



INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS
OF NORTH CAROLINA

Past Award Winners

Independent Agent of the Year

2025	Oliver Connor, Connor Insurance Agency
2024	Michelle O'Connor, O'Connor Insurance Assoc.
2023	Christopher Cook, Alliance Insurance Services
2022	Jack Wingate, ALLCHOICE Insurance
2021	Deirdre Rushin, Durham
2020	Brett Johnson, Winston-Salem
2019	John Miller, CPCU, CIC, CBIA, CRIS, Cary
2018	Lesa Williams, CIC, CPCU, CRIS, CRM, Newton
2017	Danny Cook, CIC, CRM, MSRMI, LUTCF Lumberton
2016	Ralph Whitehurst, CIC, AAI, CWCA, Wake Forest
2015	Bobby Salmon, Raleigh
2014	Jeff Haney, CPCU, ARM, Charlotte
2013	Jackie Ireland, AAI, Raleigh
2012	J. Dal Snipes, CIC, Dunn
2011	John Hall, Spruce Pine
2010	Neil T. Annas, CIC CRM, Granite Falls
2009	Linda E. Willey, Nags Head
2008	Judge Manning, Jr., LUTCF, Roanoke Rapids
2007	Don Evans, Shallotte
2006	Richard A. Heckle, AAI, Matthews
2005	John S. Gastineau, AAI, CIC
2004	William S. Bingham
2003	Larry B. Roland, CPCU, CIC, ARM, Greensboro
2002	Rod Evans, Kinston
2001	J. Fletcher Willey, Jr., CPCU, AAI, Nags Head
2000	Harry Fitzgerald, Winston-Salem
1999	Robert Mays, Greensboro
1998	Jack Calvert, Lexington
1997	William Johnson Jr. Mocksville
1996	Skip Bright Jr., Greenville
1995	J. David Walker, Lumberton
1994	Sam Stallings Jr., Smithfield
1993	William G. Ervin, CPCU, ARM, High Point
1992	Steve Smith, Raleigh
1991	Cloyce Anders, New Bern
1990	Ronald R. Bagwell, Raleigh
1989	Bryan Tilden, CPCU, CLU, CIC, ARM, ALCM, ChFC
1988	Kurt Fickling, Greenville
1987	Joseph R. Kluttz, Jr., CPCU, Albemarle
1986	John P. Young III, CPCU, CLU, AAI, CIC, Greensboro
1985	Harold Tucker, Winston-Salem
1984	W. Edgar Price II, CPCU, Charlotte
1983	J. Van B. Metts Jr., CPCU, Wilmington
1982	H. S. Gibbs, Jr., Morehead City
1981	T. Duke Williams, Jr., CPCU, Statesville
1980	Southgate Jones, Jr., Durham
1979	L. Merritt Jones, Jr., CPCU, Raleigh

Young Agent of the Year

2025	Daniel Rohrbaugh, Raleigh Insurance Group
2024	Daniel Rohrbaugh, Raleigh Insurance Group
2023	Merritt Tongen, LN Davis Insurance Agency
2022	Landon Bentham, MBA, TRA, Fayetteville

