

## Heritage Insurance Holdings, Inc. Reports Financial Results for Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2016; Enters 2017 in Strong Capital Position

**Clearwater, FL**: Heritage Insurance Holdings, Inc. (NYSE:HRTG) ("Heritage" or the "Company"), a property and casualty insurance holding company, today reported its financial results for the quarter and year ended December 31, 2016.

### **Highlights**

- 26% increase in policy count in 4Q16 as compared to 4Q15
- Gross premiums written and gross premiums earned increased 7 percent and 22 percent, respectively, in 2016 as compared to 2015
- Net loss for the fourth quarter 2016 was \$2.9 million; net income for the full year 2016 was \$33.9 million
- Return on average equity was 9.5% for full year 2016
- \$358 million in stockholders' equity at December 31, 2016
- Book value per share improved year over year to \$12.41 as of December 31, 2016
- Repurchased 334,664 shares of our common stock for a total of \$5.0 million in 4Q16; 1,759,330 shares repurchased for a total of \$25.6 million for the full year 2016
- \$73 million in net proceeds raised in a private placement of senior notes to be used for M&A and strategic investments
- Heritage has addressed and closed roughly 2,500 claims out of over 2,700 filed claims related to Hurricane Matthew and roughly 500 claims out of over 530 filed claims related to Hurricane Hermine
- Board of Directors approved a fourth quarter dividend of \$0.06/share.
- All HO3 policies are now approved for a 9.9% overall average rate increase

Bruce Lucas, the Company's Chairman and CEO, said, "2016 was a challenging year for the Company. We had record tornados, two hurricanes, and significantly increased loss reserves in response to the current Florida claims environment. Despite these headwinds, we produced \$33.9 million in net income, repurchased \$25.6 million of our common stock, declared over \$7 million in dividends, and delivered a 9.5% return on average equity. I'm proud of our Company's performance post hurricanes – our claims team delivered timely service to policyholders, our water mitigation and construction divisions performed as planned, and we demonstrated that our vertically-integrated service model works. During 2016, we continued to successfully diversify our business, writing and renewing voluntary personal and commercial residential policies which now account for over 47% of policies-in-force, while policies assumed from Citizens now account for roughly 53%. Importantly, our exposure in personal residential within the Tri-County area is reduced with the segment in Florida now making up approximately 18% of our total insured value. As we move into 2017, we look to strengthen our position and further diversify our risk portfolio through M&A and strategic investments. We anticipate continued consolidation in our industry and we believe Heritage is in a prime position to selectively participate. We will remain diligent to ensure we are operating the business with a profitable risk profile while focusing on growth in new states. Our priority is managing the business for bottom line results to achieve high returns for our stockholders."

#### **Results of Operations**

The following table summarizes our results of operations for the three months and years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively (in thousands, except percentages and per share amounts):

		<b>Three Months Ended December 31,</b>					Year Ended December 31,						
	_	2016	_	2015	Change		_	2016		_	2015	Change	
Revenue													
Gross premiums written	\$	154,911	\$	167,540	(8)	%	\$	626,704		\$	586,098	7 %	
Gross premiums earned	\$	160,242	\$	143,404	12	%	\$	640,518		\$	524,740	22 %	
Ceded premiums	\$	(65,336)	\$	(45,832)	43	%	\$	(228,797)	)	\$	(148,472)	54 %	
Net premiums earned	\$	94,906	\$	97,572	(3)	%	\$	411,721		\$	376,268	9 %	
Total revenue	\$	102,806	\$	101,332	1	%	\$	438,958		\$	394,792	11 %	
Income (loss) before taxes	\$	(4,006)	\$	33,293	(112)	%	\$	56,403		\$	150,290	(62) %	
Net (loss) income	\$	(2,856)	\$	20,243	(114)	%	\$	33,865		\$	92,512	(63) %	
Per Share Data:													
Book value per share	\$	12.41	\$	11.71	6	%	\$	12.41		\$	11.71	6 %	
Earnings per diluted share	\$	(0.09)	\$	0.66	(114)	%	\$	1.14		\$	3.05	(63) %	
Return on average equity		(0.8)	%	23.5 %	(24.3)	pts		9.5	%		30.2	% (20.7) pts	
Ratios to Gross Premiums Earned:													
Ceded premium ratio		40.8	%	32.0 %	8.8	pts		35.7	%		28.3	% 7.4 pts	
Loss ratio		43.3	%	27.2 %	16.1	pts		37.3	%		26.9	% 10.4 pts	
Expense ratio		23.2	%	20.3 %	2.9	pts		22.4	%		19.7	% 2.7 pts	
Combined ratio		107.3	%	79.5 %	27.8	pts		95.4	%		74.9	% 20.5 pts	
Ratios to Net Premiums Earned:													
Loss ratio		72.9	%	39.9 %	33.0	pts		58.0	%		37.5	% 20.5 pts	
Expense ratio		39.3	%	29.8 %	9.5	pts		34.8	%		27.5	% 7.3 pts	
Combined ratio		112.2	%	69.7 %	42.5	pts		92.8	%		65.0	% 27.8 pts	

