UNICO AMERICAN CORP
Form 10-K
March 29, 2013

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

#### **FORM 10-K**

Annual report pursuant to Section 13 or 15 (d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012 Commission File No. 0-3978

#### UNICO AMERICAN CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada 95-2583928

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) (IRS Employer Identification No.)

23251 Mulholland Drive, Woodland Hills, California 91364

(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (818) 591-9800

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

#### Common Stock, No Par Value NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

(Title of each class) Name Of Each Exchange On Which Registered

Securities registered pursuant to section 12(g) of the Act:

#### None

(Title of Class)

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes No  $\underline{X}$ 

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act. Yes No $\underline{X}$
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15 (d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes <u>X</u> No.—
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes X No
Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of Registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy of information statements incorporated by reference as Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. X
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer of a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerator filer," "accelerator filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):
Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer
Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company <u>X</u>
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)
Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).
Yes No X
The aggregate market value of registrant's voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates as of June 29 2012, the last business day of Registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter was \$25,431,445.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Class Outstanding at March 27, 2013

Common Stock, \$0 Par value per share 5,341,147

Portions of the definitive proxy statement that Registrant intends to file pursuant to Regulation 14(a) by a date no later than 120 days after December 31, 2012, to be used in connection with the annual meeting of shareholders, are incorporated herein by reference into Part III hereof. If such definitive proxy statement is not filed in the 120-day period, the information called for by Part III will be filed as an amendment to this Form 10-K not later than the end of the 120-day period.

#### **PART I**

#### Item 1. Business.

Unico American Corporation is an insurance holding company that underwrites property and casualty insurance through its insurance company subsidiary; provides property, casualty, and health insurance through its agency subsidiaries; and provides insurance premium financing and membership association services through its other subsidiaries. Unico American Corporation is referred to herein as the "Company" or "Unico" and such references include both the corporation and its subsidiaries, all of which are wholly owned, unless otherwise indicated. Unico was incorporated under the laws of Nevada in 1969.

Descriptions of the Company's operations in the following paragraphs are categorized between the Company's major segment - insurance company operation, and all other revenues from insurance operations. The insurance company operation is conducted through Crusader Insurance Company (Crusader), Unico's property and casualty insurance company. Insurance company revenues and other revenues from insurance operations for the years ended December 31, 2012, December 31, 2011, and December 31, 2010, are as follows:

	Year ended December 31 2012 2011			l 2011			2010		
	Percent		nt	Percent		ıt		Percen	ıt
		of Tot	al		of Tot	al		of Tota	al
	Total	Company Total			Company Revenues		Total	Company Revenues	
	Revenues	Revenues Revenues					Revenues		
Insurance company revenues	\$29,336,197	89.6	%	\$30,791,722	89.1	%	\$32,334,184	87.1	%
Other revenues from insurance operations Gross commissions and fees: Health insurance program commission income	1,157,700	3.5	%	1,407,490	4.1	%	1,933,288	5.2	%
Policy fee income Daily automobile rental insurance program commission Association operations membership and fee income	1,773,234	5.5	%	1,829,257	5.3	%	1,980,928	5.3	%
	273,530	0.8	%	305,516	0.9	%	364,968	1.0	%
	134,609	0.4	%	156,165	0.4	%	212,215	0.6	%
Other commission and fee income	_	_		_	_		170	_	
Total gross commission and fee income Investment income Finance charges and fees earned Other income	3,339,073	10.2	%	3,698,428	10.7	%	4,491,569	12.1	%
	1,151 70,013 10,136		%	1,852 70,901 13,798		%	3,432 276,737 14,829	0.8 —	%
Total other revenues from insurance operations	3,420,373	10.4	%	3,784,979	10.9	%	4,786,567	12.9	%

Total revenues

\$32,756,570 100.0 % \$34,576,701 100.0 % \$37,120,751 100.0 %

#### **INSURANCE COMPANY OPERATION**

#### General

The insurance company operation is conducted through Crusader. Crusader is a multiple line property and casualty insurance company that began transacting business on January 1, 1985. Since 2004, all Crusader business has been written in the state of California. During the year ended December 31, 2012, approximately 98% of Crusader's business was commercial multiple peril policies. Commercial multiple peril policies provide a combination of property and liability coverage for businesses. Commercial property coverage insures against loss or damage to buildings, inventory and equipment from natural disasters, including hurricanes, windstorms, hail, water, explosions, severe winter weather, and other events such as theft and vandalism, fires, storms, and financial loss due to business interruption resulting from covered property damage. However, Crusader does not write earthquake coverage. Commercial liability coverage insures against third party liability from accidents occurring on the insured's premises or arising out of its operation. In addition to commercial multiple peril policies, Crusader also writes separate policies to insure commercial property and commercial liability risks on a mono-line basis. Crusader is domiciled in California; and as of December 31, 2012, Crusader was licensed as an admitted insurance carrier in the states of Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington.

## Production and Servicing of Policies

The Company sells its insurance policies through Unifax Insurance Systems, Inc. (Unifax), Crusader's sister corporation and exclusive general agent. All policies are produced by a network of brokers and retail agents. During 2012, Crusader continued to introduce new products as well as product changes such as revised rates, eligibility guidelines, rules and coverage forms. In order to improve service, the Company is currently implementing and configuring a new policy administration system that is primarily focused upon transacting business through the internet, as well as providing more options to make the brokers' and agents' time more efficient. Crusader does not intend to substantially increase its number of retail agents appointed until the Company implements its new policy administration system.

The property casualty insurance marketplace continues to be intensely competitive. While Crusader attempts to meet such competition with competitive prices, its emphasis is on service, promotion, and distribution. Crusader believes that rate adequacy is more important than premium growth and that underwriting profit (net earned premium less losses and loss adjustment expenses and policy acquisition costs) is its primary goal. Nonetheless, Crusader believes that it can grow its sales and profitability by continuing to focus upon three areas of its operations: (1) product development, (2) improved service to retail brokers, and (3) appointment of captive and independent retail agents.

#### Adjusting of Claims

Crusader manages all of its claims with a staff of in-house claim adjusters. This staff adjusts claims and oversees all outside claim services such as attorneys, independent claim adjusters, outside claim adjusters, investigators, and experts as necessary.

#### Reinsurance

A reinsurance transaction occurs when an insurance company transfers (cedes) a portion of its exposure on policies written to a reinsurer that assumes that risk for a premium (ceded premium). Reinsurance does not legally discharge the Company from primary liability under its policies. If the reinsurer fails to meet its obligations, the Company must nonetheless pay its policy obligations. Crusader's primary excess of loss reinsurance agreements since January 1, 2003, are as follows:

Annual Aggregate Deductible

A.M. Best Rating

Loss Year(s) Reinsurer(s)

Retention

2011 – 2012 Platinum Underwriters Reinsurance, Inc. A

	& Hannover Ruckversicherungs AG	A	
	& TOA Reinsurance	A+	\$500,000 \$ -
2005 – 2010	Platinum Underwriters Reinsurance, Inc.	A	
2003 – 2010	& Hannover Ruckversicherungs AG	A	\$300,000 \$500,000
2004	Platinum Underwriters Reinsurance, Inc.	A	
2004	& Hannover Ruckversicherungs AG	A	\$250,000 \$500,000
	Platinum Underwriters Reinsurance, Inc.	A	
2003	& Hannover Ruckversicherungs AG	A	
	& QBE Reinsurance Corporation	A	\$250,000 \$500,000

In calendar years 2012 and 2011 Crusader retained a participation in its excess of loss reinsurance treaties of 10% in its  $1^{st}$  layer (\$500,000 in excess of \$500,000), 5% in its  $2^{nd}$  layer (\$1,000,000 in excess of \$1,000,000), and 0% in its property and casualty clash treaty.

