve until the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. All proxies executed and returned will be voted "FOR" the nominees unless the proxy specifies otherwise.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The following persons are our executive officers, serving at the discretion of the Board of Directors, as of April 21, 2014. Except as set forth below, there are no family relationships among any of our executive officers or nominees for director.

Name	Age	Position Held (Date Appointed to Position)
Robert L. Moody	78	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer (1963-1968, 1971-1980, 1981), Director
Ross R. Moody	51	President and Chief Operating Officer (1992), Director
S. Christopher Johnson	45	Senior Vice President - Chief Marketing Officer (2006)
Kitty Kennedy Nelson	65	Senior Vice President - Chief Actuary (2012)
Carlos A. Martinez	49	Senior Vice President - International Marketing (2012)
Charles D. Milos	68	Senior Vice President - Mortgage Loans and Real Estate (1990), Director
James P. Payne	69	Senior Vice President - Secretary (1998)
Brian M. Pribyl	55	Senior Vice President - Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (2001)
Patricia L. Scheuer	62	Senior Vice President - Chief Investment Officer (1992)
Robert Sweeney	48	Senior Vice President - Chief Administrative Officer (2013)

The biographies for Robert L. Moody, our Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Ross R. Moody, our President and Chief Operating Officer, and Charles D. Milos, our Senior Vice President – Mortgage Loans and Real Estate, are listed above under the heading “Nominees for the Board of Directors.”

All of our executive officers listed above have served in various executive capacities with the Company for more than five years, except as described below.

There are no arrangements or understandings pursuant to which any officer was elected. All officers hold office for a term of one year or until their successors are elected and qualified, unless otherwise specified by the Board of Directors.

## S. CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON

Mr. Johnson has been our Senior Vice President – Chief Marketing Officer since 2006. Mr. Johnson was Senior Regional Vice President of Allstate - Lincoln Benefit Life from 1999 to 2006; Senior Sales Representative with Mutual of Omaha from 1998 to 1999; Field Sales Manager of Financial Brokerage from 1995 to 1998; Agent/Consultant with Financial Facts & Services from 1994 to 1995; and Branch Manager of Hooper Holmes/Portamedic from 1993 to 1994.

KITTY KENNEDY NELSON

Mrs. Nelson has been our Senior Vice President – Chief Actuary since January 2013. Mrs. Nelson was our Vice President - Valuation Actuary from January 2007 to December 2012 and our Assistant Vice President - Associate Actuary from November 2002 to December 2006. Prior to joining National Western, Mrs. Nelson was with G.P. Monnin Consulting, Inc. in Austin from February to November 2002; was Senior Vice President and Chief Operations Officer with Americo Life, Inc. from 1998 to 2000; and was with United Companies Life Insurance Company a.k.a United Life & Annuity Insurance Company from 1984-1998, holding the title of Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Actuary from 1993 to 1998.

**DR. CARLOS A. MARTINEZ**

Dr. Martinez has been our Senior Vice President – International Marketing since June 2012. Dr. Martinez was Vice President - International Sales Development from May 2009 to June 2012, Assistant Vice President then Vice President of International New Business and Risk Selection from April 2004 to May 2009, and Senior Underwriter for the International Market from February 1997 to April 2004; prior to joining the Company, Dr. Martinez held the position of lead International Underwriter for Great Southern Life from 1996 to 1997 and for Citizens Life Insurance Company from 1994 to 1996.

**JAMES P. PAYNE**

Mr. Payne has been Senior Vice President – Secretary since 1998. Mr. Payne was Vice President – Secretary of the Company from October 1994 to 1998, self employed from July 1993 to October 1994, Vice President of Government Relations for United American Insurance Company from February 1991 to July 1993, started as General Counsel and then also became President and CEO of Great Republic Insurance Company from July 1990 to February 1991, Vice President, Secretary, and General Counsel of Reserve Life Insurance Company from February 1983 to July 1990, and employed by Lone Star Life Insurance Company from February 1975 to February 1983, where he ultimately served as Vice President, Secretary, and General Counsel.

**BRIAN M. PRIBYL**

Mr. Pribyl has been Senior Vice President – Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer since 2001. Mr. Pribyl was an Executive Vice President – Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Secretary for Interstate Assurance Company from July 1990 to April 2001, and an Audit Manager for Price Waterhouse from 1983 to 1990.

**PATRICIA L. SCHEUER**

Ms. Scheuer has been Senior Vice President – Chief Investment Officer since 1992. She was a Fixed Income Manager for Texas Permanent School Fund from February 1988 to August 1992, a Sr. Financial Analyst for Public Utility Commission of Texas from December 1984 to February 1988, and a Management Consultant for Deloitte Haskins & Sells from July 1983 to November 1984.

**ROBERT SWEENEY**

Mr. Sweeney has been Senior Vice President - Chief Administrative Officer since June 2013. Mr. Sweeney was Vice President of Administration for SCOR Reinsurance from November 2009 to June 2013, Vice President of Operations for Old Mutual Financial Network from December 2006 to November 2009, and Vice President of Administration for KMG America from June 2001 to December 2006. Mr. Sweeney has also held Second Vice President of Operations positions with AFLAC, Consec, and Shenandoah Life Insurance, after starting his career with Allstate Life Insurance Company in January 1987 and serving in various underwriting and managerial positions through August 1995.

**CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Other than as set forth in the following paragraphs, we are not aware of any transactions since the beginning of 2013 or any currently proposed transaction between us or our subsidiaries and any member of the Board of Directors, any of our executive officers, any security holder who is known to us to own of record or beneficially more than 5% of our Common Stock, or any member of the immediate family of any of the foregoing persons, in which the amount involved exceeds \$120,000 and in which any of the foregoing persons had, or will have, a direct or indirect material interest. Except as otherwise noted and as applicable, we believe that each transaction described below is, or was, as the case may be, on terms at least as favorable to us as we would expect to negotiate with an unaffiliated party.

**Relationships among Directors and Executive Officers**

Robert L. Moody, of Galveston, Texas, the Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, is the husband of Ann M. Moody, father of Ross R. Moody, Russell S. Moody, and Frances A. Moody-Dahlberg, and the brother-in-law of E. Douglas McLeod. Ross R. Moody of Austin, Texas, the President and Chief Operating Officer and a director of the Company, is the son of Robert L. Moody, stepson of Ann M. Moody, and the brother of Russell S. Moody and Frances A. Moody-Dahlberg. Frances A. Moody-Dahlberg of Dallas, Texas, an employee and director of the Company, is the daughter of Robert L. Moody and Ann M. Moody, and the sister of Ross R. Moody and Russell S. Moody. E. Douglas McLeod of Galveston, Texas, a director of the Company, is the brother of Ann M. Moody and brother-in-law of Robert L. Moody. Russell S. Moody of League City, Texas, a director of the Company, is the son of Robert L. Moody, the stepson of Ann M. Moody, and the brother of Ross R. Moody and Frances A. Moody-Dahlberg. Ann M. Moody, of Galveston, Texas, a director of the Company, is the wife of Robert L. Moody, sister of E. Douglas McLeod, mother of Frances A. Moody-Dahlberg, and stepmother of Ross R. Moody and Russell S. Moody.

Please read “Compensation Discussion and Analysis” below for information regarding the payments and awards we made to each of the individuals during 2013.



Transactions with Related Persons, Promoters, and Certain Control Persons

Robert L. Moody, Jr. ("Mr. Moody, Jr.") is the son of Robert L. Moody, the Company's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, the stepson of Ann M. Moody, a director of National Western, and is the brother of Ross R. Moody, the Company's President and Chief Operating Officer, and of Russell S. Moody and Frances A. Moody-Dahlberg who serve as directors of National Western. Frances A. Moody-Dahlberg is also an employee of the Company and she received \$12,060 of compensation in 2013 for services as an employee.

