

Unum Group
Form DEF 14A
April 08, 2009
Table of Contents

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

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))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

Unum Group

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

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(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

Table of Contents

Notice of Annual Meeting

and

Proxy Statement

Annual Meeting of Stockholders

Friday, May 22, 2009

2211 Congress Street, Portland, Maine

Table of Contents

April 8, 2009

Unum Group Stockholders:

On behalf of the board of directors and all of the employees of Unum, it is my pleasure to invite you to our 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders on Friday, May 22, 2009. This year's meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time at our corporate offices located at 2211 Congress Street in Portland, Maine.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect four directors for terms expiring in 2012 and ratify Ernst & Young LLP as the company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2009. We will also consider any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote in favor of Items 1 and 2, which are described in the attached Proxy Statement. For more information on attending the Annual Meeting, voting eligibility and how to cast a ballot on these measures, please review the section titled "About the Proxy and Annual Meeting" that begins on page 7.

We are again furnishing proxy materials to stockholders over the Internet, which allows us to lower our costs and reduce the environmental impact of our Annual Meeting. On April 8, 2009, we began mailing to certain stockholders a Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials. The notice contains instructions on accessing our 2009 Proxy Statement and Annual Report from our website, and how you can vote online. Some stockholders have requested or are required by law to receive the Proxy Statement and Annual Report by mail.

Thank you for your support of Unum Group. We look forward to seeing you at our Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Watjen
President and Chief Executive Officer

Unum Group

3

Table of Contents

April 8, 2009

Notice of 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders

Time and Date	10:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Friday, May 22, 2009
Place	Unum Group 2211 Congress Street Portland, Maine 04122
Webcast	An audio webcast of the Annual Meeting will be available on our website at www.unum.com in the Investors area beginning at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on May 22, 2009. The webcast will be archived on the website through June 5, 2009. Information on the website, other than the Proxy Statement and form of proxy, is not a part of our proxy soliciting material.
Items of Business	To elect four members of the Board of Directors, each for a term of three years; To ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2009; and To transact other business that may properly come before the meeting.
Record Date	You can vote if you were a stockholder of record on March 25, 2009.
Proxy Voting	Every stockholder's vote is important. Please complete, sign, date and return your proxy form, or submit your vote and proxy by Internet or telephone.

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Annual Report to Stockholders The Annual Report to Stockholders, including our audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2008, and the proxy card enclosed with this Proxy Statement, are being mailed or provided electronically on or about April 8, 2009, to stockholders of record.

Susan N. Roth

Vice President, Transactions, SEC and Corporate Secretary

Unum Group

5

Table of Contents

Table of Contents

<u>About the Proxy and Annual Meeting</u>	7
<u>Board and Committee Information and Membership</u>	13
<u>Audit Committee Report</u>	18
<u>Corporate Governance</u>	19
<u>Election of Directors</u>	25
<u>Nominees for Election for Terms Expiring in 2012</u>	25
<u>Continuing Directors</u>	27
<u>Security Ownership of Directors and Officers</u>	32
<u>Section 16(A) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance</u>	34
<u>Report of the Human Capital Committee</u>	35
<u>Compensation Discussion and Analysis</u>	36
<u>Executive Summary</u>	36
<u>Compensation Philosophy and Processes</u>	39
<u>Benchmarking and Peer Group Design</u>	41
<u>Elements of Pay</u>	44
<u>Chief Executive Officer Compensation</u>	46
<u>Policies and Practices</u>	67
<u>Post-Employment Compensation</u>	77
<u>2008 Pension Benefits</u>	77
<u>Nonqualified Deferred Compensation</u>	81
<u>Other Post-Employment Payments</u>	83
<u>Terminations Not Related to a Change in Control</u>	87
<u>Terminations Related to a Change in Control</u>	90
<u>General Releases, Waivers and Post Employment Covenants</u>	93
<u>Compensation of Directors</u>	94
<u>Beneficial Ownership of Company Securities</u>	98
<u>Ratification of Selection of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	99
<u>Appendix A</u>	101
<u>Appendix B</u>	102

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

About the Proxy and Annual Meeting

About the Proxy and Annual Meeting

You are receiving these materials in connection with the solicitation of proxies on behalf of the Board of Directors of Unum Group to be voted at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders on Friday, May 22, 2009, or any adjournment or postponement of the Annual Meeting. The materials are being provided by Internet, by e-mail, or by mail if you have requested this method or it is required. This Proxy Statement and form of proxy are first being made available to stockholders on or about April 8, 2009.

The Annual Meeting will take place at 10 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on May 22, 2009, at our corporate offices at 2211 Congress Street, Portland, Maine 04122.

What is included in these materials?

These materials include our Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting and our 2008 Annual Report to stockholders, which includes audited consolidated financial statements. If you received a printed version of these materials by mail, in addition to the above you will also receive a proxy card or voting instruction card for the meeting.

Why did I receive a notice in the mail regarding the Internet availability of proxy materials instead of a full printed set?

This year we are pleased to again be using the Securities and Exchange Commission rule that allows companies to furnish their proxy materials over the Internet. As a result, we are mailing to most of our stockholders a Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials on the Internet instead of a printed set of materials. All stockholders receiving the notice will have the ability to access our materials over the Internet and to request that current or future copies of these materials be sent by mail or e-mail. Instructions on how to access these materials over the Internet or to request a printed copy can be found on the meeting notice, which will also serve as an admission ticket for the Annual Meeting.

How can I get electronic access to the proxy materials?

Instructions on how to access electronic materials are included in the notice regarding the availability of our proxy materials and the proxy card or voting instruction card. These provide information on how to:

View our proxy materials for the Annual Meeting over the Internet; and

Instruct us to send future proxy materials to you electronically by e-mail.

Our proxy materials are also available on our website at www.unum.com in the Investors area under Proxy Materials. Choosing to access your future proxy materials electronically is not only environmentally responsible, but will also reduce the cost of printing and distributing these documents. If you choose to access future proxy materials electronically, you will receive an e-mail with instructions and website links to where those materials are available and to vote by proxy. Your choice to receive proxy materials by e-mail will remain in effect until you change it.

Where are Unum's principal offices located?

Our principal executive offices are located at 1 Fountain Square, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402. Our main telephone number is 423-294-1011.

Table of Contents

About the Proxy and Annual Meeting

2009 Proxy Statement

How can I attend the Annual Meeting?

You will need an admission ticket or proof of ownership of the company's common stock as of March 25, 2009, and valid picture identification (such as a driver's license or passport) to enter the Annual Meeting. If you are a stockholder of record, the Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials will serve as an admission ticket, or if you received a printed set of proxy materials, an admission ticket is attached to your proxy card. Bring either the notice or detach and bring the ticket with you to the meeting.

If your shares are held beneficially in the name of a bank, broker or other holder of record and you plan to attend the meeting, you may present a recent brokerage statement or letter from a bank or broker as an example of proof of ownership. If you arrive at the meeting without an admission ticket, you will be admitted only after we can verify that you are a stockholder.

There will be signs on the corporate campus in Portland, Maine, directing you to parking and the meeting location. Directions to this location are provided in Appendix B of this Proxy Statement and are also available on our website at www.unum.com/directions. No cameras, recording equipment, electronic devices, large bags, briefcases or packages will be permitted in the meeting. For your safety and that of other stockholders, we reserve the right to inspect all personal items prior to admission.

Can I listen to the Annual Meeting on the Internet?

Yes, you can access a live audio webcast of the Annual Meeting on our website at www.unum.com, in the Investors area. To register, access the webcast on the website and provide the information requested. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Friday, May 22, 2009, and be archived on our website through June 5, 2009.

Who can vote at the Annual Meeting?

Holders of the company's common stock at the close of business on March 25, 2009, are entitled to receive this notice and to vote their shares at the Annual Meeting. On that date there were approximately 331,208,574 shares of our common stock outstanding. The common stock is the only class of equity securities entitled to be voted at the meeting. Each share of common stock is entitled to one vote on each matter properly brought before the meeting.

If your shares are registered directly in your name, you are the holder of record and these proxy materials have been sent directly to you by the company.

If you own your shares in a stock brokerage account or through a bank or other holder of record, you are the beneficial owner of shares held in street name. As a result, these proxy materials have been forwarded to you by your broker, bank or other holder of record. As the beneficial owner, you have the right to direct the holder of record how to vote your shares. You must follow the instructions provided to you by the holder of record to have your vote counted.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

About the Proxy and Annual Meeting

How do I vote?

You may cast your vote prior to the Annual Meeting by using one of three methods:

By Internet

If you are a holder of record you may vote by Internet at www.envisionreports.com/unm. Internet voting is available 24 hours a day, although your vote by Internet must be received by 2:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time, May 22, 2009. You will need the control number included on the notice you received regarding the Internet availability of proxy materials or, if you are receiving a printed copy of these materials, on the enclosed proxy card. If you vote by Internet, do not return your proxy card or voting instruction card. If you hold your shares in street name, please refer to the voting instruction card provided to you by your broker, bank or other holder of record for Internet voting instructions.

By telephone

If you are a holder of record, you may vote by calling 800-652-VOTE (8683). If you are receiving a printed copy of these proxy materials, this toll free number is also included on the proxy card. Telephone voting is available 24 hours a day, although your vote by phone must be received by 2:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time, May 22, 2009. You will need the control number included on the notice you received regarding the Internet availability of proxy materials or, if you are receiving a printed copy of these materials, on the enclosed proxy card. If you vote by telephone, do not return your proxy card or voting instruction card. If you hold your shares in street name, please refer to the voting instruction card or notice of Internet availability of proxy materials provided to you by your broker, bank or other holder of record for telephone voting instructions.

By mail

If you are a holder of record and received a printed copy of the proxy materials, complete, sign, and date the proxy card and return it in the accompanying pre-addressed, stamped envelope. Your vote by mail must be received by our tabulator, Computershare Investor Services, at the below address by the close of business on May 21, 2009.

Proxy Services

c/o Computershare Investor Services

P.O. Box 43126

Providence, RI 02940-5138

If you hold your shares in street name and you received a printed copy of the proxy materials, please refer to the voting instruction card provided to you by your broker, bank or other holder of record for mailing instructions.

Note that the Internet and telephone voting procedures are designed to authenticate stockholders' identities, allow stockholders to give their voting instructions and confirm that stockholders' instructions have been recorded properly. We have been advised that the Internet and telephone voting procedures that have been made available to you are consistent with the requirements of applicable law. If you incur usage charges from Internet access providers and telephone companies or any other charges in connection with voting via the Internet or telephone, these charges must be paid by you.

Table of Contents

About the Proxy and Annual Meeting

2009 Proxy Statement

You may also vote in person at the Annual Meeting. If you are a beneficial owner of shares, you must obtain a legal proxy from your broker, bank or other holder of record and present it to the inspectors of election with your ballot to be able to vote at the meeting. If you intend to vote in person, please notify the tellers prior to the beginning of the meeting.

How will votes be counted?

Proxies for shares that have been properly submitted, and not revoked, will be voted at the Annual Meeting in accordance with your instructions. If you vote by proxy card or voting instruction card and sign the card, without indicating how you want your shares to be voted, your shares will be voted in accordance with the following recommendations of the Board of Directors:

FOR election of all the nominees for director; and

FOR ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2009. Directors are elected by a majority of the votes cast at the meeting. For this purpose, our bylaws provide that a majority of the votes cast means the number of votes for a director must exceed 50 percent of the votes cast with respect to that director. Each vote against a director will count as a vote cast with respect to that director, but an abstention will not count as a vote cast with respect to that director and thus will not impact the election of directors. If a director is not elected, our bylaws provide that the director must offer to tender his or her resignation to the Board. The Governance Committee will make a recommendation to the Board whether to accept or reject the resignation, or whether other action should be taken. If the director who tenders his or her resignation is a member of the Governance Committee, that director will not participate in the Governance Committee's recommendation to the Board. The Board will act on the Governance Committee's recommendation and publicly disclose its decisions and the rationale behind it within 90 days from the date of the certification of the election results.

A New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) member broker who holds shares in street name for a customer has the authority to vote on certain items if the broker does not receive instructions from the customer. The NYSE rules permit member brokers who do not receive instructions to vote both on the election of directors and the proposal to ratify the appointment of our independent registered public accounting firm.

Representatives of our transfer agent, Computershare Investor Services, will tabulate the votes and act as inspectors of the election. Proxies that are not signed and returned or otherwise properly submitted, including those not returned by banks, brokers, or other holders of record, will not be counted for quorum or voting purposes.

We will include the voting results from the Annual Meeting in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ending June 30, 2009, which we expect to file with the SEC in August 2009.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

About the Proxy and Annual Meeting

What vote is required to approve a measure?

The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast at the Annual Meeting with respect to each director is required to elect that director to the Board.

The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast by the stockholders represented and entitled to vote at the meeting is required to approve ratification of Ernst & Young LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for 2009.

A quorum is required to transact business at the Annual Meeting and is reached if the holders of at least a majority of the shares entitled to vote are present, either in person or by proxy. Votes at the meeting are cast by stockholders present and by proxy ballots submitted prior to the meeting.

How can I revoke my proxy or change my vote?

If you are a holder of record, you can revoke your proxy before it is exercised by giving written notice of revocation to our Corporate Secretary. An earlier proxy is also revoked by a valid later proxy or later vote by telephone or by the Internet, or by appearing at the meeting and voting by ballot. If you are a beneficial owner of shares, you may submit new voting instructions by contacting your broker, bank or other holder of record. You may also vote in person at the meeting if you obtain a legal proxy from your broker, bank or other holder of record and present it to the inspectors of election with your ballot.