In calendar years 2010, 2009 and 2008 Crusader retained a participation in its excess of loss reinsurance treaties of 20% in its 1st layer (\$700,000 in excess of \$300,000), 15% in its 2nd layer (\$1,000,000 in excess of \$1,000,000), and 0% in its property and casualty clash treaty. In 2007 Crusader retained a participation in its excess of loss reinsurance treaties of 15% in its 1st layer (\$700,000 in excess of \$300,000), 15% in its 2nd layer (\$1,000,000 in excess of \$1,000,000), and 15% in its property clash treaty. In 2006 and 2005 Crusader retained a participation in its excess of loss reinsurance treaties of 10% in its 1st layer (\$700,000 in excess of \$300,000), 10% in its 2nd layer (\$1,000,000 in excess of \$1,000,000), and 30% in its property clash treaty. In 2004 Crusader retained a participation in its excess of loss reinsurance treaties of 10% in its 1st layer (\$750,000 in excess of \$250,000), 10% in its 2nd layer (\$1,000,000 in excess of \$1,000,000), and 30% in its property clash treaty. In 2003 Crusader retained a participation in its excess of loss reinsurance treaties of 5% in its 1st layer (\$750,000 in excess of \$250,000), 10% in its 2nd layer (\$1,000,000 in excess of \$1,000,000), and 30% in its property clash treaty. In 2003 Crusader retained a participation in its excess of loss reinsurance treaties of 5% in its 1st layer (\$750,000 in excess of \$250,000), 10% in its 2nd layer (\$1,000,000 in excess of \$1,000,000), and 30% in its property clash treaty.

The 2007 through 2012 excess of loss reinsurance treaties do not provide for a contingent commission. Crusader's 2006 1st layer primary excess of loss reinsurance treaty provides for a contingent commission equal to 20% of the net profit, if any, accruing to the reinsurer. The first accounting period for the contingent commission covered the period from January 1, 2006, through December 31, 2006. The 2005 excess of loss reinsurance treaties did not provide for a contingent commission. Crusader's 2004 and 2003 pt layer primary excess of loss reinsurance treaties provide for a contingent commission to the Company equal to 45% of the net profit, if any, accruing to the reinsurer. The first accounting period for the contingent commission covers the period from January 1, 2003, through December 31, 2004. For each accounting period as described above, the Company will calculate and report to the reinsurers its net profit (excluding incurred but not reported losses), if any, within 90 days after 36 months following the end of the first accounting period, and within 90 days after the end of each 12-month period thereafter until all losses subject to the agreement have been finally settled. Any contingent commission received is subject to return based on future development of ceded losses and loss adjustment expenses. As of December 31, 2012, the Company has received a total net contingent commission of \$3,651,935 for the years subject to contingent commission. Of this amount, the Company has recognized \$3,285,855 of contingent commission income, of which \$443,697 was recognized in the year ended December 31, 2012. The remaining balance of the net payments received of \$366,080 is currently unearned and included in "Accrued Expenses and Other Liabilities" in the consolidated balance sheets. The unearned contingent commission may be subsequently earned or returned to the reinsurer depending on the future development of the ceded IBNR for the years subject to contingent commission.

Crusader also has catastrophe reinsurance treaties from various highly rated California authorized and unauthorized reinsurance companies. These reinsurance treaties help protect Crusader against liabilities in excess of certain retentions, including major or catastrophic losses that may occur from any one or more of the property and/or casualty risks which Crusader insures. The Company has no reinsurance recoverable balances in dispute.

The Company evaluates each of its ceded reinsurance treaties at its inception to determine if there is sufficient risk transfer to allow the contract to be accounted for as reinsurance under current accounting literature. As of December 31, 2012, all such ceded contracts are accounted for as risk transfer reinsurance.

The aggregate amount of earned premium ceded to the reinsurers was \$5,135,929 for the year ended December 31, 2012, \$5,348,319 for the year ended December 31, 2011, and \$7,427,236 for the year ended December 31, 2010.

On most of the premium that Crusader cedes to the reinsurer, the reinsurer pays a commission to Crusader that includes a reimbursement of the cost of acquiring the portion of the premium that is ceded. Crusader does not currently assume any reinsurance. The Company intends to continue obtaining reinsurance although the availability and cost may vary from time to time. The unpaid losses ceded to the reinsurer are recorded as an asset on the balance sheet.

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## **Unpaid Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses**

Crusader maintains reserves for losses and loss adjustment expenses with respect to both reported and unreported losses. When a claim for loss is reported to the Company, a reserve is established for the expected cost to settle the claim, including estimates of any related legal expense and other costs associated with resolving the claim. These reserves are called "case based" reserves. In addition, the Company also sets up reserves at the end of each reporting period for losses that have occurred but have not yet been reported to the Company. These incurred but not reported losses are referred to as "IBNR" reserves.

Crusader establishes reserves for reported losses based on historical experience, upon case-by-case evaluation of facts surrounding each known loss, and the related policy provisions. The amount of reserves for unreported losses is estimated by analysis of historical and statistical information. The ultimate liability of Crusader may be greater or less than estimated reserves. Reserves are monitored and adjusted when appropriate and are reflected in the statement of operations in the period of adjustment. Reserves for losses and loss adjustment expenses are estimated to cover the future amounts needed to pay claims and related expenses with respect to insured events that have occurred.

The Company does not discount to a present value that portion of loss and loss adjustment expense reserves expected to be paid in future periods. Federal tax law, however, requires the Company to discount losses and loss adjustment expense reserves for federal income tax purposes.

The process of establishing loss and loss adjustment expense reserves involves significant judgment. The following table shows the development of the unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses for fiscal years 2002 through 2011. The top line of the table shows the estimated liability for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses, net of reinsurance, recorded at the balance sheet date for each of the indicated years. This liability represents the estimated amount of losses and loss adjustment expenses for losses arising in the current and prior years that are unpaid at the balance sheet date. The table shows the re-estimated amount of the previously recorded liability based on experience as of the end of each succeeding year. The estimate may change as more information becomes known. The Company believes that its loss and loss adjustment expense reserves are properly stated. When subsequent loss and loss adjustment expense development justifies changes in reserving practices, the Company responds accordingly.

The following table reflects redundancies in Crusader's net loss and loss adjustment expense reserves for each of the 2002 through 2011 periods. The gross loss and loss adjustment expense reserves also reflect a cumulative redundancy for the 2002 through 2011 periods. See discussion of losses and loss adjustment expenses in Item 7 - "Management's Discussion and Analysis - Results of Operations - Insurance Company Operation."

When evaluating the information in the following table, it should be noted that each amount includes the effects of all changes in amounts of prior periods; therefore, the cumulative redundancy represents the aggregate change in the estimates over all prior years. Conditions and trends that have affected development of liability in the past may not necessarily occur in the future. Accordingly, it would not be appropriate to extrapolate future deficiencies or redundancies based on this table.