#### **Quarterly Financial Results**

Net loss for the quarter ended December 31, 2016 was \$2.9 million compared to net income of \$20.2 million for the quarter ended December 31, 2015. The loss was primarily attributable to Hurricane Matthew, which generated approximately \$19 million of pre-tax losses.

Gross premiums written were \$154.9 million for the fourth quarter of 2016 compared to \$167.5 million for the fourth quarter of 2015. The decrease in gross premiums written is a result of \$32 million assumed from Citizens in the fourth quarter of 2015 versus no assumed premiums in the fourth quarter of 2016. This decline was partially offset by the acquisition of Zephyr and expansion into North and South Carolina.

	For the Three Months Ended December 31,									
	2016 2015		2015	(	Change	Growth %				
			(in	thousands)						
Gross Premium Written - Direct & Assumed										
Direct Gross Premiums Written	\$	155,153	\$	135,421	\$	19,733	15 %			
Assumed Gross Premiums Written		(243)		32,119		(32,362)	(101) %			
Total Gross Premium Written	\$	154,911	\$	167,540	\$	(12,629)	(8) %			

Gross premiums earned were \$160.2 million for the fourth quarter of 2016 compared to \$143.4 million for the fourth quarter of 2015. Total consolidated company in force premiums at December 31, 2016 were \$635 million compared to \$592 million at December 31, 2015. Personal lines policy count at December 31, 2016 was approximately 319,676 policies, representing \$517 million of in force premiums. The policy count for commercial residential was approximately 3,625 policies, representing \$118 million of in force premiums.

Ceded premiums as a percentage of gross premiums earned were 40.8% for the fourth quarter of 2016 compared to 32.0% for the fourth quarter of 2015. This increase is primarily due to growth in the fourth quarter of 2015 from Citizens take-out activity, that

did not reoccur in the fourth quarter of 2016. This had an approximate 3.8 point benefit to the fourth quarter 2015 ceded premium ratio. A modest decline in the gross earned premium in fourth quarter 2016 compared to the third quarter of 2016, combined with a true-up in the non-catastrophe reinsurance programs caused the ceded premium ratio to be about 2 points higher in the fourth quarter of 2016 than previous guidance given.

The loss ratio on a gross basis increased to 43.3% in the fourth quarter of 2016 from 27.2% in the fourth quarter of 2015, primarily related to Hurricane Matthew. Hurricane Matthew resulted in approximately \$19 million in pre-tax losses during the quarter and had an 11.9 point impact on the loss ratio. Also included in fourth quarter 2016 losses were \$1.1 million of prior year claims.

The Company's expense ratio on a gross basis was 23.2% for the fourth quarter of 2016 compared to 20.3% for the fourth quarter of 2015. The impact of the growth from Citizens take-outs in 2015 improved the expense ratio in the fourth quarter of 2015 by 2.9 points, while there was minimal benefit in the fourth quarter of 2016 from take-out activity in 2016.

Overall, Heritage's combined ratio on a gross basis was 107.3% for the fourth quarter of 2016 compared to 79.5% for the fourth quarter of 2015. Excluding the impact of Hurricane Matthew and the reinsurance true-up, the combined ratio would have been approximately 93.6%. Excluding the benefit of Citizens take-outs and a better estimation of the impact of AOB and litigated claims, the fourth quarter of 2015 combined ratio would have been approximately 92.4%.

#### **Full Year Financial Results**

Net income for the year ended December 31, 2016 was \$33.9 million compared to \$92.5 million for the prior year. Gross premiums written were \$626.7 million in 2016 compared to \$586.1 million in 2015. Gross premiums earned were \$640.5 million in 2016 compared to \$524.7 million in 2015. The combined ratio on a gross basis was 95.4% compared to 74.9% for the prior year, primarily as a result of the higher loss ratios during the year driven by bad weather in the first quarter and Hurricane Matthew and Hermine toward the end of 2016, and the impact of losses caused by AOB and litigated claims.