2021	Landon Bentham, MBA, TRA, Fayetteville
2020	Thomas Rhodes, CPCU, CIC, AAI, AIC, ARM, AU, AFSB, CBIA, Rocky Mount
2019	Cameron Annas, CIC, CRM, Granite Falls
2018	Owen Thomas, MBA, Pembroke
2017	Patrick Laney, Catawba
2016	Anna Bailey, CIC, CISR, Charlotte
2015	Josh Lipstone, Cary
2014	Jamie Lowrey, Raleigh
2013	Josh Lipstone, Cary & Jessica Medlin, CIC, Charlotte
2012	Nicole Hicks, Newton
2011	Karl Sherrill, Greensboro
2010	David Essic, CIC, Mocksville
2009	Eric Stevens, CIC AAI, Raleigh
2008	Chris Meinberg, CIC AIC, Winston Salem
2007	Ray Tedder, CPCU CIC AU AIS, Charlotte
2006	Kenneth L. Richardson, CPCU CIC AAI, Greensboro
2005	Dean Wooten, LUTCF LILI, Statesville
2004	Leamon W. Clemmons, Jr., CISR, Supply
2003	Ernest Jeffrey Thomas, CISR, AAI, Goldsboro
2002	Daniel Cook, LUTCF, Lumberton
2001	Charlotte S. Hicks, CPA, CIC, AAI, Wilmington
2000	Richard Busch, Winston-Salem
1999	William A. "Bill" Connolly, III, AAI, Kinston
1998	Pamela Aycock, CPIW, CISR, Raleigh
1998	Donald McGlohon, Jr., CPCU, Greenville
1997	Mary Page, CPCU, CIC, CPIW, AAI, AU, Greenville
1996	Jackie Ireland, AAI, New Bern
1995	Bo Walker, CPCU, CIC, Statesville
1994	Robert M. Kendall, CPCU, Morehead City
1993	Joe W. Wheelless, Raleigh
1992	Reid Rhodes, Rocky Mount
1991	Michael D. Hargrove, Weldon
1990	Mary B. Parsons, CPCU, CPIW, AAI, CIC, Greenville
1989	Don Stroud, AAI, Wake Forest
1988	Charlie Hoover, Davidson
1987	John Coupland, CPCU, Durham
1986	J. Fletcher Willey, Jr., Manteo
1985	Forest F. Edwards, Jr., Rutherfordton
1984	David Redwine, Shallotte
1983	J. E. "Jim" Neal, III, CLU, Marion
1982	William G. Johnson, Jr., CPCU, Mocksville
1981	W. Cloyce Anders, New Bern
1980	Doug Mitchell, Charlotte
1979	Terry C. Pleasant, CLU, CPCU, Albemarle
1973	James W. Poole, Raleigh
1972	H. Thomas Finley, Jr., Charlotte
1971	James E. Dunn, CLU, Greensboro
1970	Robert G. Yancey, Jr., Raleigh
1969	L. Merritt Jones, Jr., CPCU, Raleigh

Ernest F. Young Education Award

2012	Robert McIver, CLTC, CSA, Wilmington
2011	Buck Harris, CIC, Sanford

2009	Dennis Houck, CIC AAI, West Jefferson
2008	Bob Betters, ARM, CIC, Gastonia
2006	William B. "Chip" Williamson, IV, CIC, Asheville
2005	Robert S. McIver, CIC, CLTC, CSA, Wilmington
2004	Sandra L. Kenley, CIC, CPIW, Raleigh
2003	Kurt Fickling, Greenville
2002	Doug Day, Chapel Hill
2001	Edward Clayton, Jr., CPCU, AAI, IIA, Greensboro
2000	Steve Booth, Durham
1999	Cleve Folger, CPCU, CIC, Cary
1998	Larry Roland, CPCU, ARM, CIC, Greensboro
1997	William S.Bingham, Davidson
1996	Paul Hoover, III, CPCU, CIC, ARM, Raleigh
1995	John Miller, Jr., CPCU, Raleigh
1994	W. Gray Sanders, CPCU, Belmont
1993	David D. Wood, D.B.A., ASU
1992	Chris McLeod, CPCU, CIC, CPIW, AAI, Greensboro
1991	E. Stuart Powell, Jr. CPCU, CLU, ARM, ChFC, AMIM
1990	Edward L. Clayton, Jr., CPCU, AAI, Greensboro
1989	Mary B. Parsons, CPCU, CPIW, AAI, CIC, Greenville
1988	Bryan Tilden, CPCU, ARM, CIC, CLU, ALCM, ChFC
1987	Lillian Langley, CPIW, Mount Olive
1986	Gary Buchanan, CPCU, ARM, Raleigh
1985	W. Cloyce Anders, New Bern
1984	W. Kurt Fickling, Greenville
1983	J. Fletcher Willey, Jr., Manteo
1982	Donald W. Thomas, CPCU, Wendell
1981	W. Hutson Wester, CPCU, Henderson
1980	William G. Ervin, CPCU, High Point
1979	Joseph P. Kluttz, Jr., CPCU, Albemarle
1978	John P. Young, III, CPCU, CLU, CIC, AAI, Greensboro