# CRUSADER INSURANCE COMPANY ANALYSIS OF LOSS AND LOSS ADJUSTMENT EXPENSE DEVELOPMENT

	Year Ended D	December 31						
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	20
Reserve for								
Unpaid								
Losses and								
Loss								
Adjustment	\$53,596,945	\$58,883,861	\$67,349,989	\$76,235,467	\$70,076,430	\$66,305,287	\$58,839,017	\$:
Expenses,	+ , - > - , - : -	,,,,,,,,,,,	+ 01 ,e 12 ,2 02	+ , 0, - 0 0 , 10 ,	+	+,,	+,,	
Net								
Paid								
Cumulative								
as of								
1 Year Later	21,326,688	18,546,279	14,626,446	17,257,218	18,136,957	20,255,356	17,123,126	
2 Years Later		28,289,327	26,374,067	30,280,022	32,708,859	34,175,791	27,981,461	2
3 Years Later		35,508,898	34,031,644	39,459,338	40,477,741	40,878,873	33,327,793	,
4 Years Later	44,116,477	39,577,949	37,471,168	44,045,638	43,803,412	44,243,160	35,105,657	
5 Years Later	46,382,760	41,417,614	38,960,467	45,490,105	45,453,118	45,060,447		
6 Years Later	47,272,911	42,384,891	39,606,633	48,502,411	46,048,205			
7 Years Later	47,994,346	42,843,453	40,434,752	49,035,550				
8 Years Later	48,289,708	43,655,452	40,943,349					
9 Years Later	48,989,544	44,164,176						
10 Years	49,169,630							
Later	47,107,030							
Reserves								
Re-estimated								
as of								
1 Year Later	56,348,531	58,048,427	63,525,526	64,064,785	65,958,329	62,748,486	54,883,464	
2 Years Later		54,623,000	51,981,027	60,840,795	61,135,905	59,520,345	51,044,229	4
3 Years Later	55,430,550	50,602,947	49,959,618	57,688,373	56,989,424	56,548,186	47,343,297	4
4 Years Later	53,154,847	49,959,618	47,537,734	55,381,880	54,055,748	54,131,673	44,479,597	
5 Years Later	53,047,154	47,848,145	46,539,900	52,540,959	52,443,534	51,927,804		
6 Years Later	51,628,155	47,335,768	44,229,362	51,219,584	50,931,469			
7 Years Later	51,380,177	45,793,998	43,383,538	52,482,257				
8 Years Later	50,249,934	45,401,564	43,057,576					
9 Years Later	50,089,872	45,520,627						
10 Years	50,062,599							
Later	20,002,277							
Cumulative								
Redundancy	\$3,534,346	\$13,363,234	\$24,292,413	\$23,753,210	\$19,144,961	\$14,377,483	\$14,359,420	\$
Gross	\$74,905,284	\$78,139,090	\$87,469,000	\$101,914,548	\$93,596,117	\$94,730,711	\$78,654,590	\$
Liability for								

Unpaid Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses								
Ceded Liability for Unpaid Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses	(21,308,339)	) (19,255,229)	(20,119,011)	(25,679,081)	(23,519,687)	(28,425,424)	(19,815,573)	) (
Net Liability for Unpaid Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses	\$53,596,945	\$58,883,861	\$67,349,989	\$76,235,467	\$70,076,430	\$66,305,287	\$58,839,017	\$:
Gross Liability Re-estimated Ceded	\$70,902,267	\$62,129,789	\$56,238,314	\$68,205,915	\$63,368,874	\$65,215,056	\$54,361,761	\$:
Liability Re-estimated	(20,839,668)	(16,609,162)	(13,180,738)	(15,723,658)	(12,437,405)	(13,287,252)	(9,882,164)	)
Net Liability Re-estimated	\$50,062,599	\$45,520,627	\$43,057,576	\$52,482,257	\$50,931,469	\$51,927,804	\$44,479,597	\$4
Gross Reserve Redundancy	\$4,003,017	\$16,009,301	\$31,230,686	\$33,708,633	\$30,227,243	\$29,515,655	\$24,292,829	\$2

#### Net Premium Written to Policyholders' Surplus Ratio

The following table shows, for the periods indicated, Crusader's statutory ratio of net premium written to statutory policyholders' surplus. Since each property and casualty insurance company has different capital needs, an "acceptable" ratio of net premium written to policyholders' surplus for one company may be inapplicable to another. While there is no statutory requirement applicable to Crusader that establishes a permissible net premium to surplus ratio, guidelines established by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) provide that such ratio should generally be no greater than 3 to 1.

Twelve months ended December 31					
Statutory:	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
Net premium written	\$27,391,289	\$26,719,847	\$25,270,320	\$29,635,898	\$31,175,204
Policyholders' surplus	s \$59,062,170	\$67,277,035	\$62,520,958	\$62,553,813	\$64,736,230
Ratio	0.5 to 1	0.4 to 1	0.4 to 1	0.5 to 1	0.5 to 1

Crusader's results herein are reported in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). These results differ from its financial results reported in accordance with Statutory Accounting Principles (SAP) as prescribed or permitted by insurance regulatory authorities. Crusader is required to file financial statements with insurance regulatory authorities prepared on a SAP basis.

SAP differs in certain respects from GAAP. The more significant of these differences that apply to Crusader are:

Under GAAP, policy acquisition costs such as commissions, premium taxes and other variable costs incurred in connection with writing new and renewal business are capitalized and amortized on a pro rata basis over the period in which the related premiums are earned, rather than expensed as incurred as required by SAP.

Certain assets included in balance sheets under GAAP are designated as "non-admitted assets" and are charged directly against statutory surplus under SAP. Non-admitted assets primarily include premium receivables that are outstanding over 90 days, federal deferred tax assets in excess of statutory limitations, furniture, equipment, leasehold improvements, and prepaid expenses.

Under GAAP, amounts related to ceded reinsurance are shown gross as prepaid reinsurance premiums and reinsurance recoverable, rather than netted against unearned premium reserves and loss and loss adjustment expense reserves, respectively, as required by SAP.

Under GAAP, fixed maturity securities that are classified as available-for-sale are reported at estimated fair values, rather than at amortized cost or the lower of amortized cost or market, depending on the specific type of security as required by SAP.

The differing treatment of income and expense items results in a corresponding difference in federal income tax expense. Under GAAP reporting, changes in deferred income taxes are reflected as an item of income tax benefit or expense. As required by SAP, federal income taxes are recorded as income tax benefit or expense when payable and deferred taxes, subject to limitations, are recognized but only to the extent that they do not exceed a specified percentage of statutory surplus. Changes in deferred taxes are recorded directly to statutory surplus.

#### Regulation

The insurance company operation is subject to regulation by the California Department of Insurance (the insurance department) and by the department of insurance of other states in which Crusader is licensed. The insurance department has broad regulatory, supervisory, and administrative powers. These powers relate primarily to the standards of solvency which must be met and maintained; the licensing of insurers and their agents; the nature and limitation of insurers' investments; the prior approval of rates, rules and forms; the issuance of securities by insurers; periodic financial and market conduct examinations of the affairs of insurers; the annual and other reports required to be filed on the financial condition and results of operations of such insurers or for other purposes; and the establishment of reserves required to be maintained for unearned premiums, losses, and other purposes. The regulations and supervision by the insurance department are designed principally for the benefit of policyholders and not for the insurance company shareholders. The insurance department's Market Conduct Division is responsible for conducting periodic examinations of companies to ensure compliance with California Insurance Code and California Code of Regulations with respect to rating, underwriting and claims handling practices. The most recent Market Conduct Examination of Crusader covered claims handling practices in California during the period March 1, 2010, through February 28, 2011. The examination report was adopted by the insurance department on January 11, 2012. All issues identified during the examination were resolved to the satisfaction of the insurance department and the Company. None of the issues identified during the examination had any material effect on the Company. The insurance department also conducts periodic financial examinations of Crusader. During 2012, the insurance department began conducting a financial examination of Crusader's December 31, 2009 through December 31, 2011, statutory financial statements. As of the date of this report, the examination has not been completed.