How can I access Unum's Annual Report on Form 10-K on the Internet or obtain a written copy?

You can access our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008, via the Internet by going to the Investors area section of our website at www.unum.com. The 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K is not incorporated into this Proxy Statement and is not considered proxy soliciting material.

With a written request to the following address, or by calling toll-free 800-718-8824, we will provide to each person solicited a free copy of the 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K, including the financial statements and financial statement schedules filed as part of the report.

Susan N. Roth

Office of the Corporate Secretary

Unum Group

1 Fountain Square

Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

Who pays for the cost of this proxy solicitation?

We pay the cost of soliciting proxies from our stockholders. Proxies are solicited by mail and e-mail, and may also be solicited personally or by telephone by our directors, officers and employees. We have also retained the services of Innisfree M&A Incorporated, a proxy soliciting firm, to assist in distributing and soliciting the proxies for the Annual Meeting, and Computershare Investor Services, to provide certain administrative services in connection with distributing the proxies for the meeting. We pay Innisfree a fee of \$15,000 and reasonable out-of-pocket expenses. We also makes appropriate

Unum Group

11

Table of Contents

About the Proxy and Annual Meeting

2009 Proxy Statement

arrangements with brokerage houses, banks and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries, to help solicit proxies from the beneficial owners of shares held of record by such persons.

Will other business be conducted at the Annual Meeting?

At the time this Proxy Statement was printed, there are no other matters that the Board of Directors intends to present, or has reason to believe others will present, at the Annual Meeting. If other matters come before the meeting, the persons named in the accompanying form of proxy will vote in accordance with their best judgment with respect to such matters.

How can stockholders include proposals for presentation at Unum's 2010 Annual Meeting?

SEC rules and our bylaws allow for the submission of proposals by stockholders for presentation at the Annual Meeting, although they also make clear that simply submitting a proposal does not guarantee its inclusion. While it is too late for proposals to be submitted for presentation at this year's meeting, if a stockholder wants to include a proposal in the Proxy Statement and form of proxy for presentation at our 2010 Annual Meeting, the proposal must be received at the below address by December 9, 2009.

Office of the Corporate Secretary

Unum Group

1 Fountain Square

Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

Is Unum householding for stockholders sharing the same address?

The SEC's rules for delivery of proxy materials to stockholders permit us to deliver a single copy of these documents to an address shared by two or more of our stockholders. This method of delivery is called "householding," and its use can significantly reduce the volume of mail you receive. This year, we are delivering only one set of proxy materials to multiple stockholders sharing a single address unless we receive instructions to the contrary from one or more of those stockholders. We will still be required, however, to send you and each other stockholder at your address an individual proxy voting card. If you would like to receive more than one set of proxy materials, copies are available by writing the address below or calling toll-free 800-446-2617:

Computershare Investor Services

P.O. Box 43069

Providence, RI 02940-3069

The same phone number and address may be used to notify us that you wish to receive a separate set of proxy materials in the future, or to request delivery of a single copy of our proxy materials if you are receiving multiple copies.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Board and Committee Information and Membership

Board and Committee Information and Membership

How often does the Board meet?

During 2008, our Board of Directors met eight times. With the exception of Kevin T. Kabat, who joined the Board on June 30, 2008, each incumbent director attended at least 75 percent of the total of full Board and Committee meetings held during the period for which each was a director and/or served on a committee. In addition to executive sessions of the standing committees, the independent directors met seven times in executive session during 2008. Jon S. Fossel, the Chairman of the Board and lead independent director, presides over the executive sessions of the independent directors.

As stated in our Corporate Governance Guidelines, all directors are expected to make every effort to attend the Annual Meeting and meetings of the Board and committees of which they are members. All members of our Board attended the Annual Meeting in 2008.

What are the standing Board committees?

The Board of Directors has five standing committees: Audit, Finance, Governance, Human Capital and Regulatory Compliance. In addition to the duties contained in their respective charters, each committee may be assigned additional tasks by the Board from time to time, and each is charged with reporting its activities to the Board. Each standing committee has a charter, all of which are available free of charge on our website at www.unum.com in the Investors area under Corporate Governance. Copies also are available from the following address or by calling toll-free 800-718-8824.

Office of the Corporate Secretary

Unum Group

1 Fountain Square

Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

Which Board members serve on what committees?

Following is a list of current Board members and the respective committees each serves on. A C means the director is a committee chairperson.

Unum Group

13

Table of Contents

Board and Committee Information and Membership

2009 Proxy Statement

Name	BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEES				Human Capital	Regulatory Compliance
	Term Expires	Audit	Finance	Governance		
E. Michael Caulfield	2010	X	C			
Jon. S. Fossel	2011					
Pamela H. Godwin	2009			X	X	
Ronald E. Goldsberry	2010		X	X		
Kevin T. Kabat	2010		X			X
Thomas Kinser	2009	X			X	
Gloria C. Larson	2011	X				C
A.S. (Pat) MacMillan, Jr.	2009				C	X
Edward J. Muhl	2009				X	X
Michael J. Passarella	2010	C	X			
William J. Ryan	2011		X	C		
Thomas R. Watjen	2011					

Audit Committee

The primary purpose of the Audit Committee is to oversee the company's financial reporting process on behalf of the Board of Directors. Under the charter, the Committee's overall responsibilities include selecting the independent registered public accounting firm, and monitoring and oversight of the:

Integrity of our financial statements;

Effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting;

Legal and regulatory compliance;

Performance and use of our internal audit function and independent auditors;

Code of Business Conduct and Ethics policies and procedures; and

Financial risks, operational risks and any other risks not allocated to another Board committee.

Members as of December 31, 2008, were: Michael J. Passarella (Chair), E. Michael Caulfield, Thomas Kinser and Gloria C. Larson.

The Audit Committee met 11 times during 2008. All members of the Audit Committee are independent according to the NYSE requirements, and as required by SEC rules and regulations, and otherwise satisfy the independence requirements of our Corporate Governance Guidelines. The Board has determined that two members of the Audit Committee, Michael J. Passarella and E. Michael Caulfield, are audit committee financial experts as defined by SEC regulations. Both Mr. Passarella and

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Board and Committee Information and Membership

Mr. Caulfield also have accounting or related financial management expertise within the meaning of the listing standards of the NYSE. All members of the Audit Committee have been determined by the Board to be financially literate as required by the NYSE.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee assists the Board in overseeing risk associated with the company's investments and related financial matters. Oversight of financial risk, however, is the responsibility of the Audit Committee. Under the charter, the Finance Committee's overall responsibilities are to:

Monitor, evaluate and recommend present and future capital and financing plans and capital requirements and opportunities relative to our business;

Develop, adopt, revise, and oversee implementation of and compliance with investment strategies, guidelines and policies;

Review, advise and provide reports with respect to our financial resources and investments to the Board of Directors;

Authorize borrowing by the company;

Review material proposed mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, restructurings, and joint ventures and report to the Board on implications to our financial and capital plans; and

Review, assess and report on the impact of various finance activities on our debt ratings.

Members as of December 31, 2008, were: E. Michael Caulfield (Chair), Ronald E. Goldsberry, Kevin T. Kabat, Michael J. Passarella and William J. Ryan.

The Finance Committee met six times during 2008. All Committee members satisfy the independence requirements of our Corporate Governance Guidelines.

Governance Committee

The Governance Committee has primary responsibility for developing, implementing and overseeing the company's corporate governance policies. Under the charter, the Committee's primary responsibilities are to:

Oversee compliance with our Corporate Governance Guidelines;

Review the criteria for selecting new directors;

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Identify qualified candidates for the Board;

Develop and implement a process for evaluating the Board and its members;

Develop standards for independence of directors; and

Periodically review and make recommendations to the Board regarding membership on Board Committees.

Table of Contents

Board and Committee Information and Membership

2009 Proxy Statement

Members as of December 31, 2008, were: William J. Ryan (Chair), Pamela H. Godwin and Ronald E. Goldsberry.

The Governance Committee met six times during 2008. All members of the Governance Committee are independent according to the NYSE requirements and otherwise satisfy the independence requirements of our Corporate Governance Guidelines.

Human Capital Committee

The Human Capital Committee oversees the company's compensation and benefits. Under the charter, the Committee's primary responsibilities are to review and:

Approve the compensation for the CEO and other senior executives;

Evaluate employee compensation programs;

Oversee compensation regulatory compliance;

Recommend the compensation of directors to the Board;

Recommend any equity-based compensation plan to the Board;

Advise the Board on the Compensation Discussion and Analysis in our Proxy Statement;

Oversee compliance with the NYSE requirement that stockholders approve equity compensation plans; and

Prepare an Annual Report of the Committee for inclusion in our Proxy Statement as required by regulations of the SEC. Members as of December 31, 2008, were: A.S. (Pat) MacMillan, Jr. (Chair), Pamela H. Godwin, Thomas Kinser and Edward J. Muhl.

The Human Capital Committee met five times during 2008. All members of the Committee are independent according to NYSE requirements and otherwise satisfy the independence requirements of our Corporate Governance Guidelines to serve as members of the Committee and are non-employee directors for purposes of Rule 16b-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and outside directors for purposes of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Committee Support

The Executive Compensation group in our corporate human resources department supports the Human Capital Committee. The Committee has engaged Towers, Perrin, Forster & Crosby, Inc. (Towers Perrin) as its independent compensation consultant since 2003 for advice on executive compensation, including the competitiveness of program design and award values. Committee meetings are generally attended by Towers Perrin, which also participates in executive sessions without members of management

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in attendance and communicates with Committee members outside of meetings. Towers Perrin reports directly to the Committee, although the consultants may meet with members of management from time to time on proposals management may make to the Committee. The Committee evaluates the independence of its consultants in accordance with the policy it adopted in February 2009.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Board and Committee Information and Membership

Regulatory Compliance Committee

The Regulatory Compliance Committee has responsibility for overseeing state and federal regulatory matters that arise in connection with our business that are not presently covered as part of the specifically delegated responsibility of one of the other standing Board committees. Under the charter, the Committee's primary responsibilities are to monitor and oversee:

Compliance by the company and its insurance subsidiaries with applicable laws and regulations concerning market conduct and Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended;

Surveys, complaints and other sources of information relating to customer satisfaction with the products and services of the company and its insurance subsidiaries, particularly in claims handling services; and

Continued compliance with the Plan of Corrective Action entered into by our insurance subsidiaries as part of the Regulatory Settlement Agreements under the Multistate Market Conduct Examination (RSA) and the California Settlement Agreement (CSA) (Information with respect to the RSA and CSA is posted on our website at www.unum.com/settlementagreement/).

Members as of December 31, 2008, were: Gloria C. Larson (Chair), Kevin T. Kabat, A.S. (Pat) MacMillan, Jr. and Edward J. Muhl.

The Regulatory Compliance Committee met six times during 2008. All members of the Regulatory Compliance Committee are independent and satisfy the requirements of our Corporate Governance Guidelines.

Unum Group

17

Table of Contents

Audit Committee Report

2009 Proxy Statement

Audit Committee Report

The primary purpose of the Audit Committee is to oversee our financial reporting process on behalf of the Board of Directors and is more fully described in the Committee's charter, which is available on the company's website www.unum.com in the Investors area under Corporate Governance. The charter is also available by writing to the following address or by calling toll-free 800-718-8824.

Office of the Corporate Secretary

Unum Group

1 Fountain Square

Chattanooga, Tennessee, 37402

Management has the primary responsibility for our financial statements and the reporting process, including the establishment and effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting. In fulfilling its oversight responsibilities, the Audit Committee reviewed the audited financial statements with management, including a discussion of the quality, not just the acceptability, of the accounting principles, the reasonableness of significant judgments, and the clarity of disclosures in the financial statements. Our independent registered public accounting firm (independent auditor) is responsible for performing an independent audit of the financial statements and expressing an opinion on whether they conform to generally accepted accounting principles. The firm also is responsible for auditing management's assessment of the effectiveness of financial reporting's internal controls. The auditors report directly to the Committee, which is responsible for the appointment, compensation and oversight of the work performed by the auditors.

The Committee reviewed with the independent auditors their judgments of the quality and acceptability of our accounting principles and other matters required to be discussed with the Committee under generally accepted auditing standards, including Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61 (as amended). The Committee also received the written disclosures and the letter from the independent auditor required by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding the independent auditor's communications with the Committee concerning independence, and discussed with the independent auditor the independent auditor's independence.

The Committee and the company's internal and independent auditors discussed the overall scope and plans for their respective audits. The Committee meets with the internal and independent auditors, with and without management present, to discuss the results of their examinations, their evaluations of the company's internal controls, and the overall quality of the company's financial reporting.

In reliance on the reviews and discussions referred to above, the Committee recommended to the Board of Directors (and the Board approved) that our audited financial statements for 2008 be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Michael J. Passarella, Chair

E. Michael Caulfield

Thomas Kinser

Gloria C. Larson

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Corporate Governance

Corporate Governance

Selection of Nominees for the Board

The Governance Committee considers candidates for Board membership suggested by Board members, management and stockholders. The Committee uses a national executive search firm to help it identify candidates for the Board, obtain information about prospective candidates' backgrounds and experience, determine the candidates' levels of interest in becoming a director of our company, and make arrangements for meetings with prospective candidates. A stockholder who wishes to recommend a prospective nominee for the Board should notify the company's Corporate Secretary in writing at:

Office of the Corporate Secretary

Unum Group

1 Fountain Square

Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

The nominee recommendation should include information required by the company's bylaws regarding stockholder nominations. Those requirements can be found in this document under "Election of Directors - How are nominations for election to the Board made?" or on our website at www.unum.com in the Investors area under Corporate Governance.