Mr. Moody, Jr. wholly owns an insurance marketing organization that maintains agency contracts with National Western pursuant to which agency commissions are paid in accordance with the Company's standard commission schedules. Mr. Moody, Jr. also maintains an independent agent contract with National Western for policies personally sold under which commissions are paid in accordance with standard commission schedules. In 2013, commissions paid under these agency contracts aggregated approximately \$502,000. In his capacity as an insurance marketing organization with the Company, Mr. Moody, Jr. also received marketing consulting fees of \$48,000 and use of a Company vehicle valued at \$33,981 in 2013.

Mr. Moody, Jr. further serves as the agent of record for several of the Company's benefit plans including the self-insured health plan. In 2013, amounts paid to Mr. Moody, Jr. as commissions and service fees pertaining to the Company's benefit plans approximated \$55,500.

Mr. Moody, Jr. is an Advisory Director of a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company. As an Advisory Director, Mr. Moody, Jr. received director fees of \$500 during 2013 and received \$12,412 of Company paid guest travel to attend Company sales conferences and functions.

During 2013, management fees totaling \$916,232 were paid to Regent Management Services, Limited Partnership ("RMS") for services provided to downstream nursing home subsidiaries of National Western. RMS is 1% owned by general partner RCC Management Services, Inc. ("RCC"), and 99% owned by limited partner, Three R Trusts. RCC is 100% owned by the Three R Trusts. The Three R Trusts are four Texas trusts for the benefit of the children of Robert L. Moody (Robert L. Moody, Jr., Ross R. Moody, Russell S. Moody, and Frances A. Moody-Dahlberg). Charles D. Milos, Senior Vice President-Mortgage Loans and Real Estate, and a director of the Company, is a director and President of RCC.

The Company holds a common stock investment totaling approximately 6.5% of the issued and outstanding shares of Moody Bancshares, Inc. at December 31, 2013. Moody Bancshares, Inc. owns 100% of the outstanding shares of Moody Bank Holding Company, Inc., which owns approximately 98% of the outstanding shares of The Moody National Bank of Galveston ("MNB"). The Company utilizes MNB for the Company's general banking services and for certain bank custodian services as well as for certain administrative services with respect to the Company's defined benefit and contribution plans. During 2013, fees totaling \$594,971 were paid to MNB with respect to these services. Effective November 1, 2011, the Company amended a 36 month sublease on one of the Company's leased office locations for \$6,363 per month with Moody National Bank. During 2009, the Company entered into a revolving credit loan agreement with MNB, pursuant to which MNB granted to the Company a revolving line of credit up to the principal amount of \$40,000,000, and executed a Master Repurchase Agreement with MNB providing for the overnight investment of Company cash balances. The revolving credit loan agreement was renewed with MNB during 2013 under the same terms and conditions. Robert L. Moody, the Company's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, serves as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of MNB. The ultimate controlling person of MNB is the Three R Trusts.

During 2013, the Company paid American National Insurance Company ("ANICO") \$175,951 in premiums for certain company sponsored benefit plans and \$1,561,865 in reimbursements for claim costs for which ANICO provides third party administrative services. ANICO paid the Company \$1,756,873 in premiums for its company sponsored benefit plans. One of the Company's subsidiaries, NWL Financial, Inc., maintains an investment management agreement with American National Registered Investment Advisor, Inc., a subsidiary of ANICO, under which NWL Financial, Inc. paid \$26,423.81 in 2013. Robert L. Moody, the Company's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer is also ANICO's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

## Review, Approval, and Ratification of Transactions with Related Persons

In accordance with the Company's Audit Committee Charter, related party transactions must be reviewed and approved by the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors, both at inception and on an ongoing basis. Periodic reports of potential related party transactions are brought to the attention of the Audit Committee by management and the Audit Committee reviews the information on a case by case basis to determine if any transaction is a related party transaction. The standard of review for any related party transaction is that the transaction must be fair to the Company and the transaction must be no more favorable to the related party than a similar arm's length transaction with a non-related party.

While the Company has not adopted written procedures for review of, or written standards for approval of, these transactions, the policies and procedures followed are evidenced by the Audit Committee Charter, memorandums, and documentation of review and approvals.

## INFORMATION RELATING TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CERTAIN COMMITTEES OF OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### The Board of Directors

Our business is managed through the oversight and direction of our Board of Directors. The Board of Directors currently has ten members.

### Meetings of the Board of Directors

During 2013, the Board of Directors held a total of seven meetings. In addition to meetings, the Board of Directors acts by written consent from time to time and did so once during 2013. All of the current directors that were members of the Board of Directors during 2013 attended more than 75% of the meetings. Each such director attended more than 75% of the meetings of the committees of which he is a member that were held during 2013.

### Attendance at Annual Meetings of Shareholders

We encourage but do not require our Board members to attend the annual meeting of shareholders. Eight of the then current members of the Board of Directors attended the 2013 annual meeting of shareholders.

### Board Leadership / Affirmative Determinations Regarding Director Independence

The Company is a "Controlled Company" as defined in NASDAQ Listing Rule 5615(c)(1) and is exempt from the requirement to have a majority of the members of its Board of Directors as independent directors. The Company qualifies as a Controlled Company because more than 50% of the voting power for the election of directors is held by Robert L. Moody.

The Board of Directors does not separate the role of Chairman of the Board from the role of Chief Executive Officer (both of which are held by Robert L. Moody) because it believes that this structure currently provides the most efficient and effective leadership model for the Company. The Company does not have a separate lead director. The Board of Directors has affirmatively determined that each of Messrs. Stephen E. Glasgow, Louis E. Pauls, Jr., and E. J. Pederson are "independent directors" as such term is defined in NASDAQ Listing Rule 5605(a)(2). These independent directors met in executive session on two separate occasions during 2013.

If all nominees are elected at the Annual Meeting, Stephen E. Glasgow, Louis E. Pauls, Jr., and E. J. Pederson will be the sole members of the compensation and stock option and audit committees. The Board of Directors has also affirmatively determined that each such member of these committees satisfies the independence requirements applicable to audit and compensation committees as prescribed by the NASDAQ Listing Rules and the rules and regulations of the SEC. Robert L. Moody, Ross R. Moody, and Charles D. Milos are not “independent directors” because they are our Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, President and Chief Operating Officer, and Senior Vice President - Mortgage Loans and Real Estate, respectively. Ann M. Moody, Frances A. Moody-Dahlberg, Russell S. Moody, and E. Douglas McLeod are not “independent directors” because they are Family Members, as defined by NASDAQ Listing Rule 5605(a)(2), of an individual who is employed by the Company as an Executive Officer.

## Risk Management

Similar to other insurers, the Company is exposed to a wide spectrum of financial, operational, and other risks. Effective enterprise risk management is a key concern for identifying, monitoring, measuring, communicating, and managing risks within limits and risk tolerances. The Company's Board of Directors and senior management are knowledgeable of and accountable for key risks. The Board meets at least every other month and regularly hears reports from the President and Chief Operating Officer, the Chief Financial Officer, the Chief Actuary, the Chief Investment Officer, and the Senior Vice President - Secretary. In addition, the Board has several committees which include the Audit Committee, the Investment Committee, and the Compensation and Stock Option Committee that regularly convene to address various aspects of risk.

The Company maintains several management groups and committees that meet regularly to monitor, discuss, and manage a variety of issues and risks associated with the business. These groups and committees include numerous areas such as regulatory compliance, financial reporting process and controls, fraud unit investigations, product spread management, and business strategy. Key members of senior management are involved with these groups and committees providing direction and oversight and serve as a reporting liaison with the Company's Board of Directors and sub-committees.

## Committees of the Board of Directors

Our Board of Directors has the following standing, separately-designated committees: (i) an Executive Committee, (ii) an Audit Committee; (iii) an Investment Committee, and (iv) a Compensation and Stock Option Committee. Information regarding each of the committees is set forth below.

### Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors may exercise all of the authority of the Board of Directors in the management of the business and affairs of the corporation, except where action of some or all members of the Board of Directors is required by statute, the Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws, resolution of the Board, or the requirements of the NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc. The Chairman of the Board serves as Chairman of the Executive Committee. Robert L. Moody, Ross R. Moody, and Charles D. Milos are members of the Executive Committee and Robert L. Moody, as Chairman of the Board, serves as Chairman of the Executive Committee. During 2013, the Executive Committee held five meetings.

### Audit Committee

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors consists of three non-employee directors. Pursuant to the NASDAQ Listing Rules and federal securities laws, all of the members of the Audit Committee are independent. The committee is primarily responsible for oversight of the Company's financial statements and controls; assessing and ensuring the independence, qualifications, and performance of the independent auditors; appointing and retaining the independent auditors; approving the independent auditor's services and fees; reviewing and approving all related party transactions; reviewing potential conflict of interest situations where appropriate; overseeing and directing internal audit activities; reviewing the Company's financial risk assessment process and ethical, legal, and regulatory compliance programs; and reviewing and approving the annual audited financial statements for the Company before issuance. Stephen E. Glasgow, Louis E. Pauls, Jr. and E. J. Pederson are members of the Audit Committee. Louis E. Pauls, Jr. serves as Chairman of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee Charter is available in the Financial Information section on the Company's website at [www.nationalwesternlife.com](http://www.nationalwesternlife.com). During 2013, the Audit Committee held 11 meetings.

The Board of Directors has determined that Mr. E. J. Pederson is an "Audit Committee Financial Expert" as defined by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and as noted above Mr. Pederson is an independent director. Additionally, both Mr. Glasgow and Mr. Pauls are financially literate and are able to read and understand financial statements, including a company's balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement.

#### Investment Committee

The Investment Committee of the Board of Directors is comprised of three directors (and one Company officer) and has the responsibility for oversight of the Company's investment transactions including compliance with investment guidelines approved by the full Board of Directors. Robert L. Moody, Ross R. Moody, Charles D. Milos, and Patricia L. Scheuer are members of the Investment Committee. Robert L. Moody, as Chairman of the Board serves as Chairman of the Investment Committee. The Investment Committee held 12 meetings during 2013.

## Compensation and Stock Option Committee

The Compensation and Stock Option Committee (“Compensation Committee”) of the Board of Directors consists of three independent, outside directors and the committee has oversight responsibility for the compensation programs for the Company’s named executive officers as well as all other officers. Stephen E. Glasgow, Louis E. Pauls, Jr., and E. J. Pederson serve as members of the Compensation Committee and E. J. Pederson serves as Chairman of the Committee. The Compensation Committee’s report on executive compensation is included under the heading “Compensation Committee Report,” below. The Compensation Committee, which held three meetings and acted once via unanimous written consent during 2013, does not have a charter.

## DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS

The Company is a “Controlled Company” as defined in NASDAQ Listing Rule 5615(c)(1) and is exempt from the requirement that its independent directors oversee the director nomination process. Therefore, the Company’s Board of Directors in aggregate oversees the director nomination process.

In evaluating potential director candidates, the Board of Directors considers the appropriate balance of experience, skills, and characteristics required of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors selects director nominees based on their personal and professional integrity, depth and breadth of experience, ability to make independent analytical inquiries, understanding of and familiarity with our business, willingness to devote adequate attention and time to duties of the Board of Directors, and such other criteria as is deemed relevant by the Board of Directors. The Company’s Board of Directors believes that the backgrounds and qualifications of the directors, considered as a group, should provide a diverse mix of experience, knowledge, viewpoints, and skills. The Board of Directors considers the effectiveness of this policy and the effectiveness of the Board of Directors generally in the course of nominating directors for election.

In identifying potential director candidates, the Board of Directors relies on recommendations made by current directors and officers. In addition, the Board of Directors may engage a third party search firm to identify and recommend potential candidates. Finally, the Board of Directors will consider candidates recommended by shareholders.

Any shareholder wishing to recommend a director candidate for consideration by the Board of Directors in connection with the 2015 annual meeting of shareholders must provide written notice not later than January 5, 2015 to the Corporate Secretary at our principal executive offices located at 850 East Anderson Lane, Austin, Texas 78752. Any such notice should clearly indicate that it is a recommendation of a director candidate by a shareholder and must set forth (i) the name, age, business address, and residence address of the recommended candidate, (ii) the principal occupation or employment of such recommended candidate, (iii) the class and number of shares of the corporation which are beneficially owned by such recommended candidate, (iv) a description of all understandings or arrangements between the shareholder and the recommended candidate and any other person or persons pursuant to which the recommendations are to be made by the shareholder, and (v) any other information relating to such recommended candidate that is required to be disclosed in solicitations of proxies for the election of directors. In addition, such notice must contain (i) a representation that the shareholder is a holder of record of stock of the corporation entitled to vote at such meeting, (ii) the name and address, as they appear on the corporation’s books, of the shareholder proposing such nomination, (iii) the class and number of shares of the corporation that are beneficially owned by such shareholder, (iv) any material interest of the shareholder in such recommendation, and (v) any other information that is required to be provided by the shareholder pursuant to Regulation 14A under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, in such shareholder’s capacity as proponent of a shareholder proposal. Assuming that a shareholder recommendation contains the information required above, the Board of Directors will evaluate a candidate recommended by a shareholder by following substantially the same process, and applying substantially the

same criteria, as for candidates identified through other sources.

## DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

### National Western Director Nominees

Each candidate for director (whether or not recommended by a shareholder) must possess at least the following minimum qualifications:

• Each candidate shall be prepared to represent the best interests of all of our shareholders and not just one particular constituency.

• Each candidate shall be an individual who has demonstrated integrity, honesty, and ethics in his or her professional life.

• Each candidate shall be prepared to participate fully in Board of Director activities, including attendance at, and active participation in, meetings of the Board of Directors and the committees of which he or she is a member, and not have any other personal or professional commitments that would, in the Board of Directors' sole judgment, interfere with or limit his or her ability to do so.



Each candidate shall possess a general appreciation for the issues confronting a public company of our size and operational scope, including corporate governance concerns, the regulatory obligations of a public company, strategic business planning, competition in a global business economy, and basic concepts of corporate finance.

Each candidate shall be free of any legal or regulatory impediment to service on the Board of Directors.

In addition, the Board of Directors also considers it desirable that candidates possess the following qualities or skills:

Each candidate should have knowledge of insurance company regulations or of regulated industries in general, and be able to meet any specific qualifications imposed by regulators on insurance company executives and directors.

Each candidate should contribute to the Board of Director's overall diversity – diversity being broadly construed to mean a variety of opinions, perspectives, personal and professional experiences and backgrounds, such as gender, race, and ethnicity differences, as well as other differentiating characteristics.

- Each candidate should contribute positively to the existing chemistry and collaborative culture among board members.
- Each candidate should possess strategic contacts and involvement in business and civic affairs.

## COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shareholders may communicate with the Board of Directors or with specified individual directors by sending a letter to our Secretary at the following address: National Western Life Insurance Company, 850 East Anderson Lane, Austin, Texas 78752-1602.

Any such communication must contain (i) a representation that the shareholder is a holder of record of stock of the Company, (ii) the name and address, as they appear on the Company's books, of the shareholder sending such communication, and (iii) the class and number of shares of the Company that are beneficially owned by such shareholder. The Corporate Secretary will forward such communications to the Board of Directors or the specified individual director to whom the communication is directed unless such communication is deemed unduly hostile, threatening, illegal, or similarly inappropriate, in which case the Corporate Secretary has the authority to discard the communication or to take appropriate legal action regarding such communication.

## CODE OF ETHICS

The Company has adopted a Code of Ethics and Conduct for all directors, officers, and employees. This Code is intended to comply with the requirement of the Federal Securities laws and the requirements of NASDAQ. The Code of Ethics and Conduct has been posted to the Company's website at [www.nationalwesternlife.com](http://www.nationalwesternlife.com). We may satisfy the disclosure requirement under Item 5.05 of Form 8-K regarding an amendment to, or a waiver from, a provision of our Code of Ethics and Conduct that applies to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer, or controller, or persons performing similar functions, by posting such information on our website where it is accessible through the same link noted above.