In December 1993, the NAIC adopted a Risk-Based Capital (RBC) Model Law for property and casualty companies. The RBC Model Law is intended to provide standards for calculating a variable regulatory capital requirement related to a company's current operations and its risk exposures (asset risk, underwriting risk, credit risk and off-balance sheet risk). These standards are intended to serve as a diagnostic solvency tool for regulators that establishes uniform capital levels and specific authority levels for regulatory intervention when an insurer falls below minimum capital levels. The RBC Model Law specifies four distinct action levels at which a regulator can intervene with increasing degrees of authority over a domestic insurer if its RBC is equal to or less than 200% of its computed authorized control level RBC. A company's RBC is required to be disclosed in its statutory annual statement. The RBC is not intended to be used as a rating or ranking tool nor is it to be used in premium rate making or approval. Crusader's adjusted capital at December 31, 2012, was 953% of authorized control level risk-based capital.

The following table sets forth the different levels of risk-based capital that may trigger regulatory involvement and the corresponding actions that may result.

<u>LEVEL</u>	TRIGGER	CORRECTIVE ACTION
Company Action Level	Adjusted Capital less than 200% of Authorized Control Level	The insurer must submit a comprehensive plan to the insurance commissioner.
Regulatory Action Level	Adjusted Capital less than 150% of Authorized Control Level	In addition to above, insurer is subject to examination, analysis, and specific corrective action.
Authorized Control Level	Adjusted Capital less than 100% of Authorized Control Level	In addition to both of the above, insurance commissioner may place insurer under regulatory control.
Mandatory Control Level	Adjusted Capital less than 70% of Authorized Control Level	Insurer must be placed under regulatory control.

Insurance Regulatory Information System (IRIS) was developed by a committee of state insurance regulators primarily to assist state insurance departments in executing their statutory mandate to oversee the financial condition of insurance companies. IRIS helps those companies that merit highest priority in the allocation of the regulators' resources on the basis of 13 financial ratios that are calculated annually. The analytical phase is a review of annual statements and the financial ratios. The ratios and trends are valuable in pointing to companies likely to experience financial difficulties but are not themselves indicative of adverse financial condition. The ratio and benchmark comparisons are mechanically produced and are not intended to replace the state insurance departments' own in-depth financial analysis or on-site examinations.

An unusual range of ratio results has been established from studies of the ratios of companies that have become insolvent or have experienced financial difficulties. In the analytical phase, companies that receive four or more financial ratio values outside the usual range are analyzed in order to identify those companies that appear to require immediate regulatory action. Subsequently, a more comprehensive review of the ratio results and an insurer's annual

statement is performed to confirm that an insurer's situation calls for increased or close regulatory attention.

In 2012, Crusader was outside the usual value on three of the thirteen IRIS ratio tests. IRIS Ratio test number 6 considers Crusader's 2012 investment yield. An unusual value for that ratio is an investment yield equal to or greater than 6.5% or equal to or less than 3%. Crusader's 2012 investment yield was 1.3%. IRIS ratio tests number 7 considers the change in policyholders' surplus and IRIS ratio test number 8 considers the change in adjusted policyholders' surplus. Unusual values for these ratio tests are an increase in the captioned amount equal to or greater than 50% or a decrease in the captioned amount equal to or greater than 10%. Crusader's policyholders' surplus and adjusted policyholders' surplus amounts are identical, as there were no adjustments to Crusader's policyholders' surplus. Crusader's policyholders' surplus decreased 12% in the year ended December 31, 2012, compared to the prior year, primarily as a result of the payment of dividends of \$11,750,000 by Crusader to its sole shareholder, Unico, during the year ended December 31, 2012.

#### California Insurance Guarantee Association

The California Insurance Guarantee Association (CIGA) was created to provide for payment of claims for which insolvent insurers of most casualty lines are liable but which cannot be paid out of such insurers' assets. The Company is subject to assessment by CIGA for its pro-rata share of such claims based on premiums written in the particular line in the year preceding the assessment by insurers writing that line of insurance in California. Such assessments are based upon estimates of losses to be incurred in liquidating an insolvent insurer. Assessments are recouped through a mandated surcharge to policyholders the year after the assessment. No assessment was made by CIGA for the 2012, 2011, or 2010 calendar years.

#### **Holding Company Act**

Crusader is subject to regulation by the insurance department pursuant to the provisions of the California Insurance Holding Company System Regulatory Act (the "Holding Company Act"). Pursuant to the Holding Company Act, the insurance department may examine the affairs of Crusader at any time. Certain transactions defined to be of an "extraordinary" type may not be effected without the prior approval of the insurance department. Such transactions include, but are not limited to, sales, purchases, exchanges, loans and extensions of credit, and investments made within the immediately preceding 12 months involving the lesser of 3% of admitted assets or 25% of policyholders' surplus as of the preceding December 31. An extraordinary transaction also includes a dividend which, together with other dividends or distributions made within the preceding 12 months, exceeds the greater of 10% of the insurance company's policyholders' surplus as of the preceding December 31 or the insurance company's net income for the preceding calendar year. An insurance company is also required to notify the insurance department of any dividend after declaration, but prior to payment.

The Holding Company Act also provides that the acquisition or change of "control" of a California domiciled insurance company or of any person who controls such an insurance company cannot be consummated without the prior approval of the insurance commissioner. In general, a presumption of "control" arises from the ownership of voting securities and securities that are convertible into voting securities, which in the aggregate constitute 10% or more of the voting securities of a California insurance company or a person who controls a California insurance company, such as Crusader. A person seeking to acquire "control," directly or indirectly, of the Company must generally file with the insurance commissioner an application for change of control containing certain information required by statute and published regulations and provide a copy of the application to the Company. The Holding Company Act also effectively restricts the Company from consummating certain reorganizations or mergers without prior regulatory approval. The Company is in compliance with the Holding Company Act.

#### Rating

Insurance companies are rated to provide both industry participants and insurance consumers with meaningful information on specific insurance companies. Higher ratings generally indicate financial stability and a strong ability to pay claims. These ratings are based upon factors relevant to policyholders and are not directed toward protection of investors. Such ratings are neither a rating of securities nor a recommendation to buy, hold or sell any security and

may be revised or withdrawn at any time. Ratings focus primarily on the following factors: capital resources, financial strength, demonstrated management expertise in the insurance business, credit analysis, systems development, market segment position and growth opportunities, marketing, sales conduct practices, investment operations, minimum policyholders' surplus requirements and capital sufficiency to meet projected growth, as well as access to such traditional capital as may be necessary to continue to meet standards for capital adequacy.

The claims-paying abilities of insurers are rated to provide both insurance consumers and industry participants with comparative information on specific insurance companies. Claims-paying ratings are important for the marketing of certain insurance products.

In November of 2012, A.M. Best Company reaffirmed Crusader's financial strength rating of A- (Excellent) and a rating outlook of "stable." In addition, Crusader was assigned an Issuer Credit Rating of a- (Excellent).

#### Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002

On November 26, 2002, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 (The Act) was signed by President Bush. On December 22, 2005, the United States' government extended The Act, which was set to expire on December 31, 2005, for two more years. On December 26, 2007, the United States government extended The Act again through December 31, 2014. The Act establishes a program within the Department of the Treasury in which the federal government will share the risk of loss from acts of terrorism with the insurance industry. Federal participation will be triggered when the Secretary of the Treasury in concurrence with the Secretary of State and the Attorney General of the United States, certifies an act to be an act of terrorism. No act shall be certified as an act of terrorism unless the terrorist act results in aggregate losses in excess of \$5 million.

Under The Act, the federal government will pay 85% of covered terrorism losses exceeding the statutorily established deductible. All property and casualty insurance companies are required to participate in the program to the extent that they must make available property and casualty insurance coverage for terrorism that does not differ materially from the terms, amounts, and other coverage limitations applicable to losses arising from events other than acts of terrorism.

The Company does not write policies on properties considered a target of terrorist activities such as airports, large hotels, large office structures, amusement parks, landmark defined structures, or other large scale public facilities. In addition, there is not a high concentration of policies in any one area where increased exposure to terrorist threats exist. Consequently, the Company believes its exposure relating to acts of terrorism is low. In 2012, Crusader received \$76,087 in terrorism coverage premium from approximately 5% of its policyholders. Crusader's 2012 terrorism deductible was \$6,414,452. Crusader's 2013 terrorism deductible is \$6,490,818.

#### **OTHER INSURANCE OPERATIONS**

## **General Agency Operations**

Unifax primarily sells and services commercial multiple peril business insurance policies for Crusader in California.

Bedford Insurance Services, Inc. (Bedford), sells and services daily automobile rental policies in most states for a non-affiliated insurer.

As general agents, these subsidiaries market, rate, underwrite, inspect and issue policies, bill and collect insurance premiums, and maintain accounting and statistical data. Unifax is the exclusive general agent for Crusader. Bedford is a non-exclusive general agent for non-affiliated insurance companies. The Company's marketing is conducted through advertising to independent insurance agents and brokers. For its services, the general agent receives a commission (based on the premium written) from the insurance company and, in some cases, a policy fee from the customer.

These subsidiaries all hold licenses issued by the California Department of Insurance and other states where applicable.

#### **Insurance Premium Finance Operation**

The Company's subsidiary, American Acceptance Corporation (AAC), is a licensed insurance premium finance company that provides insurance purchasers with the ability to pay their insurance premiums on an installment basis. The premium finance company pays the insurance premium to the insurance company in return for a premium finance note from the insured. These notes are paid off by the insured in nine monthly installments and are secured by the unearned premiums held by the insurance company. AAC provides premium financing solely for Crusader policies that are produced by Unifax in California.

#### **Association Operation**

The Company's subsidiary, Insurance Club, Inc., dba AAQHC, An Administrator (AAQHC) (formally American Association of Quality Health Care), is a membership association and a third party administrator. AAQHC provides various consumer benefits to its members, including participation in group medical and dental insurance policies that it negotiates. AAQHC also provides services as a third party administrator and is licensed by the California Department of Insurance. For these services, AAQHC receives membership and fee income from its members.

#### **Health Insurance Operation**

The Company's subsidiary, American Insurance Brokers, Inc. (AIB), markets health insurance in California as a general agency and an independent broker through non-affiliated insurance companies for individuals and groups. The services provided consist of marketing, billing and collection, accounting, and customer service. For these services AIB receives commissions from insurance companies. AIB holds licenses issued by the California Department of Insurance.

#### **INVESTMENTS**

The Company's investment guidelines on equity securities limit investments in equity securities to an aggregate maximum of \$2,000,000. The Company's investment guidelines on fixed maturities limit those investments to high-grade obligations with a maximum term of eight years. The maximum investment authorized in any one issuer is \$2,000,000. This dollar limitation excludes bond premiums paid in excess of par value and U.S. government or U.S. government guaranteed issues. Investments in municipal securities are primarily pre-refunded and secured by U.S. treasury securities. The short-term investments are either U.S. government obligations, FDIC insured, or are in an institution with a Moody's rating of P2 and/or a Standard & Poor's rating of A1. All of the Company's fixed maturity investment securities are rated, readily marketable, and could be liquidated without any materially adverse financial impact.

#### **COMPETITION**

#### <u>Insurance Company and General Agency Operations (Property and Casualty)</u>

The property and casualty markets in which we operate are highly competitive. Property and casualty insurers generally compete on many factors, including price, commission rates, consumer recognition, coverages offered, financial stability, customer service and geographic coverage. Competition is also affected by the pace of technological developments. An insurer's ability to innovate, develop, and implement new applications and other technology can affect its competitive position. The Company continues to invest in technology in order to compete more effectively in the insurance marketplace. The marketplace is highly cyclical, characterized by periods of high premium rates and shortages of underwriting capacity followed by periods of severe price competition and excess underwriting capacity.

The profitability of insurers is affected by many factors including premium adequacy, the frequency and severity of claims, state regulations, interest rates, general business conditions, and court decisions redefining and expanding the extent of coverage. One of the challenging and unique features of the property and casualty business is the fact that since premiums are collected before losses are paid, its products are normally priced before its costs are known.

Additional information regarding competition in the insurance marketplace is discussed in Item 7 - "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Results of Operations."

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#### **Insurance Premium Financing Operation**

The insurance premium financing operation currently finances policies written only through its sister company, Unifax. Consequently, AAC's growth is primarily dependent on the growth of Crusader and Unifax business. Since July 2010, AAC has continued to offer 0% financing on policies written by Unifax for Crusader. The Company monitors the cost of providing this incentive, and depending on the cost/benefit determination, the Company can continue to offer 0% financing or withdraw it at any time.

#### **Health Insurance Operation**

The health insurance market is uncertain due to changes in healthcare insurance mandated by recent federal legislation. AIB provides a variety of health and life insurance products to individuals and groups. These same products are offered by most of our competitors; thus service, reliability and stability are important to obtain and retain customers.

#### **EMPLOYEES**

As of March 27, 2013, the Company employed 81 persons at its facility located in Woodland Hills, California. The Company has no collective bargaining agreements and believes its relations with its employees are excellent.

#### Item 1A. Risk Factors.

The Company is subject to numerous risks and uncertainties, the outcome of which may impact future results of operations and financial condition.

Management divides these risks into three broad categories in assessing how they may affect our financial condition and operating results, as well as our ability to achieve our business objectives:

- Risks related to the Company's business risks associated with day-to-day events that directly or indirectly may affect our insurance operations.
- Risks related to the Company's industry the risks stemming from the insurance industry business and regulatory environment that directly or indirectly may affect our insurance operations
- Risks related to the Company's stock the risks resulting from financial results or regulatory actions or ownership and control that may have an adverse effect on the company's stock price and the company's shareholders.

This information is not all encompassing and should be considered carefully together with the other information contained in this report and in the other reports and materials filed by us with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), as well as news releases and other information we publicly disseminate from time to time.

#### RISKS RELATED TO THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS

Crusader is subject to minimum capital and surplus requirements, and any failure to meet these requirements could subject Crusader to regulatory action.

Crusader is subject to risk-based capital (RBC) standards and other minimum capital and surplus requirements imposed under applicable laws of its state of domicile. The RBC standards, based upon the Risk-Based Capital Model Act adopted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), require Crusader to report the results of RBC calculations to state departments of insurance and the NAIC. If Crusader fails to meet these standards and requirements, the California Department of Insurance (DOI) may require specified actions to be taken.