Once the Committee has identified a prospective nominee, a decision is made on whether to conduct a full evaluation of the candidate. This decision is based on information provided to the Committee as well as its own knowledge of the prospective candidate. This may be supplemented by information from the search firm assisting the Committee, or by inquiries to the person making the recommendation, or others. The preliminary determination to proceed further is based primarily on the need for additional Board members and the likelihood that the prospective nominee fulfills the Board's requirements. The Committee evaluates the prospective nominee against criteria in the company's Corporate Governance Guidelines, which include:

Evidence of high ethical conduct, integrity, sound judgment and accountability for one's decisions and actions;

Current knowledge and experience that fulfill skills needed on the Board;

A willingness to commit time to the Board in order to fulfill its responsibilities;

A fit with other directors to build a Board that is effective and responsive to the needs of the company;

Embracing a diversity of viewpoints, gender, ethnic background, age, professional experience and other demographics;
and

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Fulfillment of the requirements of independence if the person is being considered for a position as an independent director.

Unum Group

19

Table of Contents

Corporate Governance

2009 Proxy Statement

The Committee also considers the number of other public company boards and audit committees on which a prospective nominee serves. The Corporate Governance Guidelines limit the number of public company boards on which a director of the company serves to no more than three in addition to Unum's Board. The Corporate Governance Guidelines further limit members of the Audit Committee of the Board to serving on no more than two other audit committees of public companies.

The Committee also considers other experience or qualifications from time to time, including:

The current composition of the Board;

Any needs of the Board; and

The need for additional members to satisfy Audit Committee requirements.

The Committee then compares prospective nominees and determines whether to interview a nominee, either in person or by telephone. After completing the evaluation and interview, the Committee makes a recommendation to the full Board as to whom, if anyone, should be nominated. The Board determines whether to accept the nominee after considering the recommendation of the Committee. In accordance with regulatory requirements, the Board may counsel with, or obtain approval of, certain state insurance regulators in connection with the qualifications of individuals asked to become directors. In June 2008, the Committee nominated Kevin T. Kabat for election to the Board effective June 27, 2008. The Committee's evaluation reflected that Mr. Kabat's experience and expertise as a chief executive officer of a public company in the financial services industry, and competencies he would bring to the Board in the areas of finance, management and regulatory matters, would be beneficial to the Board.

As outlined in its charter and the Corporate Governance Guidelines, the Committee reviewed the continued service on the Board of those directors whose terms expire at this Annual Meeting. This review took into account each director's interest in continuing to serve, his or her contributions to the Board, and whether each director possessed special areas of experience or other traits or skills needed by the Board. Following this review, the Committee recommended the re-election of the four nominees identified in this Proxy Statement—Pamela H. Godwin, Thomas Kinser, A.S. (Pat) MacMillan, Jr. and Edward J. Muhl.

Determination of Independence of Directors

In February 2004, the Board adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines, which were amended in May 2007. These guidelines meet or exceed the listing standards of the NYSE. The portion of the Corporate Governance Guidelines addressing director independence is included in this Proxy Statement under Corporate Governance—Independence of Directors. The full text of the Corporate Governance Guidelines can be found on our website at www.unum.com in the Investors area under Corporate Governance. A copy of the Corporate Governance Guidelines is also available by writing to the below address or by calling toll-free 800-718-8824.

Office of the Corporate Secretary

Unum Group

1 Fountain Square

Chattanooga, Tennessee, 37402

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Corporate Governance

Our Corporate Secretary gathers information provided by the directors about their respective relationships and entities with which they are affiliated that might affect their independence from the company. The Committee reviews this information and makes recommendations to the Board as to the independence of the directors. The Board reviews the Committee's findings and recommendations and makes a determination as to the independence of directors.

Stockholder Communications with the Board

Stockholders may communicate with our lead independent director — currently our Chairman of the Board, Jon S. Fossel — or any Board members by writing to the below address:

Office of the Corporate Secretary

Unum Group

1 Fountain Square

Chattanooga, Tennessee, 37402

In March 2006, the Board approved a process for handling letters received by the company and addressed to non-management members of the Board. Under this process, our Corporate Secretary reviews all such correspondence and regularly provides a log and copies of the correspondence to the lead independent director, who determines whether further distribution of correspondence is appropriate and to whom it should be sent. Any director may at any time review this log and request copies of correspondence. Concerns relating to accounting, internal controls or auditing matters are promptly brought to the attention of the internal auditor and handled in accordance with procedures established by the Audit Committee. The Board has requested that certain items that are unrelated to the duties and responsibilities of the Board should be excluded from the process, including mass mailings, resumes and other forms of job inquiries, surveys, business solicitations or advertisements, and matters related to claims.

Code of Business Practices and Ethics

In May 2003, the Board adopted a code of business practices and ethics applicable to all of our directors, officers and employees. Separately, the Board adopted a code of ethics applicable to our CEO and certain of our senior financial officers. Both of these codes are available on our website at www.unum.com in the Investors area under Corporate Governance. Copies are also available without charge from the below address or by calling toll-free 800-718-8824.

Office of the Corporate Secretary

Unum Group

1 Fountain Square

Chattanooga, Tennessee, 37402

We will provide notice of any waivers of the code of business practices and ethics granted to executive officers or directors on our website and will report any waivers of the code of ethics granted to our CEO or certain of our senior financial officers to the SEC. No waivers have been granted to date, and no such waivers are anticipated.

Table of Contents

Corporate Governance

2009 Proxy Statement

Independence of Directors

The Board presently has one inside director, and the Board believes that there should not be more than two. Inside directors generally include current officers and any person who has been an officer within the past five years. All others are regarded as independent, outside or non-management directors. As required by the NYSE, a majority of the Board must have no material relationship with Unum and must otherwise meet the NYSE's criteria for independence. The Board has determined that the following current directors are independent: E. Michael Caulfield, Jon S. Fossel, Pamela H. Godwin, Ronald E. Goldsberry, Kevin T. Kabat, Thomas Kinser, Gloria C. Larson, A.S. (Pat) MacMillan, Jr., Edward J. Muhl, Michael J. Passarella, and William J. Ryan. There is only one member of our Board who is not independent, Thomas R. Watjen, because he is employed as our President and Chief Executive Officer. In reaching the determination that all other directors are independent, the Board applied the standards set forth below which are required by the Corporate Governance Guidelines and include certain categorical standards as to immateriality.

Under NYSE standards, a director is not independent if:

He or she is, or has been within the last three years, an employee of Unum, or an immediate family member is, or has been within the last three years, an executive officer of the company;

The director has received, or has an immediate family member who has received, during any 12-month period within the past three years, more than \$120,000 in direct compensation from Unum, other than director and committee fees and pension or other forms of deferred compensation for prior service (provided such compensation is not contingent in any way on continued service);

(A) The director or an immediate family member is a current partner of a firm that is Unum's internal or external auditor; (B) the director is a current employee of such a firm; (C) the director has an immediate family member who is a current employee of such a firm and who participates in the firm's audit, assurance or tax compliance (but not tax planning) practice; or (D) the director or an immediate family member was within the last three years (but is no longer) a partner or employee of such a firm and worked on the company's audit within that time;

The director or an immediate family member is, or has been employed as an executive officer of another company within the last three years, where any of Unum's present executive officers at the same time serves or served on that company's compensation committee; and

The director is a current employee, or an immediate family member is a current executive officer of a company that has made payments to, or received payments from, Unum for property or services in an amount which, in any of the last three fiscal years, exceeds the greater of \$1 million or 2 percent of such other company's consolidated gross revenues.

In accordance with listing standards of the NYSE, the Board has determined that the following categorical standards will be used to determine whether a relationship between a director and Unum is immaterial and requires no further analysis of the relationship in determining independence :

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If a director is a current employee, or an immediate family member is a current executive officer, of another company that has made payments to, or received payments from, Unum for property or services in an amount which in any of the last three fiscal years, does not exceed the greater of \$1 million or 2 percent of such other company's consolidated gross revenues and, where there

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Corporate Governance

are comparable transactions, the relationship is in the ordinary course of business of Unum and is on substantially the same terms as those prevailing under competitive circumstances at the time for comparable transactions with non-affiliated parties; and

Contributions to a charity in which a director of Unum serves as an officer, director or trustee that do not annually exceed a combined 2 percent of the charity's goal for the year (or other comparable goal as determined by the Governance Committee) or 2 percent of Unum's annual charitable contribution budget; provided, however, that this limitation shall not apply to annual United Way contributions by Unum that have traditionally been made in communities in which the company has operation centers with more than 500 employees and do not materially exceed the amount of the contribution in the prior year.

Our Related Party Transaction Policy

Our written policy concerning related party transactions, which was approved by the Board in May 2007, defines related party transaction as any transaction in which we were or are to be a participant and the amount involved exceeds \$120,000, and in which any related party had or will have a direct or indirect material interest. Related party includes any director, director nominee, executive officer of the company, any person who beneficially owns more than 5 percent of the company's stock, and any member of any of their immediate families or any company or other entity in which they have at least a 10 percent interest or other material financial interest. Immediate family members covered under this policy include any child, stepchild, parent, stepparent, spouse, sibling, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law and any other person (other than a tenant or employee) sharing the household with the nominee, director, executive officer, or 5 percent beneficial owner.

Prior to entering into the transaction, the related party must notify our General Counsel of the facts and circumstances of the transaction. The General Counsel determines whether the proposed transaction is a related party transaction. If the transaction is determined to be a related party transaction, it is submitted to the disinterested members of the Audit Committee for consideration at the next Committee meeting (or to the chair of the Committee if it is not practical to wait until the next meeting and the chair is not a related party to the transaction). The Committee considers all relevant facts and circumstances, including the benefits to the company, benefits to the related party, and if the related party is an independent director or nominee, the potential effect on the director's or nominee's independence of entering into the transaction, any improper conflict of interest that may exist, the availability of other sources for the products and services, the terms of the transaction, and the terms available from or to unrelated third parties generally. The transaction may be approved if it is determined in good faith not to be inconsistent with the best interests of the company and its stockholders. Certain types of transactions are deemed to be pre-approved by the Audit Committee, including executive officer and director compensation arrangements approved by the Board of Directors or the Human Capital Committee, any transaction between the company and any entity in which a related party has a relationship solely as a director, less than 10 percent equity holder, or an employee (other than an executive officer) or all of these relationships.

Unum Group

23

Table of Contents

Corporate Governance

2009 Proxy Statement

Transactions with Related Persons

Liston Bishop III became an executive officer of the company on April 1, 2008, when he was appointed interim general counsel. Mr. Bishop was an equity member in the law firm of Miller & Martin PLLC until he became Executive Vice President and General Counsel of our company on October 1, 2008, at which time he withdrew from the law firm and became our full-time employee. During 2008, the firm received approximately \$1.4 million from our company for services rendered by members and employees of the firm. Mr. Bishop's compensation from the firm was based on a percentage interest he had in the firm's revenues that was established at the beginning of 2008, and was not dependent upon amounts received by the firm from our company or any other client of the firm during the year. Pursuant to our Related Party Transactions Policy (as described above), the proposed transaction was reviewed by the General Counsel serving at the time Mr. Bishop's engagement by our company was proposed and submitted by that General Counsel to the Audit Committee, which reviewed and approved the transaction.

24

Unum Group

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Election of Directors

Election of Directors

(Item 1 on the Proxy Card)

Our Board of Directors currently has 12 members, with directors divided into three classes. Generally, at each Annual Meeting, one class of directors, or approximately one-third of the total number of directors, will be elected with a term lasting three years. The term of the Class I directors expires with this Annual Meeting.

The Board of Directors proposes the election of Pamela H. Godwin, Thomas Kinser, A.S. (Pat) MacMillan, Jr. and Edward J. Muhl as Class I directors, each to hold office for a term of three years expiring at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held in 2012, and until their successors are elected and qualified or until his or her earlier death, resignation or retirement. Each nominee is currently serving as a member of our Board of Directors.

We expect each nominee for election as a director to be able to serve if elected. If any nominee becomes unable to serve, the persons we have named as proxy holders will vote for a substitute nominee the Board of Directors recommends, if any.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE FOR THE ELECTION OF THESE NOMINEES AS DIRECTORS.

Proxies solicited by the Board of Directors will be voted FOR this proposal unless you specify otherwise in your proxy.

Nominees for Election for Terms Expiring in 2012

Below are the individuals, along with their photographs, ages, positions, principal occupations, business experience and directorships, who are the four nominees for directors with terms expiring in 2012.

Pamela H. Godwin

Ms. Godwin, 60, has been President of Change Partners, Inc., a consulting firm specializing in organizational change and growth initiatives, since 2001. From 1999 to 2001, she was President and Chief Operating Officer of the personal lines agency division of GMAC Insurance. Previously, she was Senior Vice President of customer management for the credit card division of Advanta Corporation and President and Chief Operating Officer of Academy Insurance Group, a unit of Provident Corporation. From 1974 to 1988, she held a number of executive positions within Colonial Penn Group, Inc., including Senior Vice President of property/casualty claims. She has been a director since 2004, and her term expires in 2009.

Table of Contents

Election of Directors

2009 Proxy Statement

Thomas Kinser

Mr. Kinser, 65, was President, Chief Executive Officer and a Director of BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee from 1994 to 2003. From 1991 to 1994, he was Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of BlueCross BlueShield Association in Chicago. Previously, from 1976 to 1991, he held a number of executive positions with BlueCross BlueShield of Georgia, including President and Chief Executive Officer. He has been a director since 2004, and his term expires in 2009.