#### **Book Value Analysis**

Book value per share increased 6% to \$12.41 at December 31, 2016 compared to the prior year.

As of								
Decer	nber 31, 2016	Dece	mber 31, 2015	<b>December 31, 2014</b>				
\$	357,959	\$	356,553	\$	255,089			
	28,840,443		30,441,410		29,794,960			
\$	12.41	\$	11.71	\$	8.56			
	<b>Decer</b> \$ \$	28,840,443	\$ 357,959 \$ 28,840,443	December 31, 2016     December 31, 2015       \$ 357,959     \$ 356,553       28,840,443     30,441,410	December 31, 2016         December 31, 2015         December 31, 2015           \$ 357,959         \$ 356,553         \$           28,840,443         30,441,410			

## **Financial Guidance**

Based on Heritage's outlook into the first quarter of 2017, the Company provided the following guidance:

- Heritage expects gross premiums earned for the first quarter of 2017 to be in the range of \$158 million to \$162 million.
- Heritage expects its gross loss ratio, excluding hurricanes, for the first quarter of 2017 to be in the range of 32% to 34%. Heritage expects the gross loss ratio, excluding hurricanes, to trend downward in the second half of 2017.
- Heritage expects its ceded premium ratio for the first quarter and second quarter of 2017 to be in the range of 39% to 40%. The ceded premium ratio in the third quarter and fourth quarter of 2017 will be determined by the 2017-2018 reinsurance program effective June 1 and top-line performance in the second half of 2017.
- Heritage expects quarterly interest expense and related debt issuance amortization costs for the first quarter of 2017 to be approximately \$2.2 million. For the remainder of the 2017 year, Heritage expects quarterly interest and debt issuance amortization costs to remain at this level subject to fluctuations in 3-month LIBOR.
- Related to the Zephyr acquisition, Heritage expects to record approximately \$2.4 million in amortization expense in the first quarter of 2017, and \$0.6 million per quarter, thereafter.

#### **Supplemental Information:**

Historical policy concentration and Florida market share information can be found at: <a href="http://investors.heritagepci.com/">http://investors.heritagepci.com/</a> in the

Latest Results section, 4Q16 Quarterly Supplement.

## **Conference Call Details:**

Thursday, March 16, 2017 – 8:30 a.m. ET Participant Dial-in Numbers Toll Free: 1-888-346-3095 Participant International Dial In: Canada Toll Free: 1-412-902-4258 1-855-669-9657

## Webcast:

To listen to the live webcast, please go to the investor section of the company's website. This webcast will be archived and available for replay.

# HERITAGE INSURANCE HOLDINGS, INC. CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(In thousands, except share data and per share)

		December 31,			
		2016		2015	
ASSETS					
Fixed maturity securities, available for sale, at fair value (amortized cost of \$576,911 and \$370,967 in 2016 and 2015, respectively)	\$	571,011	\$	371,783	
Equity securities, available for sale, at fair value (cost of \$34,190 and \$32,439 in 2016 and 2015, respectively)		31,971		28,313	
Total investments		602,982		400,096	
Cash and cash equivalents		105,817		236,277	
Restricted cash		20,910		13,085	
Accrued investment income		4,764		3,409	
		42,720		30,565	
Premiums receivable, net Prepaid reinsurance premiums		106,609		78,517	
Income taxes receivable		,		78,317	
		10,713		7.064	
Deferred income taxes		42.770		7,964	
Deferred policy acquisition costs, net		42,779		34,800	
Property and equipment, net		17,179		17,111	
Intangibles, net		26,542		2,120	
Goodwill		46,454		8,028	
Other assets	Φ.	5,775	Φ.	5,426	
Total Assets	\$	1,033,244	\$	837,398	
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Unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses	\$	140,137	\$	83,722	
Unearned premiums		318,024		302,493	
Reinsurance payable		96,667		60,210	
Note payable, net of issuance costs		72,905		_	
Deferred income taxes		3,003		_	
Income tax payable				2,092	
Advance premiums		18,565		12,138	
Accrued compensation		4,303		2,305	
Other liabilities		21,681		17,885	
Total Liabilities	\$	675,285	\$	480,845	
Stockholders' Equity:					
Common stock, \$0.0001 par value, 50,000,000 shares authorized, 29,740,441					
shares issued and 28,840,443 outstanding at December 31, 2016 and 30,441,410					
issued and outstanding at December 31, 2015		3		3	
Additional paid-in capital		205,727		202,628	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		(5,018)		(2,033)	
Treasury stock, at cost, 1,759,330 shares at December 31, 2016		(25,562)		_	
Retained earnings		182,809		155,955	
Total Stockholders' Equity		357,959		356,553	
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$	1,033,244	\$	837,398	

