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### **CONNECTICUT AGENT JOINS NATIONAL BIG “I” LEADERSHIP TEAM**

*Spencer Houldin of Ericson Insurance Services is the newest member of the association’s executive committee.*

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Sept. 29, 2011 — The Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America (IIABA or the Big “I”) has announced that Spencer M. Houldin of Roxbury, Conn. was installed as the newest member of IIABA’s executive committee at the association’s 2011 Fall Leadership Conference in Minneapolis, Minn.

Houldin is the president of Ericson Insurance Services, LLC, a second generation, independent insurance agency with offices in Litchfield County, Conn.

“Spencer has been a workhorse on behalf of the independent agency system since early in his career as a young agent in Connecticut to his more recent efforts on Capitol Hill where he has testified on behalf of the Big ‘I’ on numerous occasions,” says Robert Rusbuldt, Big “I” president & CEO. “The Big ‘I’ is proud to announce that Spencer Houldin has joined the executive committee and we look forward to having his insight on our leadership team.”

Houldin served as chairman of the Big “I” Government Affairs Committee for three years starting in 2008, during which time he testified before numerous congressional committees on behalf of the association. He also represented the state of Connecticut on the IIABA Board of Directors since 2006.

In 2004, Houldin served as Independent Insurance Agents of Connecticut president and was the youngest president in the association’s 106 year history. Throughout his career, Houldin has held seats on agent advisory councils for many insurance companies. He is also active in his local community serving on the executive committees of The Western Connecticut Health Network, which is a multi-hospital organization. Houldin is also past president of the local rotary.

Houldin earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at Lafayette College. He resides in Roxbury, Connecticut with his wife and two children.

*Founded in 1896, the Big “I” is the nation’s oldest and largest national association of independent insurance agents and brokers, representing a network of more than 300,000 agents, brokers and their employees nationally. Its members are businesses that offer customers a choice of policies from a variety of insurance companies. Independent agents and brokers offer all lines of insurance—property, casualty, life, health, employee benefit plans and retirement products. Web address: [www.independentagent.com](http://www.independentagent.com).*