## COMPENSATION AND STOCK OPTION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION

In 2013, Stephen E. Glasgow, Louis E. Pauls, Jr., and E. J. Pederson served as members of our Compensation Committee. None of the members of our Compensation Committee is currently, or has been at any time since our formation, one of our officers or employees.

None of the Company's executive officers serve as a member of the compensation committee of any company that has an executive officer serving on the Company's Board of Directors. In addition, none of the Company's executive officers serve as a member of the board of directors of any company that has an executive officer serving as a member of the Company's compensation and stock option committee.



## Compensation Discussion and Analysis

### Purpose

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis (CD&A) is intended to explain to shareholders how the Company's compensation program is designed and how it operates with respect to our Named Executive Officers, or NEOs, (CEO, CFO, and the Company's three other most highly paid executives in 2013). It first describes our executive compensation philosophy and how we design our compensation program, with a discussion focusing on the main elements. We then detail and analyze the resultant compensation of our Named Executive Officers.

The Compensation Committee is appointed by and serves at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The Compensation Committee consists of three members who meet the independence requirements of the listing standards of NASDAQ. The purpose of the Compensation Committee is to discharge the Board of Directors' responsibilities for reviewing and establishing the compensation not just for the NEOs but for all of the Company's officers. These compensation elements include base salary, annual incentive bonuses, discretionary bonuses and awards, stock option and stock appreciation right grants, and any other officer compensation arrangements. The Committee annually reviews and evaluates the executive compensation program to ensure that the program is aligned with the Company's compensation philosophy and performance.

To assist the Compensation Committee with its responsibilities, it is supported by the Company's Human Resources, Legal, and Financial departments. The Compensation Committee may retain, and has retained, independent compensation consultants who report directly to the members of the Compensation Committee. Meetings of the Compensation Committee are scheduled during the year with additional meetings on an as-necessary interim basis and include sessions without members of management present. The Compensation Committee reports to the Board of Directors on its actions and recommendations.

The Compensation Committee also considers the advice of Mr. Ross R. Moody, our President and Chief Operating Officer, concerning executive officers and key employees other than himself and Mr. Robert L. Moody. Specifically, Mr. Ross R. Moody annually reviews the performance of key employees and each executive officer other than himself and Mr. Robert L. Moody. The conclusions reached and recommendations based on these reviews, including with respect to salary adjustments and annual award amounts, are presented to the Compensation Committee. The Board of Directors and the Compensation Committee exercise their discretion in setting compensation or in modifying any recommended adjustments or awards to executives.

### Compensation Philosophy and Objectives

The Company's overall philosophy in setting compensation policies is to align pay with performance while at the same time providing a competitive compensation that allows the Company to retain and attract talented individuals. Within this overall philosophy, the Compensation Committee has adopted several key principles to help guide compensation decisions for executive officers:

- Provide a competitive total compensation package so the Company can attract, retain, and motivate talented individuals;
- Tie compensation in part to overall Company financial performance through variable bonus awards so that executives are held accountable through their compensation for the performance of the business thus maintaining a certain amount of compensation at risk;
- Tie compensation in part to the Company's stock performance through stock options and stock appreciation rights to align executives' interests with those of the Company's shareholders; and
-

Maintain a committee of the Board of Directors independent of senior management that may engage independent compensation consultants as needed to review and establish compensation for executive officers.

Based upon our review of the executive compensation arrangements as detailed in the following sections, the Compensation Committee believes that the compensation program does not encourage executives to take unreasonable risks that may harm shareholder value. This is achieved by striking an appropriate balance between short-term and long-term incentives, using a diversity of metrics to assess performance under our incentive programs, placing caps on our incentive award payout opportunities, and using long-term incentives following equity practices that limit the potential for timing awards.

#### Elements of Executive Compensation

Officer compensation arrangements, including executive officers, are reviewed and approved annually by the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee focuses primarily on the following components in forming the total compensation package for each Company executive officer:

- Base salary;
- Annual cash incentive bonus based on Company performance versus predetermined targets;
- Discretionary cash bonus based upon individual performance; and
- Long-term incentive compensation in the form of stock options and stock appreciation rights.

The mix of executive compensation elements is based upon a philosophy of correlating a portion of executive compensation with the Company's financial results and stock performance thus putting a segment of executive officer annual and long-term compensation at-risk. This structure provides upside potential and downside risk for senior executive positions in recognition that these roles have greater influence on the Company's performance. The Compensation Committee believes that these factors, together with a balance of cash and equity awards, and short-term and long-term incentives, help ensure that our compensation program does not create risks that are reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company.

#### Compensation Consultant; Peer Group

To ensure that compensation levels are reasonably competitive with market rates, the Compensation Committee engages independent compensation consultants from time-to-time to conduct a survey of executive compensation in a defined group of companies comparable to the Company. The surveyed companies are selected based on similar products and product lines, comparable financial size in terms of assets and revenues, and other known competitive factors. Elements of this process were most recently completed during calendar years 2010 and 2008. The primary focus of the 2010 survey conducted by Frederic W. Cook & Company, Inc. was upon incentive compensation plan designs while the 2008 survey performed by Towers Perrin was upon base salaries and total compensation data for the various officer positions and levels in order to target current and future appropriate compensation levels. The Compensation Committee's past practice has been to generally target base salaries between the 25<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentile range of the identified peer group.

For the most recent survey, the Company engaged independent compensation consultants, Frederic W. Cook & Company, Inc., to analyze the Company's incentive compensation programs for officers relative to other public insurance companies considered comparable. Companies included as benchmarks for this analysis included American Equity Investment Life, Citizens Insurance Company, CNO Financial, Delphi Financial, FBL Financial Group, Kansas City Life Insurance, Lincoln National, Presidential Life, Protective Life, Stancorp Financial, and Torchmark, among others. The findings of this survey were incorporated into the Company's various incentive compensation programs for officers for calendar years 2012, 2013, and 2014.

In addition to market information, the Compensation Committee also subjectively reviews and evaluates the level of performance of the Company and of each officer. In approving salary and incentive compensation for individuals other than the Chief Executive Officer and the President and Chief Operating Officer, the Compensation Committee considers recommendations from these two individuals concerning the other Company officers incorporating such factors as individual performance, the scope and complexity of their current responsibilities, length of time in their current positions, value of the executive's position to the market, and difficulty of replacement of the officer. This evaluation focuses most heavily on the base salary levels for each officer.

#### Annual Incentive Compensation

For executive officer positions, the Compensation Committee has determined that annual incentive bonuses are an integral part of the executive's compensation package as the cash bonuses create a direct link between executive compensation and individual and business performance. Consequently, there are four bonus programs in effect which are reviewed and approved annually by the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee has approved incentive bonus programs for 2014 incorporating the survey results mentioned previously. The 2013 Bonus Programs

were as follows:

- Executive Officer Bonus Program
- Domestic Marketing Officer Bonus Program
- International Marketing Officer Bonus Program
- Officer Bonus Program

Executive Officer Bonus Program. The participants in the Executive Officer Bonus Program (“Executive Bonus”) are the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (Mr. Robert L. Moody) and the President and Chief Operating Officer (Mr. Ross R. Moody). In order to tie the compensation under the program with the Company’s financial performance, the Executive Bonus includes metrics associated with the Company’s annual sales performance, expense management, and profitability. In accordance with the program, the Compensation Committee set performance targets for each metric at various levels equating to various bonus level percentages as follows:

Financial Performance Metric	Bonus % Range*
Sales	0% to 28.5%
Expense Management	0% to 27.5%
Profitability	0% to 38%

\*Max aggregate bonus is 75% of the participant's base salary.