A.S. (Pat) MacMillan, Jr.

Mr. MacMillan, 65, has served as the Chief Executive Officer of Triaxia Partners, Inc. (formerly known as Team Resources, Inc.) since 1980. Triaxia's practice areas include organizational strategy and design, as well as team and leadership development. Specific services include management consulting, management training and organizational audits. He is also a trustee of The Maclellan Foundation, Inc., and a director of MetoKote Corporation. He has been a director since 1995, and his term expires in 2009.

Edward J. Muhl

Mr. Muhl, 64, served as the National Leader of the Insurance Regulatory Advisory Practice of PricewaterhouseCoopers from 2001 until his retirement in June 2005. He was Senior Managing Director of Navigant Consulting, Inc. from 1998 to 2000, which he joined as Executive Vice President in 1997. Mr. Muhl previously served as the Superintendent of Insurance of the State of New York from 1995 to 1997 and as the Insurance Commissioner of the State of Maryland from 1982 to 1988, and was President of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. He is also a director of Farm Family Insurance Company and Syncora Holdings, Ltd. He has been a director since 2005, and his term expires in 2009.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Election of Directors

Continuing Directors

Below are the eight directors whose terms are continuing through 2009 and 2010.

E. Michael Caulfield

Mr. Caulfield, 62, served as President of Mercer Human Resource Consulting from September 2005 until September 2006, prior to which he had served as Chief Operating Officer from July 2005. He retired as Executive Vice President of Prudential Insurance Company in 2000. Mr. Caulfield held a number of executive positions with Prudential Insurance Company from 1989 until his retirement, including Executive Vice President of Financial Management, Chief Executive Officer of Prudential Investments, and President of both Prudential Preferred Financial Services and Prudential Property and Casualty Company. Prior to joining Prudential, he was a partner in Greenwich Associates, and held various executive positions at Mellon National Corp. He previously served as a director of our company from August 2004 to July 2005. He rejoined our company as a director on January 1, 2007, and his term expires in 2010.

Jon S. Fossel

Mr. Fossel, 67, became Chairman of the Board of the company effective October 1, 2006. Mr. Fossel retired as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the OppenheimerFunds in 1996. He continues to serve as a trustee of 40 of the Denver-based OppenheimerFunds mutual funds. In November 2004, Mr. Fossel also became a director of Northwestern Corporation d/b/a Northwestern Energy, an electricity and natural gas provider. He has been a director since 2002, and his term expires in 2011.

Ronald E. Goldsberry

Dr. Goldsberry, 66, is an independent contractor to Deloitte Consulting. He served as Chairman of OnStation Corporation (formerly known as Carstation.com) from November 1999 until August 2006, and as Chief Executive Officer of OnStation from January to May 2002 and from November 1999 to March 2001. He served as Global Vice President and General Manager of Global Ford Customer Service Operations at Ford Motor Company from January 1997 to November 1999. Prior to that time, Dr. Goldsberry served as General Manager of the Customer Service Division of Ford Motor Company from February 1994 to December 1996 and General Sales and Marketing Manager for the Parts and Service Division from October 1991 to February 1994. He has been a director since 1999, and was a director of our predecessor company UNUM Corporation from 1993 until its merger with Provident Companies in 1999. His term expires in 2010.

Table of Contents

Election of Directors

2009 Proxy Statement

Kevin T. Kabat

Mr. Kabat, 52, is the President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Fifth Third Bancorp, where he has served in such positions since June 2006, April 2007 and June 2008, respectively. Previously, Mr. Kabat was Executive Vice President of Fifth Third Bancorp from December 2003 and President and Chief Executive Officer of Fifth Third Bank (Michigan) from April 2001. Prior to joining the Fifth Third Bancorp organization, Mr. Kabat served in a number of management and executive positions with Old Kent Financial Corporation from 1982 to 2001, including as its Vice Chairman and President, and as an organizational consultant with Merchants National Bank in Indianapolis from 1980 to 1982. Mr. Kabat was elected as a director of our company in June 2008 to fill a newly created position, and his term expires in 2010.

Gloria C. Larson

Ms. Larson, 58, has been the President of Bentley University since July 2007. She previously served as Co-Chairperson of the Government Practices Group of the law firm Foley Hoag LLP and Coordinator for the Administrative Practices Group. Prior to joining Foley Hoag, she was Secretary of Economic Affairs for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from 1993 to 1996 and Secretary of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation from 1991 to 1993. Before joining the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, she was Deputy Director of Consumer Protection for the Federal Trade Commission and an attorney in private practice. She has been a director since 2004, and her term expires in 2011.

Michael J. Passarella

Mr. Passarella, 67, was an audit partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP from 1975 until his retirement in 2002. He served as the managing partner of that firm's securities industry practice from 1983 to 1998 and was the capital markets industry global audit leader from 1998 to 2001. Mr. Passarella served as a director and Chairman of the Audit Committee of Archipelago Holdings, Inc., from August 2004 until its merger in March 2006 with the New York Stock Exchange. He is also a director and Chairman of the Audit Committee of NYFIX, Inc. He has been a director since 2006, and his term expires in 2010.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Election of Directors

William J. Ryan

Mr. Ryan, 65, is currently Chairman of TD Banknorth Inc. a banking and financial services company. He previously served as President, Chief Executive Officer and a Director of TD Banknorth Inc. until March 2007. He was Chairman, President, Chief Executive Officer and a Director of Banknorth Group Inc. until March 2005, when it was merged into TD Banknorth Inc. He was President and Chief Executive Officer of People's Heritage Savings Bank from 1989 until its merger with Banknorth in 2000. Prior to 1989, he held a number of leadership positions with Bank of New England North, most recently as President and Chief Executive Officer. He is also a director of Wellpoint, Inc. He has been a director since 2004, and his term expires in 2011.

Thomas R. Watjen

Mr. Watjen, 54, has been our President and Chief Executive Officer since March 2003. He served as Vice Chairman and Chief Operating Officer from May 2002 until March 2003. He became Executive Vice President, Finance in June 1999 and assumed additional Risk Management responsibilities in November 1999. He has been a director since 2002, and his term expires in 2011.

How are nominations for election to the Board made?

Under our bylaws, nominations of persons for election to the Board of Directors may be made at a meeting of stockholders by or at the direction of the Board. Such a nomination may be made by any nominating committee or person appointed by the Board, or by any stockholder of Unum entitled to vote for the election of directors at the meeting. Our policy is to consider candidates recommended by stockholders in the same manner as other candidates.

Timeliness of Nomination

Notice of such nominations, other than those made by or at the direction of the Board, must be made in a timely manner in writing to our Corporate Secretary by a stockholder of Unum. To be timely, a stockholder's notice must be delivered to, or mailed and received at, our principal executive offices no later than the close of business on the 75th day, nor earlier than the close of business on the 120th day, prior to the first anniversary of the preceding year's Annual Meeting; provided, however, that in the event the date of the Annual Meeting is more than 30 days before or more than 70 days after such anniversary date, notice by the stockholder must be so delivered, or mailed and received not earlier than the close of business on the 120th day prior to such Annual Meeting and not later than the close of business on the later of the 75th day prior to such Annual Meeting or the 10th day following the day on which we first make public announcement of the date of such meeting.

Table of Contents

Election of Directors

2009 Proxy Statement

Nomination Information

Such stockholder's notice shall set forth the following information:

As to each person whom the stockholder proposes to nominate for election or re-election as a director:

The name, age, business address and residence address of the person;

The principal occupation or employment of the person;

The class and number of shares of the company which are beneficially owned by the person;

A description of all arrangements, understandings or relationships between the stockholder and each nominee, and any other relevant person or person;

All information required by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' Biographical Affidavit and attachments, as amended or replaced;

Such person's written consent to being named in the Proxy Statement as a nominee and to serving as a director if elected; and

Any other information relating to the person that is required to be disclosed in solicitations of proxies for election of directors pursuant to Rule 14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Act"), and any other applicable laws, rules or regulations of any governmental authority, or of any national securities exchange or similar body overseeing any trading market on which our shares are traded.

As to the stockholder giving the notice:

The name and address of record of the stockholder and its principals (as hereinafter defined) and any stockholder associated person as defined in our bylaws on whose behalf the nomination is made, and the name and address of record of any person that owns or controls, directly or indirectly, 10 percent or more of any class of securities or interests in such stockholder or stockholder associated person;

The class and number of shares of the company which are owned beneficially or of record by the stockholder and any stockholder associated person;

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A list of all stockholder proposals and director nominations made by the stockholder during the prior 10 years;

A list of all litigation filed against principals of the stockholder during the prior 10 years asserting a breach of fiduciary duty or a breach of loyalty;

A representation that the stockholder is a holder of record of shares of the company entitled to vote at such meeting and intends to appear in person or by proxy at the meeting to nominate the person or persons specified in the notice. A principal of a stockholder shall be the chief executive officer (or the equivalent) of the stockholder and any individual who owns 10 percent or more, directly or indirectly, of any class of securities or interests in the stockholder and is employed by the stockholder;

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Election of Directors

Any derivative positions held or beneficially held by the stockholder and any stockholder associated person, and whether, and the extent to which, any hedging or other transaction or series of transactions has been entered into, by, or on behalf of, or any other agreement, arrangement or understanding (including any short positions or any borrowing or lending of shares of stock) has been made, the effect or intent of which is to mitigate loss to, or manage risk of stock price changes for, or to increase the voting power of, such stockholders or any stockholder associated person with respect to any share of our stock;

All information required by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners Biographical Affidavit and attachments, as amended or replaced; and

A representation whether the stockholder or any stockholder associated person intends, or is a part of a group which intend (a) to deliver a Proxy Statement or form of proxy to holders of at least the percentage of our outstanding capital stock required to approve or adopt the proposal or elect the nominee or otherwise (b) to solicit proxies from stockholders in support of such proposal or nomination.

No potential director nominated by a stockholder is eligible for election as a director unless nominated in accordance with these procedures.

Unum Group

31

Table of Contents

Security Ownership of Directors and Officers

2009 Proxy Statement

Security Ownership of Directors and Officers

The following table shows the number of shares of the company's common stock beneficially owned as of March 25, 2009, by each director and each named executive and by all directors and executive officers as a group. The table also includes information about stock options, restricted stock and deferred share rights credited to the accounts of directors and executive officers under various compensation and benefit plans. Restricted stock units that represent a contingent right to receive shares of the company's common stock are also reported below, but are not included in the Total Shares Beneficially Owned column. No shares are pledged as security.

32

Unum Group

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Security Ownership of Directors and Officers

SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS							(as of March 25, 2009)	
Name	Shares Beneficially Owned Subject to Options Exercisable						Total Shares Beneficially Owned	% of Company Common Stock
	Shares Beneficially Owned	as of May 24, 2009	Shares of Restricted Stock	Restricted Stock Units ⁽⁴⁾	Deferred Share Rights or Phantom Shares			
	E. Michael Caulfield	2,678	0	0	2,087	11,392		
Jon S. Fossel	9,514	0	0	2,087	12,543	22,057	*	
Pamela H. Godwin	3,840	0	0	2,087	21,160	25,000	*	
Ronald E. Goldsberry	16,894	5,533	0	2,087	26,781 ⁽¹⁾	49,208	*	
Kevin T. Kabat	0	0	0	1,764	2,557	2,557	*	
Thomas Kinser	2,840	0	0	2,087	17,622	20,462	*	
Gloria C. Larson	1,840	0	0	2,087	24,439	26,279	*	
A. S. (Pat) MacMillan, Jr.	4,580	5,995	0	2,087	2,894	13,469	*	
Edward J. Muhl	4,715	0	0	2,087	0	4,715	*	
Michael J. Passarella	1,840	0	0	2,087	2,912	4,752	*	
William J. Ryan	3,240	0	0	2,087	14,055	17,295	*	
Thomas R. Watjen ⁽²⁾	674,754	1,775,576	51,968	404,466	0	2,502,298	*	
Robert O. Best ⁽²⁾	120,169	106,759	9,103	72,910	0	236,031	*	
Robert C. Greving ⁽²⁾	48,510	68,130	8,834	50,844	0	125,474	*	
Randy C. Horn	39,651	9,874	8,275	53,386	0	57,800	*	
Kevin P. McCarthy	65,583	52,656	9,103	103,547	0	127,342	*	
All directors and executive officers as a group ^{(1) (2) (3)}	1,037,955	2,044,030	91,829	768,282	136,355	3,310,169	*	

* Denotes less than 1 percent.

- (1) Includes number of deferred share rights credited to Dr. Goldsberry's account under the former UNUM Corporation 1998 Director's Deferred Compensation Plan as well as dividends declared on such rights.
- (2) Shares owned by Mr. Watjen, Mr. Best and Mr. Greving and the executive officers as a group include shares owned in the company's 401(k) plan.
- (3) Includes shares owned jointly or separated by spouses and minor children of all directors and executive officers as a group. Does not include 445 shares of the company's common stock voted solely by one of Ms. Ring's immediate family members, of which beneficial ownership is disclaimed.
- (4) Does not include performance-based restricted stock units granted under the Equity Performance Grant. This was a special grant provided in 2007 that will vest based on stock price and financial hurdles. The following individuals received this grant: Mr. Watjen 300,000; Mr. Best 100,000; Mr. Greving 60,000; Mr. Horn 100,000; Mr. McCarthy 120,000; and all other executive officers 140,000.