The Company's business is vulnerable to significant catastrophic property loss, which could have an adverse effect on its financial condition and results of operations.

The Company faces a significant risk of loss in the ordinary course of its business for property damage resulting from natural disasters, man-made catastrophes and other catastrophic events, particularly hurricanes, earthquakes, hail storms, explosions, tropical storms, fires, sinkholes, war, acts of terrorism, severe winter weather and other natural and man-made disasters. Such events typically increase the frequency and severity of commercial property claims. Because catastrophic loss events are by their nature unpredictable, historical results of operations may not be indicative of future results of operations, and the occurrence of claims from catastrophic events may result in substantial volatility in the Company's financial condition and results of operations from period to period. Although the Company attempts to manage its exposure to such events, the occurrence of one or more major catastrophes in any given period could have a material and adverse impact on the Company's financial condition and results of operations and could result in substantial outflows of cash as losses are paid.

<u>Changes in accounting standards issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") or other standard-setting bodies may adversely affect the Company's consolidated financial statements.</u>

The Company's consolidated financial statements are subject to the application of GAAP, which is periodically revised and/or expanded. Accordingly, the Company is required to adopt new or revised accounting standards from time to time issued by recognized authoritative bodies, including the FASB. It is possible that future changes the Company is required to adopt could change the current accounting treatment that the Company applies to its consolidated financial statements and that such changes could have a material effect on the Company's financial condition and results of operations.

The Company may be required to adopt International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). The ultimate adoption of such standards could negatively impact its financial condition or results of operations.

Although not yet required, the Company could be required to adopt IFRS, which differs from GAAP, for the Company's accounting and reporting standards. The ultimate implementation and adoption of new standards could materially impact the Company's financial condition or results of operations.

## The Company's success may depend on its ability to adjust claims accurately.

Many factors can affect our ability to pay claims accurately, including the training, experience, and skill of our claims representatives, the extent of and our ability to recognize and respond to fraudulent or inflated claims, the claims organization's culture and the effectiveness of its management, our ability to develop or select and implement appropriate procedures, technologies, and systems to support our claims functions. Our failure to pay claims fairly, accurately, and in a timely manner, or to deploy claims resources appropriately, could result in unanticipated costs to us, lead to material litigation, undermine customer goodwill and our reputation in the marketplace, and impair our brand image and, as a result, materially adversely affect our competitiveness, financial results, prospects, and liquidity.

#### Loss and loss adjustment expense reserves are based on estimates and may not be sufficient to cover future losses.

Loss and loss adjustment expense reserves represent an estimate of amounts needed to pay and administer claims with respect to insured events that have occurred, including events that have occurred but have not yet been reported to the Company. There is a high level of uncertainty inherent in the evaluation of the required losses and loss adjustment expense reserves for the Company. The long-tailed nature of liability claims and the volatility of jury awards exacerbate that uncertainty. The Company sets loss and loss adjustment expense reserves at each balance sheet date based upon management's best estimate of the ultimate payments that it anticipates will be made to settle all losses incurred and related loss adjustment expenses incurred as of that date for both reported and unreported losses. The ultimate cost of claims is dependent upon future events, the outcomes of which are affected by many factors. Company claim reserving procedures and settlement philosophy, current and perceived social and economic inflation, current and future court rulings and jury attitudes, improvements in medical technology, and many other economic, scientific, legal, political, and social factors all can have significant effects on the ultimate costs of claims. Changes in Company operations and management philosophy also may cause actual developments to vary from the past. Since the emergence and disposition of claims are subject to uncertainties, the net amounts that will ultimately be paid to settle claims may vary significantly from the estimated amounts provided for in the accompanying consolidated financial statements. Any adjustments to reserves are reflected in the operating results of the periods in which they are made.

Any inability of the Company to realize its deferred tax assets may have a materially adverse effect on the Company's financial condition and results of operations.

The Company recognizes deferred tax assets and liabilities for the future tax consequences related to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases, and for tax credits. The Company evaluates its deferred tax assets for recoverability based on available evidence, including assumptions about future profitability and capital gain generation. Although management believes that it is more likely than not that the deferred tax assets will be realized, some or all of the Company's deferred tax assets could expire unused if the Company is unable to generate taxable income of a sufficient nature in the future sufficient to utilize them.

If the Company determines that it would not be able to realize all or a portion of its deferred tax assets in the future, the Company would reduce the deferred tax asset through a charge to earnings in the period in which the determination is made. This charge could have a materially adverse effect on the Company's results of operations and financial condition. In addition, the assumptions used to make this determination are subject to change from period to period based on changes in tax laws or variances between the Company's projected operating performance and actual results. As a result, management judgment is required in assessing the possible need for a deferred tax asset valuation allowance. For these reasons and because changes in these assumptions and estimates can materially affect the Company's results of operations and financial condition, management has included the assessment of a deferred tax asset valuation allowance as a critical accounting estimate.

The Company's success depends on its ability to accurately underwrite risks and to charge adequate premiums to policyholders.

The Company's financial condition, liquidity and results of operations largely depend on the Company's ability to underwrite and set premiums accurately for the risks it faces. Premium rate adequacy is necessary to generate sufficient premium to offset losses, loss adjustment expenses, underwriting expenses, and to earn a profit. In order to price its products accurately, the Company must collect and properly analyze a substantial volume of data; develop, test and apply appropriate rating formulas; closely monitor and timely recognize changes in trends; and project both severity and frequency of losses with reasonable accuracy. The Company's ability to undertake these efforts successfully is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including, without limitation:

- Availability of sufficient reliable data.
- •Incorrect or incomplete analysis of available data.
- •Uncertainties inherent in estimates and assumptions.
- Selection and application of appropriate rating formulae or other pricing methodologies.
- Adoption of successful pricing strategies.
- Prediction of policyholder retention (e.g., policy life expectancy).
- Unanticipated court decisions, legislation or regulatory action.
- •Ongoing changes in the Company's claim settlement practices.
- Unexpected inflation.
- Social changes, particularly those affecting litigation inclinations.

Such risks may result in the Company's pricing being based on outdated, inadequate, or inaccurate data, or inappropriate analyses, assumptions, or methodologies, and may cause the Company to estimate incorrectly future changes in the frequency or severity of claims. As a result, the Company could underprice risks, which would negatively affect the Company's margins, or it could overprice risks, which could reduce the Company's volume and competitiveness. In either event, the Company's operating results, financial condition, and cash flow could be materially adversely affected.

<u>Inability to obtain reinsurance or to collect ceded losses and loss adjustment expenses could adversely affect the Company's ability to write new policies.</u>

The availability, amount and cost of reinsurance depend on market conditions and may vary significantly. Any decrease in the amount of the Company's reinsurance will increase the risk of loss and could materially adversely affect its business and financial condition. Ceded reinsurance does not discharge the Company's direct obligations under the policies it writes. The Company remains liable to its policyholders even if the Company is unable to make recoveries that it believes it is entitled to under the reinsurance contracts. Losses may not be recovered from the reinsurers until claims are paid.

The insurance business is subject to extensive regulation and legislative changes, which may impact the manner in which the Company operates its business.

The insurance business is subject to extensive regulation by the California Department of Insurance. The California Department of Insurance has broad regulatory powers implemented to protect policyholders, not stockholders or other investors. These powers include, among other things, the ability to:

- Place limitations on the Company's investments and dividends.
- Place limitations on the Company's ability to transact business with its affiliates.
- Establish standards of solvency including minimum reserves and capital surplus requirements.
- Prescribe the form and content of and to examine the Company's financial statements.