The sum of the achieved bonus percentages for each metric, subject to a maximum aggregate percentage of 75%, is applied to the base salary approved by the Compensation Committee for each participant to determine the earned bonus amount. The profitability metric is based upon the Company's audited financial statements for the year. Bonus awards are generally paid in the year following the annual financial performance concurrent with the completion of the Company's audit of the year-end financial statements and approval of the award amounts by the Compensation Committee. Accordingly, the Executive Bonus payments made in 2013 were based upon the results achieved for 2012 financial performance metrics established by the Compensation Committee and the Executive Bonus payments earned based on 2013 financial performance were paid in March 2014. The bonus percentage achieved under the program was 69.5% and 64.0% in 2013 and 2012 of the participant's base salary, respectively. The 2013 bonus percentage achieved was comprised of 23.5% for Sales, 20.0% for Expense Management, and 26.0% for Profitability as shown in the following table.

Financial Performance Metric	Target Level	Achieved Level	Bonus %	
Annuity Sales	\$800.0 million	\$805.5 million	7.50	%
International Life Sales	\$26.0 million	\$24.8 million	6.50	%
Domestic Life Sales	\$13.5 million	\$19.4 million	9.50	%
Total Sales Metric			23.50	%
Expense Management	100% actual/target	107.2% actual/target	20.00	%
Profitability	0.95 - 1.10% ROA	0.889% ROA	26.00	%
Total Bonus Percentage			69.50	%

For information regarding awards made in 2013 to our Named Executive Officers, see the Summary Compensation Table on page 25.

**Domestic Marketing Officer Bonus Program.** Participants in the Domestic Marketing Officer Bonus Program ("Domestic Bonus") are all domestic marketing officers including assistant vice presidents, vice presidents, and the senior vice president (Mr. S. Christopher Johnson). As these individuals are most able to influence the outcome of the Company's financial performance in terms of sales, the program is heavily weighted toward this metric. The measures associated with this program include the Company's annual sales performance, persistency of policies sold, and expense management. These measures were incorporated into the program to award not only the amount of sales but the quality of sales and the management of the costs incurred to acquire the business sold. Unlike the Executive Bonus, the Domestic Bonus metrics assume a targeted level of performance or "par" level to which the Compensation Committee assigned a targeted bonus percentage in order to reflect a disproportionate weighting of the potential bonus award toward the sales metric. If the targeted par level for each metric is attained, the sum of the metrics is equal to a bonus percentage of 100% which is applied to the average weighted base salary of each vice president and senior vice president participant while one-half, or 50%, is applied to the average weighted base salary of each assistant vice president participant as approved by the Compensation Committee. The performance metrics set by the Compensation Committee equating to various bonus level percentages under the program are as follows:

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Financial Performance Metric	Par Bonus Level	Bonus % Range
Sales	75%	0% to no limit
Persistency	15%	0% to 30%
Expense Management	10%	0% to 22.5%

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The Domestic Bonus also differs from the Executive Bonus in that the composite bonus percentage is not subject to a cap and bonus amounts may be advanced quarterly based upon the year-to-date results achieved. Life insurance sales metric amounts under the program above the par level increase incrementally with an additional bonus percentage added for every increment of additional life insurance sales established by the Compensation Committee (annuity sales are subject to a cap). However, if the aggregate sum of the three performance metrics exceeds 100%, the bonus award paid at the end of the calendar year is limited to 100% for each participant. The bonus percentage above 100% is applied to the weighted average base salaries of all participants to create a pool which is paid out to participants in the subsequent calendar year based upon the recommendation of the Domestic Marketing senior vice president and subject to approval by the President and Chief Operating Officer. The Domestic Bonus percentage achieved under the program was 137.0% and 158.5% in 2013 and 2012, respectively. The 2013 bonus percentage achieved was comprised of 109.5% for Sales, 22.5% for Persistency, and 5.0% for Expense Management as shown in the following table.

Financial Performance Metric	Target Level	Achieved Level	Bonus %	
Annuity Sales	\$800.0 million	\$805.5 million	30.00	%
Domestic Life Sales	\$13.5 million	\$19.4 million	79.00	%
Total Sales Metric			119.50	%
Annuity Persistency	100.0%	100.8	% 7.50	%
Domestic Life Persistency	100.0%	116.1	% 15.00	%
Total Persistency Metric			22.50	%
Expense Management	100% actual/target	108.2% actual/target	5.00	%
Total Bonus Percentage			137.00	%

For information regarding awards made in 2013 to our Named Executive Officers, see the Summary Compensation Table on page 25.

International Marketing Officer Bonus Program. Participants in the International Marketing Officer Bonus Program (“International Bonus”) are all international marketing officers including assistant vice presidents, vice presidents, and the senior vice president. The International Bonus is identical in format to the Domestic Bonus with the exception that the metric targets established by the Compensation Committee are customized for the differences between the domestic and international lines of business. The performance metrics set by the Compensation Committee equating to various bonus level percentages under the program are as follows:

Financial Performance Metric	Par Bonus Level	Bonus % Range
Sales	75%	0% to no limit
Persistency	15%	0% to 30%
Expense Management	10%	0% to 22.5%

All other features are similarly administrated. The International Bonus percentage achieved under the program was 82.5% and 33.5% in 2013 and 2012, respectively. The 2013 bonus percentage achieved was comprised of 65.0% for Sales, 15.0% for Persistency, and 2.5% for Expense Management as shown in the following table.

Financial Performance Metric	Target Level	Achieved Level	Bonus %	
International Life Sales	\$26.0 million	\$24.8 million	65.00	%
Persistency	100.0%	101.9	% 15.00	%
Expense Management	100% actual/target	105.2% actual/target	2.50	%

Total Bonus Percentage	82.50	%
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Officer Bonus Program. Participants in the Officer Bonus Program (“Officer Bonus”) are all officers not otherwise included in any of the other three officer bonus programs and include the Named Executive Officer positions of Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer (Mr. Brian Pribyl), and Senior Vice President, Mortgage Loans and Real Estate (Mr. Charles Milos). The Officer Bonus is essentially comparable to the Executive Bonus, except for the bonus award percentages, incorporating three measurable performance metrics associated with the Company’s annual sales performance, expense management, and profitability. Bonus award percentages for vice presidents in the Plan are one-half of the percentages for senior vice presidents while bonus award percentages for assistant vice presidents are one-quarter of the senior vice president bonus percentages. In accordance with the program, the Compensation Committee set performance targets for each metric at various levels equating to various bonus level percentages as follows (senior vice president percentages shown):

Financial Performance Metric	Bonus % Range
Sales	0% to 9.0%
Expense Management	0% to 10.0%
Profitability	0% to 21.0%

The sum of the achieved bonus percentages for each metric, subject to a maximum aggregate percentage of 30%, 15% and 7.5% for senior vice presidents, vice presidents, and assistant vice presidents, respectively, is applied to the base salary for each participant approved by the Compensation Committee to determine the earned bonus amount. Like the Executive Bonus, the profitability metric is based upon the Company’s audited financial statements for the year. Bonus awards are generally paid in the year following the annual financial performance concurrent with the completion of the Company’s audit of the year-end financial statements and approval of the award amounts by the Compensation Committee. Accordingly, the Senior Vice President Bonus payments in 2013 were primarily based upon the results achieved for 2012 financial performance metrics established by the Compensation Committee. The bonus percentage for senior vice presidents achieved under the program was 26.00% and 24.00% in 2013 and 2012, respectively. The 2013 senior vice president bonus percentage achieved is comprised of 7.75% for Sales, 6.25% for Expense Management, and 12.00% for Profitability as shown in the following table.

Financial Performance Metric	Target Level	Achieved Level	Bonus %	
Annuity Sales	\$800.0 million	\$805.5 million	2.50	%
International Life Sales	\$26.0 million	\$24.8 million	2.25	%
Domestic Life Sales	\$13.5 million	\$19.4 million	3.00	%
Total Sales Metric			7.75	%
Expense Management	100% actual/target	107.2% actual/target	6.25	%
Profitability	0.95 - 1.10% ROA	0.889% ROA	12.00	%
Total Bonus Percentage			26.00	%

For information regarding awards made in 2013 to our Named Executive Officers, see the Summary Compensation Table on page 25.