Company Professional of the Year

2025	Josh Ammons, Amwins
2024	David Essic, Berkshire Hathaway GUARD
2023	Rick Pierce, National General, an Allstate co.
2022	Chris Reisdorf, Smart Choice
2021	Gail Belvin, CIC, AAI, CPIW, Accident Fund
2020	Danielle Wade, CPCU, CIC, Jackson Sumner & Associates
2019	Ritchie Dabbs, National General Insurance
2018	Kelly Bailey, Heritage Insurance
2017	Dee Yates, Imperial PFS
2016	Kris Marrion, Erie Insurance
2015	Robb Crosswhite, CIC, CPIM, UPC Insurance
2014	Gina Schwitzgebel, CIC, CPCU, ARM, AIC, NCJUA & NCIUA
2013	Travis Whitley, NetComp Insurance
2012	Tammy Goodman, Selective Insurance
2011	Wayne Sumner, Jackson Sumner & Assoc.
2010	Nancy Newmister, Montgomery Insurance
2009	John Miletti, Travelers
2008	Curt Wohlers, Allied Insurance
2007	Dascheil Propes, CPCU, Johnson & Johnson

2007	Mary Speaker, Hanover Excess & Surplus, Greensboro
2006	Stanley A. Wilson, CPCU, Travelers, Charlotte
2005	Richard C. Pierce, CPCU, AAI, GMAC Insurance
2004	Dewey Meshaw, NCIUA & NCJUA Plans
2003	Ray Snyder, Kemper Auto & Home
2002	Tom Marshall, CPCU, CLU, CIC, Auto Owners Insurance
2001	Gordon Fette, CIC, CPCU, AAI, AIS, Progressive
2000	Jim Butler, Piedmont Transportation Underwriters
2000	Glenn Butler, Piedmont Transportation Underwriters
2000	Dwight Carter, FSA, Raleigh
1999	Fred Campau, Travelers Insurance
1998	Kenneth "Doc" Davis, Johnson & Johnson, Charleston
1997	Wayne Sumner, Jackson Sumner, Boone
1996	Dewey Meshaw, NCJUA/NCIUA, Raleigh
1995	Bob Biggerstaff, Key Risk Management Svcs.
1994	Art Lyon, CPCU, Integon, Winston-Salem
1993	John E. Schneider, CPCU, Aetna, Charlotte
1992	Gustav Vik, State Capital Insurance, Raleigh
1991	Dale T. Bennett, Jefferson-Pilot, Greensboro
1990	R. Philip Salling, Raleigh
1989	John Lughes, Raleigh
1988	James F. Byrd, CPCU, Charlotte
1987	Pamela J. Bennett, Atlanta
1986	Jesse Barber, Raleigh
1984	Thomas Marshall, CPCU, CLU, Charlotte
1983	A. H. A. "Baldy" Williams, II, Oxford
1982	Emerson Sharpe, Charlotte
1981	Herb Rollins, Charlotte
1980	George Banks, Charlotte
1979	Gene Banks, Charlotte
1978	Dick Bunders, Durham
1977	Mel Dillon, Raleigh
1976	Jesse Barber, Raleigh
1975	Paul Mize, Raleigh
1973	J. C. Davenport, Charlotte
1972	Jim Chambers, Charlotte
1971	Bob Mauldin, Charlotte
1970	Tom Carpenter, Charlotte
1969	Paul Mize, Raleigh
1968	Mel Dillon, Raleigh
1967	Clayton Stallings, Raleigh
1966	Arge Post, Charlotte
1965	Joe Heavner, Charlotte
1964	Joe Edwards, Raleigh
1963	L. Merritt Jones, Jr., Raleigh
1962	Ray M. Galloway, Raleigh
1961	Fred Benton, Raleigh
1960	J. Ed Council, Charlotte
1959	Lloyd C. Smith, Jr., Atlanta, Ga.
1958	S. Linton Smith, Raleigh
1957	William F. Aimone, Raleigh
1956	Horace M. Johnson, Durham
1955	Alexander Webb, Raleigh
1954	Glenn H. Duffy, Raleigh