Table of Contents

Section 16(A) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

2009 Proxy Statement

Section 16(A)

Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Under Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, our directors, executive officers, and 10 percent beneficial holders of our common stock are required to file with the Securities and Exchange Commission certain forms reporting their beneficial ownership of and transactions in Unum common stock. Based solely upon information provided by each such person, we believe each of our directors and executive officers and 10 percent beneficial owners filed all required reports on a timely basis during the last fiscal year. Due to an administrative error by the company, a Form 4 reporting grants to Robert C. Greving of 34,409 restricted stock units and 29,306 stock options, due on February 26, 2009, was filed on March 2, 2009.

34

Unum Group

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Report of the Human Capital Committee

Report of the Human Capital Committee

The Human Capital Committee has reviewed and discussed the following Compensation Discussion and Analysis section with Unum's management. Based on this review and discussion, the Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that this Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in both the Proxy Statement and in the company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008.

A.S. (Pat) MacMillan, Jr., Chairman

Pamela H. Godwin

Thomas Kinser

Edward J. Muhl

Unum Group

35

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Executive Summary

The detailed Compensation Discussion and Analysis that follows provides information on executive compensation philosophy, how and why compensation decisions are made, and how those decisions align with corporate and individual performance. The primary focus of the Human Capital Committee is to align compensation with corporate and individual performance.

In reviewing and analyzing executive compensation for 2008, the Committee highlights the following:

The Board sets measures and targets for the company and executives that are designed to drive shareholder value over an extended period of time. Value creation is measured on the basis of growth, profitability and effective capital management.

In 2008, the company performance was strong, generally meeting or exceeding all performance objectives established by the Board in spite of a very difficult economic environment.

Although shareholder return was negative for the year, the return exceeded the Standard and Poor's (S&P) 500 index, the S&P Life index and outperformed our Proxy Peer Group as shown in the bar graph on page 37.

The Committee believes that the negative shareholder return for 2008 reflected broader stock market trends impacting the financial service sector rather than the result of the company's performance.

In considering and reaching compensation decisions for the CEO and other named executives, the Committee considered achievement of corporate goals, individual performance, and shareholder return including relative performance and broader market trends.

Our five highest paid executives in 2008, who are included in the Summary Compensation Table on page 70 and who are referred to as named executives throughout this section, were:

Thomas R. Watjen, President and Chief Executive Officer;

Robert C. Greving, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Actuary;

Kevin P. McCarthy, Executive Vice President, President and Chief Executive Officer, Unum US;

Robert O. Best, Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer, Unum US; and

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Randall C. Horn, Executive Vice President, President and Chief Executive Officer, Colonial Life.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2008 Environment

In many respects 2008 was one of the most difficult environments faced by companies in the financial services sector. The deepening recession, upheaval in the financial markets, extended credit crisis, and collapse of valuations for companies in our sector had a broad impact. Our company was no exception.

Against this backdrop, the company saw its shareholder return drop in 2008. However, as a result of solid financial and operating performance, total shareholder return for the year exceeded the Standard and Poor's (S&P) 500 index, the S&P Life index and outperformed our Proxy Peer Group as shown in the bar graph below.

The following chart compares annual and five-year return for the company against certain key indices:

- (1) The Proxy Peer Group does not include Unum.
- (2) The five year return for the Proxy Peer Group does not include either Genworth Financial or Assurant.

Unum Group

37

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

Company Performance

The Committee first considers company performance when making compensation decisions. Despite the difficult economic climate, 2008 was a successful year as all of our businesses delivered strong operating performance, our investment portfolio posted solid results, and we exceeded our targets for capital and liquidity.

Highlights for the year include:

A continuation of consistent operating results, exceeding plan and analyst consensus estimates for all four quarters of 2008, and further building on the momentum created over the past several years;

Earnings per share growth of 14% exceeded plan and consensus estimates;⁽¹⁾

Investment portfolio results remained strong, with a default rate significantly below the industry average;

Financial flexibility was enhanced as the company exceeded its capital management targets:

- i Risk-based capital was 332% against a target of 300%;
- i Leverage was 21.5%, better than our target of 25%;⁽¹⁾ and
- i Holding company liquidity exceeded our benchmark by 75% while also completing a \$700 million share repurchase.

Return on equity expanded to 12.0% from 11.2% in 2007;⁽¹⁾

Total shareholder return for the year exceeded the Standard & Poor's (S&P) 500 index, the S&P Life index and outperformed our Proxy Peer Group as shown on page 37;

Satisfied the obligations of the company's various regulatory settlement agreements;

Promoted the company's visibility and reputation in the market; and

Enhanced management talent and employee engagement at all levels.

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Overall, the Committee was pleased with the performance of the company in 2008 and believes it is well-positioned for the future. The Committee also recognized, however, that the environment was difficult and as a result shareholder return was lower in 2008.

- (1) Certain performance measures are not calculated based on GAAP. These performance measures should be read in conjunction with Appendix A to this Proxy Statement, which includes a reconciliation to the most directly comparable GAAP measures.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Chief Executive Officer Compensation

Mr. Watjen's total compensation is linked directly to both company performance and individual performance. An overview of Mr. Watjen's individual performance and compensation is located on page 46. In addition, the detailed analysis later in this document outlines each individual element of Mr. Watjen's compensation.

The company's performance generally met or exceeded plan and the Committee considered Mr. Watjen's individual performance to be excellent, but both the Committee and Mr. Watjen recognize that the overall environment was difficult. As noted earlier, the company's share price outperformed certain peer indices, although total shareholder return was negative.

The Committee therefore concluded that Mr. Watjen's total compensation should be lower than that generated only by measuring company and individual performance.

In calculating and awarding compensation, the Committee also considers the various compensation components absent the accounting and actuarial considerations required in the Summary Compensation Table on page 70. On this more simplified basis, the Committee considered Mr. Watjen's compensation for 2008 performance to be \$7,781,862 compared to compensation for 2007 performance of \$10,384,164. A complete description of these amounts may be found on pages 47 and 65.

Compensation Philosophy and Processes

Our executive compensation philosophy is based on two core goals: (1) to reward performance that helps us achieve our corporate objectives; and (2) to attract and retain talented individuals. In practice, this means that we:

Offer a base salary that reflects the competitive market as well as the roles, skills, abilities, experience and performance of employees;

Provide incentive opportunities for all employees based on the achievement of corporate and individual performance; and

Align the long-term interests of management and stockholders, as well as promote a culture of ownership and accountability in the company, by offering equity-based compensation opportunities and requiring senior executive officers to retain equity awards for a specified period of time.

Who is responsible for evaluating and administering executive compensation?

The Committee, which consists solely of independent directors, evaluates, designs and administers a compensation program for executive officers that appropriately links pay, company performance, individual performance and the creation of shareholder value.

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

The Committee, with input from the full Board, is directly responsible for evaluating the performance of the CEO as well as for determining the elements of his compensation. The Committee does consider the insights of the CEO regarding the environment and the company's performance, and the impact those have on the compensation decisions for the CEO and others participating in the plan.

In determining the compensation for the other named executives, the Committee receives a performance assessment and compensation recommendations from Mr. Watjen. All of the other named executives report to Mr. Watjen except Mr. Best, who reports to Mr. McCarthy. Recommendations for Mr. Best are provided by Mr. McCarthy to Mr. Watjen, who then discusses these recommendations with the Committee. While the Committee considers these recommendations, it also exercises its independent judgment in determining compensation for the named executives based on the financial results of the company as well as the Board's interactions with these individuals.

Does the Committee use an outside consultant for advice?

The Committee has engaged Towers Perrin as its compensation consultant. In this capacity, Towers Perrin provides the Committee with objective and expert analyses, independent advice and information with respect to executive and director compensation. Towers Perrin received \$343,660 for services provided to the Committee in 2008.

To assure the independence of Towers Perrin in this capacity, compensation consultants from the firm report directly to the Committee. At each Committee meeting, an executive session is held without management present to discuss compensation issues with these consultants. Furthermore, management only interacts with the consultants when doing so on behalf of the Committee or as it relates to proposals the Committee will review for approval.

Towers Perrin has also taken steps to separate its compensation consultants from other services provided to Unum by the firm. These consultants are not involved in developing proposals or soliciting the company to secure additional business from Unum, nor do they participate in other consulting assignments for the company. The firm has also confirmed that pay for these consultants is not directly impacted by the fees Towers Perrin collects from Unum for the other services it provides, all of which are unrelated to the design of executive compensation. Towers Perrin attests to these independence steps annually by letter to the Committee.

At its meeting in February 2009, the Committee adopted a policy reaffirming that its compensation consultant must be independent from the company. The policy specifies that the Committee has the sole authority to select, retain and terminate compensation consultants required to discharge its duties and responsibilities, and to approve the fees and other retention terms for such consultants. Additionally, the policy sets forth standards designed to ensure that consultants retained by the Committee are independent of the persons for whom compensation advice or recommendations are solicited.

Members of the company's finance, human resources and legal staffs also support the Committee in its work by providing information and responding to questions. Additionally, employees from these departments discuss various forms of executive compensation with Towers Perrin, including how the compensation plans fit with other programs and business objectives. While these staff members may make recommendations, the final decision on all executive compensation matters rests with the Committee.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

What role do our named executive officers play in setting compensation?

Mr. Watjen does not participate in decisions related to the establishment of his own pay, nor does he have any decision-making authority with regard to his compensation or the compensation of any other named executive. These decisions are made by the Committee. However, as noted earlier the Committee does consider the insights of the CEO regarding the environment and the company's performance, and the impact those have on the compensation decisions for him and others participating in the plan. Mr. Watjen also provides a self-assessment to the Board.

Mr. Watjen provides a performance assessment and compensation recommendations to the Committee for those executives who report to him. This includes all of the named executives except Mr. Best, who reports to Mr. McCarthy. Mr. McCarthy provides a performance assessment and compensation recommendations for Mr. Best to Mr. Watjen. These recommendations are considered by the Committee along with its own judgment in determining the compensation for named executives.

Has the company taken steps to assess the risk associated with its compensation programs?

The company's chief risk officer, in consultation with the Committee, has undertaken a risk assessment of the company's short- and long-term incentive programs. Based on this assessment, the Committee does not believe the company's compensation programs currently encourage management to take unreasonable risks that could threaten the company's value.

Benchmarking and Peer Group Design

To what extent does the Committee use external data to compare executive compensation?

When making compensation decisions, the Committee compares the compensation of our CEO and the other named executives to that of similarly-situated executives at peer companies. This process is often referred to as benchmarking. These comparisons are used as points of reference and do not take the place of internal analyses or consideration of the performance of the company and individual.

The Committee uses two sources for benchmarking executive compensation:

For named executives other than the CEO, the primary benchmarking source used is the Towers Perrin Diversified Insurance Study (Towers Perrin Study), which is a private study of 31 large insurance companies (including Unum). Most of these companies are our key competitors for executive talent. This study is used because the Committee believes it provides a relevant comparison, represents an unbiased selection of companies, and remains relatively constant.

For the CEO, the Committee uses a collection of peer firms (Proxy Peer Group) that includes a mix of publicly traded insurance and financial services companies that, like those in the Towers Perrin Study, are Unum's primary competitors for executive talent. This group is the primary source for benchmarking CEO pay because the CEO role is generally consistent across companies. The Proxy Peer Group is not used for other named executives because non-CEO roles, particularly heads of subsidiaries and other business units, tend not to be directly comparable across other companies. Additionally, those in comparable positions at other companies may not be among the five highest-paid executives at those companies, in which

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

case data about their compensation may not be publicly available. The Committee also uses the Towers Perrin Study as a secondary source for benchmarking CEO pay.

The Committee reviews the Proxy Peer Group annually, and companies are added and deleted from this list as either industry consolidation occurs or our corporate objectives change. The companies that make up the Proxy Peer Group did not change in 2008. However, as a result of the substantial changes taking place among many companies in the financial services sector, the Proxy Peer Group may differ in 2009.

The table below sets forth the companies that comprise the Proxy Peer Group and the firms included in the Towers Perrin Study.

Company	BENCHMARKING AND PEER GROUPS ⁽¹⁾				
	Proxy Peer Group ⁽²⁾	Towers Perrin Diversified Insurance Study	Company	Proxy Peer Group ⁽²⁾	Towers Perrin Diversified Insurance Study
Aegon USA			Marsh & McLennan		
Aetna			Massachusetts Mutual		
AFLAC			MetLife		
AIG			Mutual of Omaha		
Allianz			Nationwide		
Allstate			New York Life		
American United Life			Northwestern Mutual		
Aon			Pacific Life		
Assurant			Phoenix Companies		
AXA Equitable			Principal Financial		

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Cigna	Protective Life
Conseco	Prudential Financial
Genworth Financial ⁽³⁾	Securian Financial
Guardian Life	Stancorp
Hartford Financial	Sun Life Financial
Humana	Thrivent Financial
ING	TIAA-CREF
John Hancock	Torchmark
Lincoln Financial	USAA

- (1) For compensation decisions made in early 2008, benchmarking comparisons were made to the 2007 Towers Perrin Diversified Insurance Study and the 2007 Proxy Peer Group. Although Unum is part of the Towers Perrin Study, we are excluded from this table.
- (2) In 2007, the Committee expanded the Proxy Peer Group to 18 companies to provide more robust and meaningful statistics. This group included larger competitors and smaller companies with Unum being roughly average in size within the group. The list was also broadened to include both property and casualty as well as life and health insurers.
- (3) Genworth was a new participant in the Towers Perrin Diversified Insurance Study for 2007.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Does the Committee set targets for how its executive compensation compares to other companies?

