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**NAAIA Chicago Welcomes New Leadership**

CHICAGO, IL- NAAIA Chicago welcomes Brett Carter as the new chapter President and Lavezz Middleton as Vice President. The changes are effective July 1, 2023. Carter previously served as chapter Vice President, while Middleton served as a general member of the NAAIA Chicago Board.

Carter is a Managing Director for The Jacobson Group’s executive search team, managing C-level,

Vice President and other executive-level searches for clients from all sectors of the insurance industry.

He brings more than 20 years of insurance experience to his role with Jacobson, most recently serving as Diversity Partner for Munich Re US P&C. In this role, he collaborated with human resources and other business unit leaders to attract, develop and retain top talent.

Carter succeeds Mark Anderson, Regional Underwriting Officer at Travelers Insurance. Anderson will continue serving as Immediate Past President in an advisory role on the NAAIA Chicago Board.

“It is an honor to carry on the great work Mark has conducted over his four-year tenure with the chapter,” said Carter. “NAAIA Chicago has a deep history in the city and as we celebrate 20 years of service to the community this year, I am ready to work with our Board to continue expanding our reach and impact.”

Middleton is the Operations Manager of Multinational Billing & Collections for CNA, with 25 plus years of operations experience and over 20 years of leadership experience. He played a critical role in designing CNA’s multinational online portal, known as *CNA ComPass*. The platform allows CNA and its strategic network partners to write and manage local admitted placements around the world. Middleton enjoys the complexities of Multinational Commercial Insurance while working to pave the way for more diverse, equitable and inclusive arenas.

As a DEI change agent and leader, Middleton served as the former chair of CNA’s African American ERG and is an Insurance Business America Leading the Change award recipient. He also received a commendation from Lori Lightfoot, former Chicago mayor, for his community service efforts during the onset of COVID-19 shelter in place campaigns.

“I look forward to engaging our members in the exciting work underway at NAAIA Chicago,” said Middleton. “Our chapter is filled with exceptional talent from every walk of the industry, and as we look to build for the future, we need everyone involved and ready to support future talent and expand diversity, equity and inclusion efforts both locally and nationally.”

NAAIA Chicago is the first local chapter established through the national organization and was awarded its charter on June 12, 2003. The organization strives to achieve its mission by delivering programs which address career development needs for Black insurance talent in the greater Chicago area. Along with formal and informal mentoring, members are offered a focused approach to career management with access to networking, continued learning, growth, development and community service opportunities.

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