#### Discretionary Bonus Awards

The Compensation Committee considers from time-to-time circumstances which merit the need to recognize outstanding performance in the form of a discretionary bonus. Although many of these situations may be deemed within the normal responsibilities of officers, the Compensation Committee on occasion may provide one-time recognition bonuses to identified officers where the demands of the situation and the results of the effort warrant such recognition. There were no discretionary bonuses awarded in 2013.



### Long-Term Incentive Compensation

Under the Company's 1995 Stock and Incentive Plan and 2008 Incentive Plan, the Compensation Committee provides Company officers with long-term incentive awards through grants of stock options or stock appreciation rights ("SARs") directly aligning the interest of the officers with shareholder interests. The stock options and SARs have a graded five-year vesting period that begins on the third anniversary date of the grant in order to promote a long-term perspective and to encourage key employees to remain at the Company. All options and SARs to date have been granted at the fair market value of the Company's Class A Stock on the date of the grant. The Compensation Committee believes that stock options and SARs are inherently performance-based and a form of at-risk compensation since the recipient does not benefit unless the Company's common stock price subsequently rises.

The Compensation Committee is responsible for determining the recipients of the grants, when the grants should be made, and the number of shares to be granted. The size of the awards generally reflect each officer's position relative to other officers in the Company with consideration to total compensation targets obtained from the peer group information previously discussed. In addition, as is the case with base salaries, the Compensation Committee considers the grant recommendations of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and the President and Chief Operating Officer for other Company officers.

The Compensation Committee may consider granting stock options at any time but generally coordinates the issuance of grants concurrent with its annual review of officer compensation. In December 2013 the Compensation Committee approved the issuance of 28,500 SARs to selected officers. Included in these grant awards were the following SARs amounts to named executive officers.

	Grant 12/11/13
Robert L. Moody	7,500
Ross R. Moody	5,000
Brian M. Pribyl	1,000
S. Christopher Johnson	1,000
Charles D. Milos	1,000

As noted above, the Compensation Committee determines the timing of awards, the recipients, and the number of option shares or SARs to be granted to each participant. The general practice of the Compensation Committee has been to make grant awards every two to four years. Prior to 2013, the four previous grant awards were made in April 2004, April 2008, February 2009, and December 2011. The Compensation Committee approved at its December 11, 2013 committee meeting a grant award with a strike price of \$210.22, representing the market closing value of the Company's Class A common shares that day.

The Compensation Committee has followed a practice of allocating grant awards based upon the level of the officer receiving the award with each officer level receiving an identified proportionate share. Historically, the Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer has been allotted 25% to 35% of the total grant award and the President and Chief Operating Officer 15% to 25% of the total grant. Officers at the senior vice president level receive the same number of grant awards while officers at the vice president and assistant vice president levels receive the same number of grant awards, respectively, although at a lesser amount than that of the senior vice presidents.

Retirement and Other Benefits

The Company's executive officers are eligible to participate in the health and welfare, 401(k), and defined benefit retirement benefit plans that are offered to other Company employees (the Company's qualified defined benefit pension plan was frozen as of December 31, 2007). In addition, if eligible, executive officers may participate in the following plans:

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#### Group Excess Benefit Plan

Company officers at the senior vice president level and above, including named executive officers, as well as those hired or promoted to the vice president level prior to May 1, 2007, are eligible to participate in a group excess benefit plan which supplements the Company's core medical insurance plan. Administered by a third party insurer, the group excess benefit plan provides coverage for co-pays, deductibles, and other out-of-pocket expenses not covered by the core medical insurance plan. Offering such a plan to the selected Company officer levels is viewed as a key component of the overall compensation strategy for attracting and retaining talented executive officers. The benefits provided to each named executive officer are reported in the "All Other Compensation Column" of the Summary Compensation Table.

#### Non-Qualified Defined Benefit Plan

This plan covers those officers of the Company who were in a senior vice president position or above prior to 1991. The plan provides retirement benefits to those individuals affected by the revisions to the Company's qualified defined benefit pension plan precipitated by the limitations imposed by Internal Revenue Code Section 401(a)(17) and 415. As of December 31, 2013 and 2012, the active officers participating in this plan were Mr. Robert L. Moody and Mr. Charles Milos. Benefits associated with this plan are disclosed in the Pension Benefits table in the Pension Benefits section.

#### Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Plan

This plan allows Company senior officers, including named executive officers, to defer payment of a percentage of their compensation and to provide for up to a 2% matching and 2% profit sharing contribution on plan compensation that exceeds certain qualified plan limits, and additional Company discretionary matching contribution of up to 2% of plan compensation. Company contributions are subject to a vesting schedule based upon each officer's years of service. Benefit information associated with this plan is disclosed in the Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation table below and Company contributions are included in the "All Other Compensation" column in the Summary Compensation Table. Robert L. Moody does not participate in this plan.

#### Non-Qualified Defined Benefit Plan for Robert L. Moody

This plan specifically covers the Company's Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Robert L. Moody, and is intended to supplement the retirement benefits of the Non-Qualified Defined Benefit Plan, mentioned above, that were limited by the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004. Mr. Moody's benefits associated with this plan are disclosed in the Pension Benefits table in the Pension Benefits section.

#### Non-Qualified Defined Benefit Plan for the President of National Western Life Insurance Company

Similar to the immediately preceding plan, this plan specifically covers the Company's President and Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Ross R. Moody, and is intended to provide retirement benefits that comply with the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004. Mr. Moody's benefits associated with this plan are disclosed in the Pension Benefits table in the Pension Benefits section.

#### National Western Life Insurance Company Retirement Bonus Program for Robert L. Moody

This program provides an annual payment to Mr. Robert L. Moody equal to 2% of his compensation and is not correlated in any manner to individual or Company performance. For reporting and disclosure purposes, the payment made in 2013 related to 2012 compensation is included in the "Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation" column of the

Summary Compensation table. The payment earned in 2013 was paid in 2014.

#### Postretirement Benefits

The Company's basic health plan and group excess benefit plan have a provision for individuals serving in the positions of Chairman of the Board or President for seven years or more subsequent to 1980 to continue to receive lifetime health benefits for themselves and their dependents upon retirement. Mr. Robert L. Moody and Mr. Ross R. Moody currently meet this eligibility criteria.

#### Perquisites and Other Personal Benefits

The Compensation Committee periodically reviews executive officer perquisites and other benefits based upon information supplied to it by the Company's Human Resources, Legal, and Financial departments. In addition to base salaries and annual and long-term bonus incentives, the Company provides its executive officers with certain and varying perquisites and benefits.



The perquisites and personal benefits provided to each named executive officer are reported in the “All Other Compensation Column” of the Summary Compensation Table included in this Compensation Discussion and Analysis and are described in further detail in the footnotes to that table.

#### Stock Ownership Guidelines

The Company requires that its directors be shareholders, but the Company does not require its directors or executive officers to own a particular amount of the Company’s common stock and accordingly has not established a set of stock ownership guidelines. The Compensation Committee is satisfied that the long-term incentive compensation offered to directors and officers in the form of stock options and SARs adequately aligns this group’s interest with those of the Company’s shareholders.

#### Employment Agreements

The Company does not utilize employment agreements with its executive officers or other employees. The Company’s practice has been to issue offer letters to executive officer candidates when recruited to their positions. In addition to outlining the executive officer’s responsibilities, each offer letter specifies the beginning base salary and eligibility for any additional compensation programs overseen by the Compensation Committee. Accordingly, the Company does not have any contractual obligations to its executive officers for severance payments in connection with any termination or change-in-control.

#### Financial Restatements

The Compensation Committee has not formally adopted a policy with respect to whether retroactive adjustments to any form of compensation paid under arrangements for executive officers will be made where the prior payment was related to financial results of the Company that are subsequently restated. As this situation has not previously been experienced, the Compensation Committee believes that such an issue is best addressed at the time it occurs and all facts and circumstances surrounding the restatement are known.