Yes. Each element of compensation is targeted at the approximate median of the market as defined by the Proxy Peer Group and the Towers Perrin Study, although this comparison is only one of a number of factors that guide the Committee's determinations. The elements of our compensation program are: (1) base salary; (2) targeted total cash (base salary plus targeted annual incentive); and (3) total direct compensation (base salary plus both targeted annual and long-term incentives). The comparison of our total cash and total direct compensation elements to those at peer companies ensures that the balance among the elements of compensation is competitive. At the same time, company and individual performance determines substantial amounts of the actual pay received by our named executives.

With respect to the CEO, the Committee compares each of the compensation elements to the Proxy Peer Group using the same methodology described above. Additionally, the CEO pay is compared to the median of the compensation paid to executives in comparable roles at the companies in the Towers Perrin Study as an additional source of data.

Does the Committee rely solely on peer group data when making decisions?

While peer group data is important, it is secondary to the primary factors considered by the Committee when making compensation decisions, which include the following:

Company performance;

Individual performance;

The executive's level of responsibility;

The creation of shareholder value; and

Our corporate compensation philosophy.

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

Elements of Pay

What are the elements of compensation for executives?

The elements of compensation for Unum's named executives, each of which is described later in this section, are described in the table below.

PAY ELEMENTS

Compensation Element	Objective/Purpose
Annual base salary	To provide a fixed amount of compensation which is reflective of the market for similar jobs as well as individual skills, abilities and performance. Aligns with our compensation philosophy of attracting and retaining talented individuals.
Annual incentive awards	To motivate executives to achieve short-term corporate financial goals as well as individual objectives. Aligns with our compensation philosophy of rewarding performance in the achievement of short-term corporate objectives.
Long-term incentive awards	To motivate long-term performance and align the interests of management and shareholders. Aligns with our compensation philosophy of rewarding long-term performance and attracting and retaining talented individuals.
Retirement and workplace benefits	To provide a competitive program which addresses health, welfare and retirement needs of executives and other employees. Aligns with our compensation philosophy of attracting and retaining talented individuals.
Perquisites and other personal benefits	Most perquisites were eliminated as of January 1, 2008. The limited perquisites we currently offer are provided as the result of a specific business purpose or a contractual arrangement.

What is the company's pay mix?

Consistent with our philosophy of tying compensation with the performance of the company, a majority of total compensation is allocated to annual and long-term incentives and as a result is considered at risk. We do not have a predetermined policy for allocating cash and non-cash, or short-term and long-term incentive compensation. Instead, the Committee annually reviews the Towers Perrin Study described earlier to ensure an appropriate level and mix of compensation based on competitive practices.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

The following charts show the 2008 compensation mix for our CEO and the other named executives:

Note for 2008 All Other NEO Compensation Elements: Average chart includes Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Horn, Mr. Best and Mr. Greving.

- (1) Base Salary for individual executives range from 16.5% to 25.1%. The variance in the range of base salaries is a result of their roles and responsibilities within the company.
- (2) Incentive Pay for individual executives range from 19.6% to 24.8%. The variance in the range of incentive pay is a result of target as a percentage of salary.
- (3) LTI for individual executives range from 31.4% to 35.9%. The variance in the range of incentive pay is a result of target as a percentage of salary.
- (4) Equity Performance Grant for individual executives range from 11.3% to 17.0%. This is a special grant provided in 2007 that will vest based on stock price and financial hurdles.
- (5) Insurance and Benefits for individual executives range from 0.3% to 0.6%.
- (6) Retirement Benefits for individual executives range from 2.7% to 18.2%. The variance of retirement benefits is due to differences in age and years of service.

Unum Group

45

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

Chief Executive Officer Compensation

Mr. Watjen's compensation is determined by the Committee using the same principles applied to all senior executives. The Committee strives to make its assessment thorough and objective using performance standards directly tied to what is important for the company's success. The detailed discussion later in this analysis outlines each specific element of Mr. Watjen's compensation. The Committee primarily considered the following factors in determining Mr. Watjen's total compensation for the year ending December 31, 2008:

The company's overall results, as summarized on page 38;

Mr. Watjen's individual performance for the year;

The external economic environment including relative shareholder return and broader market trends; and

Our compensation philosophy as outlined on page 39.

In evaluating Mr. Watjen's individual performance, the Committee considered feedback from all members of the Board of Directors. They noted the following results:

Achieved financial results despite a difficult economy:

- i Restoration of profitable, sustainable growth across the company; and
- i 2008 results above plan and analyst consensus expectations.

Created a strong financial base:

- i Overall financial flexibility was enhanced and capital management targets have been exceeded; and
- i Maintained a solid investment portfolio with a default rate significantly below industry average

Continued emphasis on a culture which ensures the long-term success of the company:

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- i Focus on a culture emphasizing ethics, compliance and risk management; and

- i Stronger relationships and enhanced credibility with regulators and other external stakeholders.

A company-wide focus on talent management and organization development, including:

- i Clear goals and expectations for leadership;

- i Maintained emphasis on leadership development and overall talent management; and

- i Concluded several key executive transitions including those of General Counsel and Chief Investment Officer.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Enhanced visibility and leadership within the industry:

i Improved corporate reputation through personal visibility in media and other vehicles; and

i Increased industry leadership through involvement in trade organizations and other avenues.

Although company performance generally met or exceeded plan and the Committee considered Mr. Watjen's individual performance to be excellent, both the Committee and Mr. Watjen recognize that the overall environment was difficult. With respect to shareholder return, the Committee notes the following:

Total shareholder return for the year was negative;

The Committee believed the negative return primarily reflected broader stock market trends impacting the financial services sector and not the result of the company's performance; and

On a relative basis, the company's share price outperformed when measured against the S&P 500, the S&P Life Insurance index, and our Proxy Peer Group (as shown on page 37).

The Committee therefore concluded that Mr. Watjen's total compensation should be lower than that generated only by measuring company and individual performance.

In calculating and awarding compensation, the Committee also considers the various compensation components absent the accounting and actuarial considerations required in the Summary Compensation Table on page 70. On this more simplified basis, the Committee considers Mr. Watjen's year over year compensation to be:

2008 AND 2007 TOTAL CEO COMPENSATION⁽¹⁾

Executive	Year	Salary	Annual Incentive⁽²⁾	Long-Term Incentive⁽³⁾	All Other Compensation⁽⁴⁾	Total
Mr. Watjen	2008	\$1,094,902	\$2,268,750	\$4,268,395	\$149,815	\$7,781,862
	2007	1,041,667	2,000,000	7,222,500	119,997	10,384,164

(1) The amounts in the table reflect the principal elements of Mr. Watjen's compensation for 2008 and 2007 that the Committee considered when they made these compensation decisions.

(2) For 2008 performance, the annual incentive amounts were determined by the Committee in February 2009 and paid in March 2009. For 2007 performance, the annual incentive amounts were determined by the Committee in February 2008 and paid in March 2008.

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(3) The long-term incentive amounts were determined by the Committee and granted in February 2009 based on 2008 performance and in February 2008 based on 2007 performance.

(4) The all other compensation amounts paid in 2008 are further detailed in the All Other Compensation table on page 72 and the Summary Compensation Table on page 70. The all other compensation amounts paid in 2007 were reported in the All Other Compensation table and Summary Compensation Table in the 2008 Proxy.

Please note that this comparison is not a substitute for the required Summary Compensation Table and a reconciliation of the required Summary Compensation Table and the 2008 and 2007 Total Compensation table is located on page 66.

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

Annual Base Salary

How often are base salaries reviewed?

The Committee reviews base salaries for named executives on an annual basis, as well as at the time of a promotion or other change in responsibilities. Increases in base salaries, if any, are determined after an evaluation of several factors, including company performance, individual performance, the individual's level of responsibility, and the budgeted amount for merit increases for the year. Base salaries are also compared to those within the appropriate peer group and to those of other executives in the company.

How is the base salary for the CEO determined?

The base salary for Mr. Watjen is determined primarily by his individual performance, his overall level of responsibility and the performance of the company. The Committee also considers comparisons with the Proxy Peer Group.

Mr. Watjen's individual performance is evaluated annually by the Board of Directors based on two primary factors.

The first factor is a set of individual goals agreed upon by Mr. Watjen and the Board. His 2007 goals, which were considered by the Committee in setting his 2008 salary, included:

Continuing to improve the performance of Unum US while successfully meeting the obligations of our regulatory settlements;

Positioning the balance sheet to create long-term customer and shareholder value;

Developing and deepening the leadership at all levels of the company; and

Improving stakeholders' perception of Unum as an industry leader.

The second factor is an assessment by each Board member of Mr. Watjen's performance, as well as Mr. Watjen's evaluation of his own performance, taking into account the following criteria as established by the Committee:

Financial results;

Operating effectiveness;

Ethics and professional integrity;

Regulatory compliance;

Strategic planning;

Leadership;

Talent management and management succession;

Corporate culture;

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Stakeholder relations;

Transparency; and

Communications.

As part of this process, each Board member provides Towers Perrin with his or her confidential performance evaluation of Mr. Watjen. Towers Perrin provides a summary of these evaluations to the Committee prior to its February meeting at which CEO compensation is determined.

On January 1, 2008, Mr. Watjen received an increase of \$19,400 to his 2007 base salary of \$1,050,000 to replace the value of perquisites that were eliminated as of that date. Effective March 1, 2008, the Committee raised Mr. Watjen's base salary to \$1,100,000 after considering all of the criteria listed above. They placed particular emphasis on the company's financial results, the positive impact of rating agency upgrades and Mr. Watjen's leadership in successfully meeting the obligations of the California and multistate regulatory settlements. The total percentage increase in Mr. Watjen's base salary from 2007 to 2008 was 4.8%.

At its February 2009 meeting, the Committee decided not to grant a base salary increase for 2009 to Mr. Watjen. This decision reflected input from Mr. Watjen regarding his views about compensation in this challenging environment.

How are the base salaries of other named executives determined?

The primary factors for determining base salaries for the named executives other than Mr. Watjen are individual performance, pay in relation to the market (using the Towers Perrin Study), pay in relation to peers, and responsibilities of their respective positions. Additionally, each named executive is evaluated by Board members, Mr. Watjen and Mr. McCarthy (in the case of Mr. Best), as well as by peers and colleagues based on the following general factors:

Performance against individual goals;

Creation of business and enterprise value;

Management of the business;

Ethics and professional integrity;

Development of organizational talent;

Regulatory compliance;

Leadership;

Customer focus;

Judgment and decision-making; and

Expertise and competence.

Unum Group

49

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

After taking these factors into consideration as well as the financial performance of the company during 2007, the accomplishments related to the California and multistate regulatory settlements, the successful rollout of our Simply Unum product and service platform, and Colonial Life's sales and rebranding efforts, the Committee approved the following increases to the base salaries of the named executives other than Mr. Watjen, effective March 1, 2008: Mr. Greving's salary was increased from \$390,000 to \$420,000, or 7.7%; Mr. McCarthy's salary was increased from \$525,000 to \$565,000, or 7.6%; Mr. Best's salary was increased from \$480,000 to \$515,000, or 7.3%; and Mr. Horn's salary was increased from \$440,000 to \$475,000, or 8.0%. Base salary earnings of the named executives for 2008 are reflected in the Salary column of the Summary Compensation Table on page 70.

At its February 2009 meeting, the Committee decided not to grant base salary increases for 2009 to the named executives and certain other key senior officers. This decision reflected input from the CEO regarding his views about compensation in this challenging environment. As a result, the base salaries of these executives will be maintained at current levels in 2009.

Annual Incentive Awards

The purpose of the annual incentive is to reward performance based on the achievement of both company and individual goals. The Management Incentive Compensation Plan (MICP) of 2008, which became effective January 1, 2008, is our principal vehicle for annual incentive compensation. Our named executives participate in the Executive Officer Incentive Plan (EOIP), which is part of the 2008 MICP.

Under the EOIP, the Committee establishes objective performance measures in the beginning of the year. If this goal is achieved, each named executive is eligible to receive the maximum award provided for in the plan for that performance year. By designing the program in this way, the company believes it increases the likelihood these awards will be deductible under the performance-based compensation exception to Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code (the \$1 million cap on deductibility), while maximizing flexibility to pay appropriate bonuses. For 2008, the goal established by the Committee for this purpose was two times the amount of operating earnings needed to pay dividends and cover interest on our debt. That amount was \$360.2 million and the goal was exceeded.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

How does the plan work?

First, the company must meet the corporate performance threshold as described above. Once that threshold is met, company and business unit performance as a percentage of target is calculated. That percentage is agreed upon by the Committee. Individual performance for each named executive is then established by the Committee and a percentage assigned.

As shown in the table below, the corporate performance percentage is multiplied by the individual performance percentage to reach an overall percentage of the annual incentive target.

Beginning of Each Year	ANNUAL INCENTIVE FORMULA Application of Annual Incentive Criteria/ Award Determination				Final Review by the Committee			
Threshold and Target performance goals set and approved by the Committee	Company Performance (%)	x	Target Incentive for Position (\$)	x	Individual Performance (%)	=	Annual Incentive (\$)	(1)

(1) Committee exercises discretion as to the final payment considering all performance factors, including, but not limited to the quality of financial results and personal contributions to these results.

What were the performance targets for 2008?