Bobby Salmon Lifetime Achievement Award

2025	Neil Annas, Granite Insurance
2023	Bobby Salmon, INSURE Raleigh

Lifetime Achievement Award

2018	J. Dal Snipes, CIC, Dunn
2017	John Bode, Raleigh
2016	Stuart Powell, CIC, CPCU, CLU, ChFC
2014	J. Fletcher Willey, CPCU, AAI, Nags Head
2012	Don Evans, Shallotte
2010	Cloyce Anders, Raleigh
2008	Dr. Joseph E. Johnson, CPCU, Greensboro
2006	William G. Ervin, CPCU, ARM, Charlotte
2004	L. Merritt Jones, Jr., CPCU
2003	C. Delaine Bradsher, Raleigh
2002	John Young III, CPCU, CLU, CIC, AAI, Greensboro
2002	Thomas Carpenter, CPCU, Charlotte
2001	Southgate Jones, Jr., Durham
2000	H.S. Gibbs, Morehead City
2000	Louie E. Woodbury, Jr., Wilmington

Broker of the Year

2025	AmWins
2024	Risk Placement Services
2023	Ryan Specialty/RT Specialty
2022	Johnson & Johnson
2021	AmWins Brokerage
2020	Risk Placement Services
2019	Jackson Sumner & Associates
2018	AmWINS Brokerage of the Carolinas
2017	Burns and Wilcox
2016	Risk Placement Services
2015	Jackson Sumner & Associates
2014	Johnson & Johnson
2013	Jackson Sumner & Associates
2012	Jackson Sumner & Associates
2011	Johnson & Johnson
2010	Johnson & Johnson
2009	Johnson & Johnson
2008	Johnson & Johnson
2007	Johnson & Johnson
2006	Johnson & Johnson
2005	Burns & Wilcox - Morehead City
2004	Burns & Wilcox - Morehead City

Company of the Year

2025	Builders Mutual
2024	Travelers
2023	Erie Insurance
2022	Capital Premium Financing
2021	Penn National Insurance

2020	Auto-Owners Insurance
2019	Heritage Insurance
2018	Builders Mutual
2017	Erie Insurance
2016	Travelers
2015	Liberty Mutual Insurance
2014	National General Insurance
2013	Cincinnati Insurance Companies
2012	Travelers
2011	Montgomery Insurance
2010	Montgomery Insurance
2009	Montgomery Insurance
2008	Montgomery Insurance
2007	Travelers
2006	GMAC Insurance
2005	GMAC Insurance
2004	Travelers
2003	Travelers
2002	Travelers
2001	Travelers
2000	Erie Insurance Group
1999	Auto Owners Insurance Company
1998	Cincinnati Insurance Companies
1997	Cincinnati Insurance Companies
1996	Erie Insurance Group

AAMGA Achievement Award

2011	Leamon Clemmons, CISR, Junior Golf Committee
2010	Jeff Gibson, Events Committee
2009	Jim McCafferty, Products & Services Committee
2008	Rod Evans, Harry Fitzgerald, Charlie Hoover, Steve Smith, Co-Chairs, National Trusted Choice® Big "I" Junior Classic Host Committee
2007	Neil T. Annas, CIC, CRM, PAC Committee
2006	Trusted Choice® Big "I" Junior Classic Committee
2005	Kathy Lance, CISR, Chair, PAC Committee
2004	Jeff Thomas, Chairman, Young Agents Committee
2003	Tim Ward, Chairman, Membership Committee
2002	Don Evans, Chairman, PAC Committee
2001	J. Dal Snipes, CIC, Chairman, PAC Committee
2001	Duncan Jones, Chairman, Young Agents Committee
2000	Rob McVay, Chairman, Young Agents Committee
1999	Will Britt, Chairman, Small & Rural East Committee
1999	Marsh Dark, III, Western Agents (S&R West) Committee
1998	Don Evans, Shallotte
1996	John Gastineau, AAI, CIC, Raleigh
1995	A. Hunter Davis, Reidsville
1994	J. David Walker, Lumberton
1993	Young Agents Committee
1992	David W. Purinai, Rocky Mount
1991	Steve D. Smith, Raleigh