## HERITAGE INSURANCE HOLDINGS, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES Consolidated Statements of Income and Other Comprehensive Income (Amounts in thousands, except per share and share amounts)

	Th	Three Months Ended December 31,			Year Ended December 31,			
		2016		2015		2016		2015
REVENUE:								
Gross premiums written	\$	154,911	\$	167,540	\$	626,704	\$	586,098
Change in gross unearned premiums		5,331		(24,136)		13,814		(61,358)
Gross premiums earned		160,242		143,404		640,518		524,740
Ceded premiums		(65,336)	_	(45,832)	_	(228,797)	_	(148,472)
Net premiums earned		94,906		97,572		411,721		376,268
Net investment income		2,595		1,725		9,181		7,421
Net realized gains		(29)		(319)		1,733		1,508
Other revenue		5,335		2,354		16,323		9,595
Total revenue		102,806		101,332		438,958		394,792
EXPENSES:								
Losses and loss adjustment expenses		69,199		38,952		238,862		141,191
Policy acquisition costs		22,943		16,328		84,421		57,186
General and administrative expenses		14,308		12,759		58,910		46,125
Total expenses		106,450		68,039		382,193		244,502
Operating income (loss)		(3,644)		33,293		56,765		150,290
Interest expense, net		321		_		321		
Amortization of debt issuance costs		41				41		
Income (loss) before income taxes		(4,006)		33,293		56,403		150,290
Provision for income taxes		(1,150)		13,050		22,538		57,778
Net income (loss)	\$	(2,856)	\$	20,243	\$	33,865	\$	92,512
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS):								
Change in net unrealized gains (losses) on investments		(14,892)		(5,202)		(3,120)		(4,606)
Reclassification adjustment for net realized investment losses		29		319		(1,733)		(1,508)
Income tax (expense) benefit related to items of other				4 004				
comprehensive income		5,730	_	1,881	_	1,868	_	2,358
Total comprehensive income (loss)	\$	(11,989)	\$	17,242	\$	30,880	\$	88,756
Weighted average shares outstanding								
Basic		28,649,166		30,364,573		29,632,171		30,056,491
Diluted		28,649,166		30,503,040		29,634,349		30,326,468
Earnings per share	_		_		_		_	
Basic	\$	(0.09)	\$	0.67	\$	1.14	\$	3.08
Diluted	\$	(0.09)	\$	0.66	\$	1.14	\$	3.05

#### About Heritage

Heritage Insurance Holdings, Inc. is a property and casualty insurance holding company headquartered in Clearwater, Florida. Its subsidiaries, Heritage Property & Casualty Insurance Company and Zephyr Insurance Company, write approximately \$577 million and \$58 million, respectively, of personal and commercial residential premium through a large network of experienced agents. The Company is currently writing property and casualty insurance policies in Florida, Hawaii, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. Heritage Insurance Holdings, Inc. is led by a seasoned senior management team with an average of 30 years of insurance industry experience.

## Forward-Looking Statements

Statements in this press release that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements that are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause actual events and results to differ materially from those discussed herein. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, words such as "may," "will," "expect," "believe," "anticipate," "intend," "could," "would," "estimate," "or "continue" or the other negative variations thereof or comparable terminology are intended to identify forward-looking

statements. The risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ from those expressed or implied herein include, without limitation: weather conditions (including the severity and frequency of storms, hurricanes, tornadoes and hail); the success of the Company's marketing initiatives; inflation and other changes in economic conditions (including changes in interest rates and financial markets); the impact of new federal and state regulations that affect the property and casualty insurance market; the costs of reinsurance and the collectability of reinsurance; assessments charged by various governmental agencies; pricing competition and other initiatives by competitors; our ability to obtain regulatory approval for requested rate changes, and the timing thereof; legislative and regulatory developments; the outcome of litigation pending against us, including the terms of any settlements; risks related to the nature of our business; dependence on investment income and the composition of our investment portfolio; the adequacy of our liability for losses and loss adjustment expense; our ability to build and maintain relationships with insurance agents; claims experience; ratings by industry services; catastrophe losses; reliance on key personnel; changes in loss trends; acts of war and terrorist activities; court decisions and trends in litigation; and other matters described from time to time by us in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including, but not limited to, the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2016 to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 15, 2017. The Company undertakes no obligations to update, change or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, additional or subsequent developments or otherwise.

#### Heritage Insurance Holdings, Inc.

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