In February of each year, the Committee sets targets for several performance measures with the levels or ranges of payment for each target. Performance measures and their respective targets are established for the company as a whole (Unum Group) as well as for each of our business operations (Unum US, Colonial Life, and Unum UK), and weightings are assigned to each performance measure based on its relative importance to the company or business unit as well as on its potential impact on stockholder returns. At the end of each year, the Committee evaluates performance against each measure, comparing the actual results to the targets established for each.

The 2008 performance measures and their weightings in determining the annual incentive awards are as follows:

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

2008 ANNUAL INCENTIVE AWARD PERFORMANCE TARGETS

Performance Measure	Component Weighting	Target
Unum Group		
Pre-tax operating income	40%	\$1,270.9 million
Return on equity	25%	11.16%
Revenue	25%	\$10,588.3 million
Operating expenses	10%	\$219.8 million
Unum US		
Pre-tax operating income	40%	\$795.0 million
Earned premium	20%	\$5,947.9 million
Sales	15%	\$743.7 million
Operating expense ratio	10%	17.43%
Service	15%	100%
Colonial Life		
Pre-tax operating income	40%	\$257.9 million
Sales	25%	\$368.5 million
Service	15%	100%
Earned premium	10%	\$982.7 million
Operating expense ratio	10%	17.64%
Unum UK		
Pre-tax operating income	40%	£166.7 million
Service	20%	100%
Earned premium	15%	£495.1 million
Sales	15%	£73.0 million
Operating expense ratio	10%	18.97%

NOTE: For purposes of the annual incentive plan, pre-tax operating income is net income adjusted to exclude income tax and net realized investment gains and losses. Return on equity is calculated by taking operating income after tax, which is net income adjusted to exclude after-tax realized investment gains and losses and dividing it by stockholders' equity adjusted to exclude the net unrealized gain or loss on securities and the net gain on cash flow hedges. Revenue is calculated by taking total revenue and excluding net realized investment gains or losses.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

How are these performance measures and their respective targets selected?

We believe these performance targets represent long-term drivers of shareholder value. Company performance is measured from several perspectives with these targets. The growth and competitiveness of the company are measured using sales, earned premium and revenue targets. Profitability achievement is measured using pre-tax operating income. Capital management effectiveness is measured using return on equity. Effective and efficient customer service is measured using the service and operating expense ratio targets. Each measure is weighted based on its relative importance to the achievement of the company's business plan and shareholder value.

How are the annual incentive awards of the named executives related to the performance of Unum Group and the performance of its individual business operations?

The portion of each named executive's annual incentive award that is tied to Unum Group's performance and the performance of the company's business operations differ. Mr. Watjen's and Mr. Greving's incentive awards for results achieved in 2008 were based entirely (100%) on the results of Unum Group for each of its performance measures as described above. For Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Best, 25% of their award was based on Unum Group performance and 75% on Unum US performance. For Mr. Horn, 25% of his award was based on Unum Group performance, and the remaining 75% was based on Colonial Life performance.

For Mr. McCarthy, Mr. Best and Mr. Horn, we believe basing a portion of annual incentive awards on the performance of Unum Group best reflects the contribution each makes to the effective management of the total company.

Does the Committee take into consideration any exceptions when determining Unum's performance?

When the Committee set the performance measures and weightings for 2008, it established a list of items that would be excluded from the calculation of the company's performance for purposes of the annual and long-term incentive plans. Among these items were:

Reserve adjustments resulting from accounting or regulatory law changes that were not included in the 2008 plan;

The impact of any acquisitions, divestitures, or block reinsurance transactions not included in the plan;

The effect of any regulatory, legal or tax settlements not included in the plan; and

The impact of fluctuating currency exchange rates not already assumed in the 2008 plan. In measuring financial results for 2008, the Committee excluded only the fluctuating currency exchange rates from their calculation, since the net effect of the other items resulted in an adjustment which was found to be immaterial.

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

If the corporate performance threshold is met, how does the Committee exercise its discretion with respect to the amount of actual incentive paid?

The Committee is authorized by the plan to exercise its discretion to reduce, but not to increase, the size of awards to named executives. In exercising this discretion, the Committee considers the achievement by each individual of the performance targets listed in the table titled "2008 Annual Incentive Award Performance Targets" on page 52. Also considered are the target amounts payable to each executive once the performance targets are achieved. Other factors may also be taken into consideration by the Committee, including, but not limited to: achievement of non-financial goals; economic and relative performance considerations; and assessments of individual performance.

The actual incentive payout to each named executive is currently and has historically been much less than the maximum award allowed by the plan.

What are the annual incentive targets and how are they determined?

The Committee sets individual annual incentive targets for each named executive. These targets are stated as a percentage of each individual's base salary, and are established based on a number of factors, including the approximate median of the Proxy Peer Group for the CEO and the Towers Perrin Study for other named executives as previously discussed on page 43. The Committee also considered each individual's target relative to other named executives, given their respective levels of responsibility. For 2008, the annual incentive targets (as a percentage of base salary) for the named executives were: 150% for Mr. Watjen; 65% for Mr. Greving; 100% for Mr. McCarthy; 90% for Mr. Best; and 80% for Mr. Horn.

What was the total annual incentive cash payment made to each named executive for 2008?

Based on the company's performance against targets, each named executive received the amounts shown in the table below. These amounts can also be found in the Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation column of the Summary Compensation Table on page 70.

Executive	ANNUAL INCENTIVE PAID IN 2009 ⁽¹⁾		(Based on Performance in 2008)	
	Annual Incentive Target (% of Salary)	Annual Incentive Target (\$)	2008 Annual Incentive Paid (\$)	As a % of Target
Mr. Watjen	150%	\$1,650,000	\$2,268,750	138%
Mr. Greving	65%	273,000	411,520	151%
Mr. McCarthy	100%	565,000	689,293	122%
Mr. Best	90%	463,500	532,923	115%
Mr. Horn	80%	380,000	425,053	112%

(1) Total compensation for 2008 performance is outlined in the table on page 65.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

How did the Committee arrive at these payout amounts?

As described in this section, the Committee considers company and individual performance when determining annual incentive award amounts for named executives.

Company and Business Performance

In determining company and business unit performance the Committee considers the factors outlined on page 38. The Committee also compared the company and business unit performance to the annual incentive targets outlined on page 52. The Committee concluded that the performance of Unum Group exceeded all the targets and was above plan at 110%. With respect to the three business units, each of them met or exceeded all goals with the exception of sales. The Committee concluded that each business unit was at plan on an overall basis.

Individual Performance

The Committee evaluates individual performance by considering company and business unit results, individual contributions to those results, performance against individual performance plans, input from the company's 360 degree review process, and a formal evaluation by the Board of Directors. A detailed description of Mr. Watjen's performance is outlined on page 46. In the case of named executives, Mr. Watjen's recommendation is also considered.

Mr. Watjen recommended to the Committee that his 2008 annual incentive award be lower than that received in 2007. This recommendation reflected his views regarding the environment and the company's stock performance. The Committee considered this feedback but felt that in light of Mr. Watjen's performance, a higher payout was appropriate. After considering all of these factors, the Committee concluded that Mr. Watjen's individual performance metric was 125%.

Therefore, Mr. Watjen's overall annual incentive as a percentage of target is 138%, which is arrived at by multiplying the company performance factor (110%) by his individual performance factor (125%).

A similar process was followed for each of the other named executive officers.

Unum Group

55

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

Long-Term Incentive Awards

As outlined in our compensation philosophy above, our goal is to align the long-term interests of management and stockholders. The long-term incentive program creates this alignment by tying a substantial portion of the executive's compensation directly to the company's stock price. The awards, which are a combination of stock options and restricted stock units, are granted under the Stock Incentive Plan of 2007.

How are long-term incentive awards paid to named executives?

We currently provide a mix of stock options and restricted stock units as part of our long-term incentive program for named executives. Seventy-five percent of the award is granted as restricted stock units and 25% is granted as stock options as described below. This mix was based on a review of peer practices and ensures that a portion of each executive's compensation is tied to the increase of our stock price over the long term.

Is there a company performance threshold established for the long-term incentive awards similar to that in place for the annual incentive?

As is the case with the EOIP, for 2008, the company performance threshold established by the Committee for the long-term incentive program was two times the amount of operating earnings needed to pay dividends and cover interest on our debt. That threshold was \$360.2 million and was exceeded.

If the threshold associated with the long-term incentive is achieved, each named executive is eligible to receive the maximum award, set by the Committee, for that performance year. By designing the program in this way, the company believes this increases the likelihood that these long-term incentive awards will be deductible under the performance-based compensation exception to Section 162(m), while maximizing flexibility to grant appropriately sized awards.

If the company threshold is met, how does the Committee exercise its discretion with respect to awards for each named executive?

The Stock Incentive Plan authorizes the Committee to exercise its discretion to reduce, but not to increase, the size of awards to named executives. The Committee considers the individual's long-term incentive target along with the performance targets listed in the table on page 52. Other factors may also be taken into consideration by the Committee, including, but not limited to: achievement of non-financial goals; economic and relative performance considerations; and assessments of individual performance.

The long-term incentive award granted to each named executive has historically been much less than the maximum award.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

What are restricted stock units?

Restricted stock units, granted on the basis of the performance of the company and the individual, are valued in terms of company stock but no actual stock is issued at the time of grant. Instead, company stock is only issued when the grant actually vests. Restricted stock units differ from restricted stock in two ways:

Dividends are not paid in the form of cash on a quarterly basis but rather as additional restricted stock units; and

There are no stockholder voting rights until the award is settled in shares. We believe that the process of dividend reinvestment associated with restricted stock units helps achieve our objective of closely aligning named executives' compensation with stockholder interests.

What are the performance targets for long-term incentive awards?

Each year at its February meeting, the Committee establishes corporate performance measures for the long-term incentive award program. Much like the annual incentive plan, each factor is then weighted based on its relative importance to the company or business unit as well as on its potential impact on stockholder returns. Awards are then granted to each named executive based on these performance measures, and the awards vest based on the executive's continued service over a three-year period.

This structure serves both objectives of our compensation philosophy, including the retention of key executives and linking compensation to performance. The one-year performance goals that determine the awards to be granted give our named executives strong incentives to meet corporate performance objectives. At the same time, the three-year vesting requirement both helps us retain the named executive and links the value of the award to the performance of the company during that period.

The corporate performance factors for 2007 (for grants awarded in February 2008) were:

Before-tax operating earnings (excluding realized investment gains and losses), which was weighted at 40% with a target of \$1,009.3 million;

Return on equity, weighted at 40% with a target of 9.4%; and

Revenue (excluding realized investment gains and losses), which was given a 20% weighting with a target of \$10,480.6 million.

How are individual long-term incentive grants determined?

At its February meeting, in addition to establishing corporate performance measures, the Committee sets an individual target for each named executive. These targets are set as a percentage of base salary for each named executive.

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

After the end of each year, the Committee assesses the company's performance and compares the actual corporate results to the targets established for each measure. The Committee first determines an award amount expressed in U.S. dollars. Then, 75% of the award is converted to a number of restricted stock units using the closing price of the stock on the grant date. The remaining 25% is converted to stock options based on the Black-Scholes value of the stock options on the grant date.

In February 2008, based on 2007 performance, the Committee approved the following grants of restricted stock units and stock options for the named executives as outlined in the following table:

Executive	LONG-TERM INCENTIVE PAID IN 2008 ⁽¹⁾			(Based on Performance in 2007)		
	Long-Term Incentive Target	Long-Term Incentive Target	2007 Long-Term Incentive Paid	As a % of Target	Shares of Restricted Stock Units Granted (Feb. 2008)	Stock Options Granted (Feb. 2008)
	(% of Salary)	(\$)	(\$)	(%)	(#)	(#)
Mr. Watjen	350%	\$3,675,000	\$7,222,500 ⁽²⁾	197%	180,787	331,519
Mr. Greving	90%	351,000	573,885	164%	24,174	n/a
Mr. McCarthy	125%	656,250	1,272,969 ⁽³⁾	194%	33,898	52,969
Mr. Best	100%	480,000	884,800 ⁽⁴⁾	184%	24,794	33,507
Mr. Horn	90%	396,000	747,460 ⁽⁵⁾	189%	20,455	29,623

(1) The 2007 Long-Term Incentive was granted in February 2008 based on the performance in 2007.

(2) The 2007 Long-Term Incentive Paid includes an additional award granted in 2008 in recognition of Mr. Watjen's individual contributions during 2007. Mr. Watjen received \$1,500,000 in stock options in recognition of his work in the turnaround of the company, improved rating agency ratings, leading the company through the RSA/CSA process, and strategic initiatives such as Simply Unum, which prepare the company for the future. Mr. Watjen's remaining Long-Term Incentive was paid in the form of 75% restricted stock units and 25% stock options.

(3) The 2007 Long-Term Incentive Paid includes an award granted in 2008 in recognition of Mr. McCarthy's individual contributions during 2007. Mr. McCarthy received \$200,000 in stock options in recognition of his achievements in leading the Unum US organization, the completion of the RSA/CSA process, and his progress in defining the strategic direction of Unum

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US. Mr. McCarthy's remaining Long-Term Incentive was paid in the form of 75% restricted stock units and 25% stock options.