#### Tax and Accounting Treatment of Compensation

Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code generally disallows a tax deduction to public corporations for non-performance based compensation over \$1 million paid in any one year to each of the individuals who were, at the end of the year, the corporation’s chief executive officer and the four other most highly compensated executive officers. Except for the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, the levels of non-performance based salary, bonus, and other compensation paid do not typically exceed this level.

The Compensation Committee reserves the right to award compensation to executive officers that may not qualify under Section 162(m) as deductible compensation, however, it will continue to consider all elements of cost to the Company of providing such compensation, including the potential impact, if any, of Section 162(m).

The Company accounts for long-term incentive compensation in the form of stock options and SARs to executive officers under GAAP guidance which requires the Company to estimate and expense each award of equity compensation over the service period of the award. Other accounting guidance requires that cash compensation be recorded as an expense at the time the obligation is accrued.

## Equity Compensation Plan Information at December 31, 2013

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (#) (a)	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (\$) (b)	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a)) (#) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	36,668	229.24	291,000
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	—	—	—
Total	36,668	229.24	291,000

## Compensation Committee Report

The Compensation Committee has reviewed each element of executive officer compensation and believes that the compensation philosophy and practices are designed to serve the best interests of the Company and its shareholders. The Compensation Committee also believes that the compensation of the Company's executive officers is both appropriate and consistent with the objectives set by this committee.

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis set forth with the Company's management. Based on its reviews and discussions, the Compensation Committee approved and recommended to the Company's Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A.

Submitted by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors

E. J. Pederson, Chairman  
 Stephen E. Glasgow  
 Louis E. Pauls, Jr.

This Compensation Committee Report shall not be deemed incorporated by reference by any general statement incorporating by reference this proxy statement into any filing under the Securities Act or under the Exchange Act, except to the extent that National Western specifically incorporates this information by reference, and shall not otherwise be deemed filed under such acts.



## Summary Compensation Table

The following table sets forth all of the compensation awarded to, earned by, or paid to the Company's Named Executive Officers for the years ended December 31, 2013, 2012, and 2011.

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (a)	Option/SAR Awards (b)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation		Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings (e)	All Other Compensation (f)	Total
Robert L. Moody Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer	2013	\$1,847,522	\$739,485	\$1,294,314	(c)	\$(1,855,788)	\$966,253	\$2,991,786
	2012	1,803,821	—	1,165,282		(394,469 )	853,302	3,427,936
	2011	1,768,475	412,535	889,942		2,148,435	864,919	6,084,306
Ross R. Moody President and Chief Operating Officer	2013	811,966	520,536	538,984	(c)	(136,888 )	78,709	1,813,307
	2012	788,367	—	484,192		243,910	80,393	1,596,862
	2011	703,141	295,967	329,022		353,456	93,897	1,775,483
Brian M. Pribyl Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	2013	291,649	87,580	74,854	(d)	(18,689 )	32,988	468,382
	2012	280,843	—	67,399		23,298	63,251	434,791
	2011	279,071	46,160	46,116		33,840	38,113	443,300
Charles D. Milos Senior Vice President, Mortgage Loans and Real Estate	2013	277,649	170,220	63,167	(d)	(22,465 )	43,948	532,519
	2012	268,823	—	56,886		120,146	40,211	486,066
	2011	267,076	87,422	38,923		206,529	44,067	644,017
S. Christopher Johnson	2013	167,471	87,580	272,328	(d)	—	21,093	548,472
	2012	167,471	—	273,372		—	22,568	463,411

Senior Vice President, Chief Marketing Officer	2011	164,187	46,160	270,088	—	19,305	499,740
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Note: Columns with no data have been omitted.

(a) The 2013 amounts in this column include Company and subsidiary Board of Director fees of \$31,200 for Mr. Robert L. Moody, \$3,750 for Mr. Pribyl, \$36,450 for Mr. Ross R. Moody, and \$34,700 for Mr. Milos.

Grant date fair value computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. A discussion of the assumptions (b) underlying the calculations can be found in Note 10 to our Consolidated Financial Statements in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2013.

The amounts for Mr. Robert L. Moody and Mr. Ross R. Moody represent bonuses earned under the 2013 Executive (c) Officer Bonus Program. Also included in Mr. Robert L. Moody's amount is \$31,970 representing the bonus earned under the NWLIC Retirement Bonus Program.

(d) The amount for Mr. Pribyl and Mr. Milos represents the bonus earned under the 2013 Officer Bonus Program. The amount for Mr. Johnson represents the bonus earned under the 2013 Domestic Marketing Officer Bonus Program. The amounts in this column represent the change in the accumulated pension benefit under the Company's qualified defined benefit plan for Mr. Pribyl and the change in the accumulated pension benefit under the Company's (e) qualified and non-qualified defined benefit plans for Messrs. Robert L. Moody, Ross R. Moody, and Charles D. Milos. For a discussion of the assumptions made in the calculation of these amounts, refer to the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements section of the Annual Report on Form 10-K.

(f) The amounts in this column include the items summarized in the following table:

#### All Other Compensation

Name and Principal Position	Year	Company Paid Benefit Premiums (1)	Excess Benefit Claims Paid (2)	Company Contributions To Savings Plans (3)	Company Paid Taxes/ Insurance	Other Perquisites	Total All Other Compensation
Robert L. Moody Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer	2013	\$5,995	\$46,660	\$—	\$871,084 (4)	\$42,514 (5)	\$966,253
	2012	5,578	21,536	—	799,190	26,998	853,302
	2011	5,578	31,169	—	804,245	23,927	864,919
Ross R. Moody President and Chief Operating Officer	2013	5,506	15,832	45,886	—	11,485 (6)	78,709
	2012	5,183	26,505	45,113	—	3,592	80,393
	2011	5,183	46,154	41,160	—	5,755	98,252
Brian M. Pribyl Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	2013	11,304	5,725	15,259	—	700 (7)	32,988
	2012	10,613	39,383	12,555	—	700	63,251
	2011	10,613	12,626	14,174	—	700	38,113
Charles D. Milos Senior Vice President,	2013	11,304	13,453	14,243	—	4,948 (8)	43,948
	2012	10,613	15,680	11,303	—	2,615	40,211

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Mortgage Loans and Real Estate	2011	10,613	17,766	14,288	—	2,615	45,282
S. Christopher Johnson	2013	9,961	1,493	8,939	—	700	(9) 21,093
Senior Vice President, Chief	2012	10,613	3,584	7,671	—	700	22,568
Marketing Officer Marketing	2011	10,613	328	7,664	—	700	19,305

(1) The Company provides its officers additional compensation equivalent to the premiums for health, dental, and accidental death and dismemberment coverage offered to all employees.

- (2) The amounts in this column represent claims paid under the Company's Group Excess Benefit Program.
- (3) The amounts in this column represent Company contributions to the Company's qualified and non-qualified savings plans. The Company's 401(k) plan is available to all employees with the same contribution criteria.  
Mr. Robert L. Moody contributed a life interest in a trust estate to the Company as a capital contribution in 1964. The Company, in turn, issued term policies on the life of Mr. Moody in excess of the amount of the asset
- (4) contributed which excess was assigned to Mr. Moody. The value of the excess amount of insurance was \$510,629 in 2013 and represents additional compensation to Mr. Moody. In addition, the Company reimburses Mr. Moody the applicable taxes associated with this benefit which was \$360,454 in 2013.
- (5) Mr. Robert L. Moody's amounts in this column include \$41,114 for Office of the Chairman expenses and \$1,400 in gifts.
- (6) Mr. Ross R. Moody's amounts in this column include \$9,448 for car expense, \$637 in membership dues, and \$1,400 in officer and director gifts.
- (7) Mr. Pribyl's amounts in this column include \$700 in officer gifts.
- (8) Mr. Milos's amounts in this column include \$3,548 for car expense and \$1,400 in officer and director gifts.
- (9) Mr. Johnson's amounts in this column include \$700 in officer gifts.