Federal legislation currently does not directly impact the property and casualty business, but the business can be indirectly affected by changes in federal regulations. In addition, the U.S. Congress and other federal agencies from time to time consider whether federal regulation of U.S. insurers is necessary. The Company is unable to predict whether such laws will be enacted and how and to what extent this could affect the Company.

This extensive regulation may affect the cost or demand for the Company's products and may limit the ability to obtain rate increases or to take other actions that the Company might desire to do in order to increase its profitability.

#### Unico is a holding company that relies on its subsidiaries to satisfy its obligations.

As a holding company, Unico does not generate revenue sufficient to pay operating expenses or stockholders' dividends. Consequently, Unico relies on the ability of its subsidiaries to meet its obligations. The ability of Crusader to pay dividends to Unico is regulated by state insurance laws, which limit the amount of, and in certain circumstances may prohibit the payment of, cash dividends. The inability of Crusader to pay dividends in an amount sufficient to enable Unico to meet its cash requirements could have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations, financial condition, and its ability to pay dividends to its shareholders.

# A downgrade in the financial strength rating of the insurance company could reduce the amount of business it may be able to write.

Rating agencies rate insurance companies based on financial strength as an indication of an ability to pay claims. The financial strength rating of A.M. Best is subject to periodic review using, among other things, proprietary capital adequacy models, and is subject to revision or withdrawal at any time. Insurance financial strength ratings are directed toward the concerns of policyholders and insurance agents, and are not intended for the protection of investors. Any downgrade in the Company's A.M. Best rating could cause a reduction in the number of policies it writes and could have a materially adverse effect on the Company's results of operations and financial position. In November of 2012, A.M. Best Company reaffirmed Crusader's financial strength rating of A- (Excellent) and a rating outlook of "stable." In addition, Crusader was assigned an Issuer Credit Rating of a- (Excellent).

### Intense competition could adversely affect the ability to sell policies at premium rates the Company deems adequate.

The Company faces significant competition which, at times, is intense. If the Company is unable to compete effectively, its business and financial condition could be materially adversely affected. Competition in the property and casualty marketplace is based on many factors including premiums charged, services provided, financial strength ratings assigned by independent rating agencies, speed of claims payments, reputation, perceived financial strength, technology, and general experience. The Company competes with regional and national insurance companies. Some competitors have greater financial, marketing, and management resources than the Company. Intense competitive pressure on prices can result from the actions of even a single large competitor. The Company uses its own proprietary premium rates to determine the price it charges for its property and casualty policies.

## The Company's earnings may be affected by changes in interest rates.

Investment income is an important component of the Company's revenues and net income. The ability to achieve investment objectives is affected by factors that are beyond the Company's control. Interest rates are highly sensitive to many factors, including governmental monetary policies and domestic and international economic and political conditions. Any significant decline in investment income as a result of falling interest rates or general market conditions would have an adverse effect on net income and, as a result, on the Company's stockholders' equity and policyholders' surplus.

The outlook for the Company's investment income is dependent on the future direction of interest rates and the amount of cash flows from operations that are available for investment. The fair values of fixed maturity investments that are "available-for-sale" fluctuate with changes in interest rates and cause fluctuations in stockholders' equity.

The Company's geographic concentration ties its performance to the business, economic, and regulatory conditions in California.

The Company's insurance business is concentrated in California (100% of gross written premium in 2010 through 2012). Accordingly, unfavorable business, economic or regulatory conditions in the state of California could negatively impact the Company's performance. In addition, California is exposed to severe natural perils, such as earthquakes and fires along with the possibility of terrorist acts. Accordingly, the Company could suffer losses as a result of catastrophic events.

#### The Company relies on independent insurance agents and brokers.

The failure or inability of independent insurance agents and brokers to market the Company's insurance programs successfully could have a materially adverse effect on its business, financial condition and results of operations. Independent brokers are not obligated to promote the Company's insurance programs and may sell competitors' insurance programs. The Company's business largely depends on the marketing efforts of independent brokers and on the Company's ability to offer insurance programs and services that meet the requirements of those brokers' customers.

#### The Company's reserve for doubtful accounts is based on estimates.

The Company may not be able to collect the premiums it estimates is collectible from its agents and brokers and, therefore, the Company's reserve for doubtful accounts may not be sufficient.

#### Litigation may have an adverse effect on the Company's business.

The insurance industry is the target of class action lawsuits and other types of litigation, some of which involve claims for substantial and/or indeterminate amounts and the outcomes of which are unpredictable. This litigation can be based on a variety of issues including insurance and claim settlement practices. Although the Company has not been the target of any specific class action lawsuits, it is possible that a suit of this type could have a negative impact on the Company's business.

The Company relies on its information technology systems to manage many aspects of its business; and any failure of these systems to function properly or any interruption in their operation could result in a materially adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations.

The Company depends on the accuracy, reliability, and proper functioning of its information technology systems. The Company relies on these information technology systems to effectively manage many aspects of its business, including underwriting, policy acquisition, claims processing and handling, accounting, reserving and actuarial processes and policies, and maintaining its policyholder data. The failure of hardware or software that supports the Company's information technology systems or the loss of data contained in the systems could disrupt its business and could result in decreased premiums, increased overhead costs, and inaccurate reporting, all of which could have a materially adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition, and results of operations. In addition, despite system redundancy, the implementation of security measures and the existence of a disaster recovery plan for the Company's information technology systems, these systems are vulnerable to damage or interruption from events such as:

- Earthquake, fire, flood and other natural disasters.
- •Terrorism acts and attacks by computer viruses or hackers.
- •Power loss.
- •Unauthorized access.
- Computer systems or data network failure.

It is possible that a system failure, accident, or security breach could result in a material disruption to the Company's business. In addition, substantial costs may be incurred to remedy the damages caused by these disruptions. To the extent that a critical system fails or is not properly implemented and the failure cannot be corrected in a timely manner, the Company may experience disruptions to the business that could have a materially adverse effect on the Company's results of operations.

#### The Company's disclosure controls and procedures may not prevent or detect all acts of fraud.

The Company's disclosure controls and procedures are designed to reasonably ensure that information required to be disclosed in reports filed or submitted under the Securities Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to management and is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. The Company's management believes that any disclosure controls and procedures or internal controls and procedures, no matter how well conceived and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, they cannot provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within the Company have been prevented or detected. These inherent limitations include the realities that judgments in decision making can be faulty and that breakdowns can occur because of a simple error or mistake. Additionally, controls can be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion of two or more people, or by an unauthorized override of the controls. The design of any system of controls also is based in part upon certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and the Company cannot ensure that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential future conditions. Accordingly, because of the inherent limitations in a cost effective control system, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and may not be detected.

Changes in general economic conditions may have an adverse effect on the Company's revenues and profitability.

The Company's revenues and profitability may be impacted by national and local economic conditions, such as recessions, increased levels of unemployment, inflation and the disruption in the financial markets. The Company is not able to predict the effect of these factors or their duration and severity.

The Company depends on key personnel, the loss of which could negatively impact it business.

The Company's current and future success is dependent to a large extent on the retention and continued service of its key personnel, which includes our executive officers. The loss or unavailability of any of our key personnel, which includes our executive officers, could have an adverse effect on the Company's business.

The ability of the Company to attract, develop and retain employees and to maintain appropriate staffing levels, is critical to the Company's success.