- (4) The 2007 Long-Term Incentive Paid includes an additional award granted in 2008 in recognition of Mr. Best's individual contributions during 2007. Mr. Best received \$100,000 in stock options in recognition of his contributions to the Simply Unum offering and development of continuous improvement programs across Unum US, Colonial Life and Unum UK. Mr. Best's remaining Long-Term Incentive was paid in the form of 75% restricted stock units and 25% stock options.
- (5) The 2007 Long-Term Incentive Paid includes an additional award granted in 2008 in recognition of Mr. Horn's individual contributions during 2007. Mr. Horn received \$100,000 in stock options in recognition of his achievements in positioning the business for the long-term, including enhancing the distribution capabilities at Colonial Life, expansion of the enrollment capabilities and re-branding to better position Colonial Life in the market. Mr. Horn's remaining Long-Term Incentive was paid in the form of 75% restricted stock units and 25% stock options.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

In February 2008, based on a review of the median of market data, (i.e. the Proxy Peer Group for the CEO and the Towers Perrin Study for the other named executives), as well as each individual's target relative to other named executives given their respective levels of responsibility, the Committee set the individual targets for each of our named executives as shown in the table below. Based on this review, the Committee increased Mr. Watjen's long-term incentive target from 350% to 400%, Mr. McCarthy's long-term incentive target from 90% to 150%, Mr. Best's long-term incentive target from 90% to 125%, and Mr. Horn's long-term incentive target from 90% to 100%.

As is the case with the annual incentive award, the Committee considers both corporate and business unit performance as well as individual performance in determining long-term incentive awards.

Corporate and Business Unit Performance

The corporate performance factors and weightings for 2008 (for grants awarded in 2009) were unchanged from 2007 and were as follows:

The target for before-tax operating earnings (excluding realized investment gains and losses) was \$1,270.9 million;

The target for return on equity was 11.16%; and

The target for revenue (excluding realized investment gains and losses) was \$10,588.3 million.

The Committee determined that based upon achievement against the factors noted above as well as the overall performance of Unum Group and the business units, the corporate performance was above plan at 120%.

Individual Performance

The Committee evaluates individual performance by considering company and business unit results, individual contributions to those results, performance against individual performance plans, input from the company's 360 degree review process, and a formal evaluation by the Board of Directors. In the case of other named executives, Mr. Watjen's recommendation is also considered.

As is the case for calculating the annual incentive awards outlined on page 55, the Committee takes the individual performance factor for each named executive and multiplies it by the corporate performance factor (120%) to arrive at the long-term incentive payment as a percentage of target.

With respect to Mr. Watjen, this calculation would have produced a higher long-term incentive award than was paid. Mr. Watjen's award was capped at 97% of target due to a specific provision in the plan which limits the overall number of shares which may be awarded. The Committee specifically noted that this lower long-term incentive award was not the result of individual performance but rather a function of the plan cap on total shares.

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

LONG-TERM INCENTIVE PAID IN 2009⁽¹⁾

(Based on Performance in 2008)

Executive	Long-Term Incentive Target (% of Salary)	Long-Term Incentive Target (\$)	2008 Long-Term Incentive Paid (\$)	As a	Shares of Restricted Stock Units Granted (Feb. 2009) (#)	Stock Options Granted (Feb. 2009) (#)
				% of Target		
Mr. Watjen	400%	\$4,400,000	\$4,268,395	97%	281,557	239,796
Mr. Greving	90%	378,000	521,642	138%	34,409	29,306
Mr. McCarthy	150%	847,500	1,220,397	144%	80,501	68,562
Mr. Best	125%	643,750	849,750	132%	56,052	47,739
Mr. Horn	100%	475,000	598,503	126%	39,479	33,624

(1) The 2008 long-term incentive was paid in February 2009 based on the performance in 2008.

Why are these performance targets selected?

These performance targets represent what we believe to be long-term drivers of shareholder value. Value creation is measured on the basis of growth, profitability and effective capital management. Long-term growth is measured using overall company revenue as the target. Profitability achievement is measured using pre-tax operating income. Capital management effectiveness is measured using return on equity. Consistent with our annual incentive plan, each measure is weighted based on its relative importance to the achievement of the company's long-term business plan.

Does the company have a policy for recouping performance-based compensation in the event of an earnings restatement?

In February 2009, the Committee adopted a policy on the recoupment of performance-based compensation. If the company makes a material restatement of its financial results, then the Board will, to the extent permitted by applicable law, seek recoupment of performance-based compensation paid to any senior officer. The Board will take this action if it determines that: (1) the senior officer has committed or engaged in fraud or willful misconduct that resulted, either directly or indirectly, in the need to make such restatement; and (2) such performance-based compensation paid or awarded to the senior officer would have been a lesser amount if calculated using the restated financial results. The amount of performance-based compensation to be recouped will be determined by the Board after taking into account the relevant facts and circumstances. Performance-based compensation includes annual cash incentive awards, bonuses and all forms of equity compensation. The company's right to recoup compensation is in addition to other remedies that may be available to us under applicable law.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Retirement and Workplace Benefits

What employee benefits does Unum provide its named executives and other employees?

We provide a benefits package for employees and their dependents, portions of which are paid for, in whole or in part, by the employee. Benefits include: life, health, dental, vision, and disability insurance; pension; 401(k); dependent and healthcare reimbursement accounts; tuition reimbursement; an employee stock purchase plan; paid time off; holidays; and a matching gifts program for charitable contributions. Named executives have the same benefits package as other employees.

In April 2000, the company purchased corporate owned life insurance (COLI) on all officers who gave their approval. In the event of death while still employed, the company provides a death benefit to the executive's beneficiary in the amount of \$200,000 (this amount is shown in the appropriate column of the Termination table on page 84). Of the named executives, Mr. Horn was the only one who was not an employee of the company at that time, and therefore he is not covered under a COLI policy.

What types of retirement plans does Unum offer?

We sponsor a tax-qualified, defined benefit pension plan. We also provide a non-qualified pension plan for employees whose benefits under the tax-qualified plans are limited by the Internal Revenue Code. Base pay and regular annual incentive awards are counted toward the defined benefit pension plans; long-term incentives are not. In addition to the qualified and non-qualified pension plans, Mr. Watjen also has a supplemental executive retirement plan under the terms of his employment agreement.

For a complete description of pension benefits for the named executives, please see the 2008 Pension Benefits section beginning on page 77. Pension benefits are calculated using base pay and annual incentive awards.

Unum Group

61

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

Perquisites and Other Personal Benefits

With approval of the Committee, Unum replaced the majority of the perquisites offered to named executives with a salary increase of equivalent value effective January 1, 2008. Mr. Watjen received a salary increase of \$19,400 and the other named executives each received an increase of \$12,400. Because this amount is considered salary, we place no requirements or restrictions on its use.

The company does continue to provide the following limited perquisites:

Limited personal use of corporate aircraft by Mr. Watjen up to a maximum of 40 hours per year (with no tax gross-up on any income attributed to this perquisite);

For certain company functions, attendance of a spouse/guest of the named executive is expected. The company attributes income to the named executive for his attendance, and the attendance of his spouse or guest, when required under Internal Revenue Service regulations. A tax gross-up is provided on the income attributed to this perquisite; and

A tax gross-up is provided for non-resident state taxes when any employees travel to other company locations outside of their primary state of employment and incur state income tax based on another state's law (see the Summary Compensation Table footnote (7) for additional details).

A detailed table of executive perquisites is included as footnote (7) to the Summary Compensation Table on page 70.

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Contracts

Employment Agreements

Mr. Watjen is the only named executive covered under an employment agreement. Under the terms of his agreement, Mr. Watjen is entitled to the following compensation:

Base salary of \$1,100,000;

A target annual incentive of not less than 150% of his base salary, excluding any special or supplemental bonuses that may be awarded;

Eligible for annual equity grants and/or cash-based awards as determined by the Committee;

Participation in all saving, retirement, health, welfare and fringe benefit programs generally available to our other senior executive officers;

A minimum annual retirement benefit equal to 2.5% of his final average earnings multiplied by his years of service up to 20 years;

Post-retirement welfare benefit coverage for a period of three years following the date of termination; and

A lump-sum payment representing the increase in present value of his retirement benefit as if he had accumulated three additional years of age and service.

Mr. Watjen's employment agreement, which was originally effective January 1, 2002, and amended on December 16, 2005, currently extends through December 16, 2010, and is subject to automatic one-year extensions unless either party gives notice of its intention not to renew at least 60 days prior to the extension date. Mr. Watjen's amended and restated employment agreement was modified in 2008 to comply with the Internal Revenue Code Section 409A.

Mr. Watjen's agreement prohibits him from using or divulging confidential information and from competing with us or soliciting our employees for a period of 18 months after his employment terminates. These non-competition and non-solicitation covenants would be terminated upon a change in control.

Time-Sharing Agreement

In 2007, the company entered into an aircraft time-sharing agreement with Mr. Watjen. Under this agreement, Mr. Watjen will reimburse the costs incurred by us beyond the first 40 hours of personal use by him of the corporate aircraft. In 2008, Mr. Watjen did not exceed 40 hours of personal use and therefore did not trigger the time-sharing arrangement.

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

Change in Control Agreements

Each of the named executives, other than Mr. Watjen, is covered by a change in control agreement with the company. Please refer to the "Terminations Related to a Change in Control" section on page 90 for more information.

Severance and Change in Control Benefits

The company provides severance benefits to all employees in the event of involuntary termination, other than for death, disability or cause. Mr. Watjen's severance benefits are provided under his Amended and Restated Employment Agreement and are described in detail on page 88. The remaining named executives are generally covered under our Separation Pay Plan for Executive Vice Presidents. In general, we provide severance in order to give our employees competitive benefits with respect to the possibility of an involuntary termination of their employment.

In the event of a termination following a change in control, we provide a more generous severance benefit to Mr. Watjen and the other named executives. This is to ensure that stockholders have the benefit of our named executives' undivided attention during the critical time before and after a major corporate transaction, even though the transaction may result in uncertainty with respect to the executives' employment. These benefits are defined for Mr. Watjen under his employment agreement, and for the other named executives in Change in Control Severance Agreements. We describe these agreements in further detail in the section entitled "Terminations Related to a Change in Control" on page 90.

*Total Compensation***What was the total compensation earned in 2008 by each named executive?**

The Summary Compensation Table on page 70 provides an overview of executive compensation. However, because the Summary Compensation Table takes into consideration items such as the actuarial increase of the present value of pension benefits and the accounting cost of equity grants (versus their fair value at grant), we have included below a supplemental table that provides an overview of the primary elements of executive pay as the Committee considers it when making compensation decisions. *Please note that the following table is not a substitute for the required Summary Compensation Table.*

Table of Contents

2009 Proxy Statement

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2008 AND 2007 TOTAL COMPENSATION⁽¹⁾

Executive	Year	Salary	Annual Incentive⁽²⁾	Long-Term Incentive⁽³⁾	All Other Compensation⁽⁴⁾	Total
Mr. Watjen	2008	\$1,094,902	\$2,268,750	\$4,268,395	\$149,815	\$7,781,862
	2007	1,041,667	2,000,000	7,222,500	119,997	10,384,164
Mr. Greving	2008	417,067	411,520	521,642	16,828	1,367,057
	2007	388,333	380,103	573,885	36,608	1,378,929
Mr. McCarthy	2008	560,401	689,293	1,220,397	56,750	2,526,841
	2007	510,833	502,660	1,272,969	60,867	2,347,329
Mr. Best	2008	511,234	532,923	849,750	28,742	1,922,649
	2007	473,333	407,970	884,800	50,223	1,816,326
Mr. Horn	2008	471,234	425,053	598,503	98,291	1,593,081
	2007	433,333	366,730	747,460	50,679	1,598,202

- (1) The amounts in the table reflect the principal elements of the named executives' compensation for 2008 and 2007 that the Committee considered when they made these compensation decisions.
- (2) For 2008 performance, the annual incentive amounts were determined by the Committee in February 2009 and paid in March 2009. For 2007 performance, the annual incentive amounts were determined by the Committee in February 2008 and paid in March 2008.
- (3) The long-term incentive amounts were determined by the Committee and paid in February 2009 based on 2008 performance and in February 2008 based on 2007 performance.
- (4) The all other compensation amounts paid in 2008 are further detailed in the All Other Compensation table on page 72 and the Summary Compensation Table on page 70. The all other compensation amounts paid in 2007 were reported in the All Other Compensation table and Summary Compensation Table in the 2008 Proxy.

Why do we provide the 2008 and 2007 Total Compensation table in addition to the Summary Compensation Table on page 70?

The company provides the 2008 and 2007 Total Compensation table in addition to the Summary Compensation Table on page 70 because when making compensation decisions, the Committee primarily focuses on the value of awards at the date they are given to an executive versus the accounting treatment and timing of the award as reported in the company's financial statements and required by the SEC rules applicable to the Summary Compensation Table.

The 2007 and 2008 Total Compensation table reflects salary received in the year, annual incentive awarded for that year's performance, long-term incentive awarded for that year's performance, and all other compensation as outlined on page 72. Inclusion of this table is not designed to replace the Summary Compensation Table, but rather to reflect the Committee's decisions about compensation awarded to the named executive officers as a result of that year's performance.

Table of Contents

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

2009 Proxy Statement

How does the above compensation relate to the Summary Compensation Table?

The following table shows the reconciliation between the 2007 and 2008 Total Compensation table above and the total in the Summary Compensation Table (page 70). In order to reconcile the two tables, the following adjustments should be made to the Summary Compensation Table:

Add the 2009 LTI grant for 2008 performance as this is accounted for in later years;

Subtract the accounting expense recognized in 2008 for all unvested grants, which include prior year grants; and

Subtract the change in pension value and non-qualified deferred compensation.

It is important to note that the substantial increase in the 2008 accounting expense for Mr. Watjen's unvested grants is primarily the result of his reaching age 55 during the grant period. Please see page 69 for a discussion of the accounting treatment under SFAS 123(R) which accelerates this expense.

COMPENSATION RECONCILIATION