#### Grants of Plan-Based Awards

The following table provides information regarding grants under the Company's 2013 Executive Officer Bonus Program, Officer Bonus Program, and Domestic Marketing Officer Bonus Program for the executive officers named in the Summary Compensation Table.

Name	Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards (a)		
	Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (b) (\$)
Robert L. Moody			
2013 Executive Officer Bonus Program:			
International life sales	99,898	136,224	172,551
Domestic life sales	99,898	136,224	172,551
Annuities sales	99,898	136,224	172,551
Expense management	317,856	408,672	499,489
Company profitability	399,591	544,897	690,202
Ross R. Moody			
2013 Executive Officer Bonus Program:			
International life sales	42,653	58,164	73,674
Domestic life sales	42,653	58,164	73,674
Annuities sales	42,653	58,164	73,674
Expense management	135,715	174,491	213,267
Company profitability	170,614	232,655	294,696
Brian M. Pribyl			
2013 Officer Bonus Program:			
International life sales	5,758	7,197	8,637
Domestic life sales	5,758	7,197	8,637
Annuities sales	5,758	7,197	8,637



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Expense management	14,395	21,592	28,790
Company profitability	25,911	43,185	60,459

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Name	Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards (a)		
	Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (b) (\$)
Charles D. Milos			
2013 Officer Bonus Program:			
International life sales	4,859	6,074	7,288
Domestic life sales	4,859	6,074	7,288
Annuities sales	4,859	6,074	7,288
Expense management	12,147	18,221	24,295
Company profitability	21,865	36,442	51,019
S. Christopher Johnson			
2013 Domestic Marketing Officer Bonus Program:			
Domestic life sales	20,934	75,362	No limit
Annuity sales	8,374	50,241	75,362
Domestic life persistency	2,512	12,560	25,121
Annuity persistency	2,512	12,560	25,121
Expense management	4,187	16,747	37,681

Note: Columns with no data have been omitted.

Amounts that have been or are expected to be paid in 2014 pertaining to the 2013 programs are reflected in the (a) Summary Compensation Table. The 2013 program bonus amounts are based upon the base salary reflected in the applicable program addendums.

(b) Although the Executive Officer and Officer Bonus Programs have stated maximums per program component, the aggregate bonus amount cannot exceed 75% and 30%, respectively, of base salaries.

The following table provides information regarding stock appreciation right (SAR) grants awarded during the year ended December 31, 2013 under the Company's 2008 Incentive Plan for the executive officers named in the Summary Compensation Table.

Name	Grant Date	All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying SARs (#)	Exercise or Base Price of SAR Awards (\$)	Grant Date Fair Value of SAR Awards (\$)
Robert L. Moody	12/11/2013	7,500	210.22	656,845
Ross R. Moody	12/11/2013	5,000	210.22	437,896
Brian M. Pribyl	12/11/2013	1,000	210.22	87,580
Charles D. Milos	12/11/2013	1,000	210.22	87,580
S. Christopher Johnson	12/11/2013	1,000	210.22	87,580



## Outstanding Equity Awards at December 31, 2013

The following table provides information regarding outstanding stock options and SARs held by the executive officers named in the Summary Compensation Table as of December 31, 2013.

Name	Option/SAR Awards				
	Number of Securities Underlying Options/SARs Exercisable (#)		Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options/SARs Unexercisable (#)	Option/SAR Exercise Price (\$)	Option/SAR Expiration Date
Robert L. Moody Grants:					
04/18/2008	4,500		3,000	255.13	04/18/2018
06/20/2008 (director)	1,000	*	—	208.05	06/20/2018
02/19/2009 (director)	800		200	114.64	02/19/2019
02/19/2009	3,000		4,500	114.64	02/19/2019
12/14/2011	—		7,500	132.56	12/14/2021
12/14/2011 (director)	400		600	132.56	12/14/2021
12/11/2013	—		7,500	210.22	12/11/2023
12/11/2013 (director)	—		1,000	210.22	12/11/2023
Ross R. Moody Grants:					
04/18/2008	3,312		2,206	255.13	04/18/2018
06/20/2008 (director)	1,000	*	—	208.05	06/20/2018
02/19/2009 (director)	800		200	114.64	02/19/2019
02/19/2009	2,208		3,310	114.64	02/19/2019
12/14/2011	—		5,518	132.56	12/14/2021
12/14/2011 (director)	400		600	132.56	12/14/2021
12/11/2013	—		5,000	210.22	12/11/2023
12/11/2013 (director)	—		1,000	210.22	12/11/2023
Brian M. Pribyl Grants:					
04/18/2008	600		400	255.13	04/18/2018
02/19/2009	400		600	114.64	02/19/2019
12/14/2011	—		1,000	132.56	12/14/2021
12/11/2013	—		1,000	210.22	12/11/2023
Charles D. Milos Grants:					
04/23/2004	2,000	*	—	150.00	04/23/2014
06/25/2004 (director)	1,000	*	—	150.00	06/25/2014
04/18/2008	600		400	255.13	04/18/2018
06/20/2008 (director)	1,000	*	—	208.05	06/20/2018
02/19/2009 (director)	800		200	114.64	02/19/2019
02/19/2009	400		600	114.64	02/19/2019
12/14/2011	—		1,000	132.56	12/14/2021
12/14/2011 (director)	400		600	132.56	12/14/2021
12/11/2013	—		1,000	210.22	12/11/2023

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12/11/2013 (director)	—	1,000	210.22	12/11/2023
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Name	Option/SAR Awards			
	Number of Securities Underlying Options/SARs (#) Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options/SARs (#) Unexercisable	Option/SAR Exercise Price (\$)	Option/SAR Expiration Date
S. Christopher Johnson Grants:				
04/18/2008	600	400	255.13	04/18/2018
02/19/2009	400	600	114.64	02/19/2019
12/14/2011	—	1,000	132.56	12/14/2021
12/11/2013	—	1,000	210.22	12/11/2023

Note: Columns with no data have been omitted.

(\*) - Fully vested.

Officer stock options and SARs vest 20% annually following three full years of service to the Company from the date of grant. Stock options and SARs granted to members of the Board of Directors vest 20% annually following one full year of service to the Company from the date of grant. Accordingly, the unexercisable options and SARs shown in the previous table are scheduled to vest during the following years:

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018 to 2021	Total Unexercisable
<b>Robert L. Moody</b>						
Grants:						
04/18/2008	1,500	1,500	—	—	—	3,000
02/19/2009 (director)	200	—	—	—	—	200
02/19/2009	1,500	1,500	1,500	—	—	4,500
12/14/2011	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	7,500
12/14/2011 (director)	200	200	200	—	—	600
12/11/2013	—	—	1,500	1,500	4,500	7,500
12/11/2013 (director)	200	200	200	200	200	1,000
<b>Ross R. Moody</b>						
Grants:						
04/18/2008	1,103	1,103	—	—	—	2,206
2/19/2009 (director)	200	—	—	—	—	200
02/19/2009	1,104	1,103	1,103	—	—	3,310
12/14/2011	1,104	1,104	1,104	1,103	1,103	5,518
12/14/2011 (director)	200	200	200	—	—	600
12/11/2013	—	—	1,000	1,000	3,000	5,000
12/11/2013 (director)	200	200	200	200	200	1,000
<b>Brian M. Pribyl</b>						
Grants:						
04/18/2008	200	200	—	—	—	400
02/19/2009	200	200	200	—	—	600
12/14/2011	200	200	200	200	200	1,000
12/11/2013	—	—	-200	200	600	1,000

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018 to 2021	Total Unexercisable
Charles D. Milos						
Grants:						
04/18/2008	200	200	—	—	—	400
2/19/2009 (director)	200	—	—	—	—	200
02/19/2009	200	200	200	—	—	600
12/14/2011	200	200	200	200	200	1,000
12/14/2011 (director)	200	200	200	—	—	600
12/11/2013	—	—	200	200	600	1,000
12/11/2013 (director)	200	200	200			