The Company must hire and train new employees and retain current employees to handle its operations. The failure of the Company to successfully hire and retain a sufficient number of skilled employees could have an adverse effect on the Company's business

The Company's financial condition may be adversely affected if one or more parties with which we enter into significant contracts or relationships become insolvent, experience other financial difficulties, or default in the performance of obligations.

The Company's business is dependent on the performance by third parties of their responsibilities under various contractual or services arrangements. These include, for example, contracts for the acquisition of goods and services (such as telecommunications and information technology facilities, equipment and support, and other systems and services that are integral to its operations), agreements with other insurance carriers to sell products that the Company does not offer, and arrangements for transferring certain risks (including reinsurance used in connection with certain insurance products and corporate insurance policies). The Company is also dependent on its dealings with banks and other financial institutions. If one or more of these parties were to default in the performance of their obligations or determine to abandon or terminate support for a system, product, or service that is significant to the Company's business, it could suffer significant financial losses and operational interruptions or other problems, which could in turn adversely affect its financial performance, cash flows, or results of operations and cause damage to its brand and reputation.

#### RISKS RELATED TO THE COMPANY'S INDUSTRY

The property casualty insurance industry is highly competitive, and the Company may not be able to compete effectively against larger, better-capitalized companies.

Approximately 98% of Crusader's business is commercial multiple peril insurance policies. The Company competes with many property and casualty insurance companies selling comparable commercial multiple peril insurance policies. Many of these competitors are better capitalized than the Company and have higher A.M. Best ratings. The superior capitalization of the competitors may enable them to offer lower rates, to withstand larger losses, and to more effectively take advantage of new marketing opportunities. The Company's competition may also become increasingly better capitalized in the future as the traditional barriers between insurance companies and banks and other financial institutions erode and as the property and casualty industry continues to consolidate.

The Company may undertake strategic marketing and operating initiatives to improve its competitive position and drive growth. If the Company is unable to successfully implement new strategic initiatives or if the Company's marketing campaigns do not attract new customers, the Company's competitive position may be harmed, which could adversely affect the Company's business and results of operations.

Regulation may become more extensive in the future, which may adversely affect the Company's business, financial condition, and results of operations.

From time to time, the United States Congress and certain federal agencies investigate the current condition of the insurance industry to determine whether federal regulation is necessary. The Company cannot predict whether and to what extent new laws and regulations that would affect its business will be adopted, the timing of any such adoption and what effects, if any, they may have on the Company's business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Crusader is subject to extensive regulations and supervision in the states in which it operates or is licensed to conduct business. These regulations are generally designed to protect the interests of policyholders, and not necessarily the interests of insurers, their stockholders or other investors. The regulations relate to authorization for lines of business, capital and surplus requirements, investment limitations, underwriting limitations, transactions with affiliates, dividend limitations, changes in control, premium rates and a variety of other financial and nonfinancial components of an insurance company's business.

In the state in which Crusader operates, Crusader along with other insurers licensed to do business in that that states are required to bear a portion of the losses suffered by some insureds as the result of impaired or insolvent insurance companies. In addition Crusader must participate in mandatory arrangements to provide various types of insurance coverage to individuals or other entities that otherwise are unable to purchase that coverage from private insurers. The effect of these and similar arrangements could reduce our profitability in any given period or limit our ability to grow our business. Crusader currently only operates in the state of California.

The NAIC and state insurance regulators are continually reexamining existing laws and regulations, specifically focusing on modifications to statutory accounting principles, interpretations of existing laws and the development of new laws and regulations. The NAIC recently has undertaken a Solvency Modernization Initiative focused on updating the U.S. insurance solvency regulation framework, including capital requirements, governance and risk management, group supervision, accounting and financial reporting and reinsurance. On the federal level, the Dodd-Frank Act, enacted in July 2010, mandated significant changes to the regulation of U.S. insurance effective as of July 21, 2011. We cannot predict the requirements of the regulations ultimately adopted under the Dodd-Frank Act or the impact such regulation will have on our business. These regulations, and any proposed or future state or federal legislation or NAIC initiatives, if adopted, may be more restrictive on the ability of our insurance operating units to conduct business than current regulatory requirements or may result in higher costs.

#### RISKS RELATED TO THE COMPANY'S STOCK

The Company's goal is to maximize the long-term value of the enterprise and thus does not focus on short-term earnings expectations.

The Company does not manage its business to maximize short-term stock performance. It also does not provide earnings estimates to the market and does not comment on earnings estimates by analysts. As a result, its reported results for a particular period may vary, perhaps significantly, from investors' expectations, which could result in significant volatility in the price of its common shares.

In addition, due to the Company's focus on the long-term value of the enterprise, it may undertake business strategies and establish related financial goals for a specific year that are designed to enhance its longer-term performance, while understanding that such strategies may not always similarly benefit short-term results, such as its annual underwriting profit or earnings per share.

The Company is controlled by a small number of shareholders who will be able to exert significant influence over matters requiring shareholder approval.

Messrs. Erwin Cheldin, Cary L. Cheldin, Lester A. Aaron, and George C. Gilpatrick, who hold approximately 52.66% of the voting power of the Company, have agreed to vote the shares of common stock held by each of them so as to elect each of them to the Board of Directors and to vote on all other matters as they may agree. As a result of this agreement, the Company is a "Controlled Company" as defined in the NASDAQ Stock Market ("NASDAQ") Listing Rules. A Controlled Company is exempt from the requirements of the NASDAQ Listing Rules requiring that (i) the Company have a majority of independent directors on the Board of Directors, (ii) the Compensation Committee be composed solely of independent directors, (iii) the compensation of the executive officers be determined by a majority of the independent directors and (iv) director nominees be elected or recommended either by a majority of the independent directors or a nominating committee comprised solely of independent directors.

Accordingly, Messrs. Erwin Cheldin, Cary L. Cheldin, Lester A. Aaron, and George C. Gilpatrick have the ability to exert significant influence on the actions the Company may take in the future, including change of control transactions. This concentration of ownership may conflict with the interests of the Company's other shareholders.

Failure to maintain an effective system of internal control over financial reporting may have an adverse effect on the Company's stock price.

Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the related rules and regulations promulgated by the SEC require the Company to include in its Form 10-K a report by its management regarding the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. The report includes, among other things, an assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of the end of its fiscal year, including a statement as to whether or not the Company's internal control over financial reporting is effective. This assessment must include disclosure of any material weaknesses in the Company's internal control over financial reporting identified by management. Areas of the Company's internal control over financial reporting may require improvement from time to time. If management is unable to assert that the Company's internal control over financial reporting is effective now or in any future period, investors may lose confidence in the accuracy and completeness of the Company's financial reports, which could have an adverse effect on its stock price.

#### Insurance laws make it difficult to effect a change of control of the Company or the sale of any subsidiaries.

To acquire control of a U.S. insurance company or any holding company of a U.S. insurance company, prior written approval must be obtained from the Department of Insurance in the state where the insurer is domiciled. The Department of Insurance of the state will consider a number of factors relating to the acquirer and the transaction prior to granting approval of the application to acquire control of the insurer or the holding company. These laws and regulations may discourage potential acquisition proposals and may delay, deter or prevent a change of control of the Company or the sale by the Company of any of its insurance subsidiaries, including transactions that some or all of the Company's shareholders might consider to be desirable.

#### Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments.

None.

#### Item 2. Properties.

The Company presently occupies approximately 23,000 square feet of an office building located at 23251 Mulholland Drive, Woodland Hills, California, under a master l