

Bob Shepard's headshot available for download at:
<http://picasaweb.google.com/iiatevents/PressReleasePhotos#>

Bob Shepard of Harlingen elected vice president of the Independent Insurance Agents of Texas

AUSTIN, TX – June 17, 2009 – The Independent Insurance Agents of Texas (IIAT) elected Bob Shepard, of Shepard Walton King Insurance Group, Harlingen, as the vice president for 2009-2010 during the 112th Annual Conference and Trade Show. Through 1,800 member agencies in 230 counties, IIAT is the state's largest association of independent insurance agents and professionals. Shepard's term begins Sept. 1

"As a board member, Bob has shown the type of administrative and planning skills needed for this position," said Garry Kaufman, IIAT president for 2008-2009. "He has also shown the passion it takes to hold this officer position and I look forward to seeing his success."

In addition to serving on the board of directors, Shepard served as chairman of the IIAT Windstorm Task Force in 2008-2009. In the local community, he has served as a member of the Harlingen Industrial Foundation and president of the Harlingen Economic Development Board. He is a past member and Chairman of the Harlingen Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Active in higher education both locally and statewide, Shepard served as a past chairman of the University of Texas at Brownsville Development Board and the Pan American University Board of Regents. He was appointed by Gov. George Bush to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in 1996, and reappointed by Gov. Rick Perry in 2004 and served as chairman from 2005 to 2008. Shepard holds a Bachelor's in Business Administration from the University of Texas at Austin.

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About IIAT

The Independent Insurance Agents of Texas (IIAT) is the nation's largest state association of Trusted Choice® agencies. IIAT represents approximately 1,800 agencies and more than 15,000 agents and insurance professionals. Trusted Choice® independent agents represent multiple insurance companies. Since they are not employees of any single insurance company, they are advocates for insurance consumers helping them comparison shop for cost-effective and customized coverage. IIAT is also affiliated with the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America and works with legislative, regulatory and judicial bodies in Texas on behalf of independent insurance agents across the state. More information on IIAT can be found online at iiat.org.