



PRESS RELEASE

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL EDITORS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ZENITH DECLARES QUARTERLY AND EXTRA DIVIDEND
TOTALING \$0.90**

WOODLAND HILLS, CALIFORNIA, December 4, 2008

The Board of Directors of Zenith National Insurance Corp. (NYSE:ZNT) today declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of \$0.50 per share on its outstanding shares of common stock. In addition, the Board of Directors declared an extra dividend of \$0.40 per share on its outstanding shares of common stock. The regular dividend of \$0.50 per share will be payable February 13, 2009 to stockholders of record at the close of business on January 30, 2009. The extra dividend of \$0.40 per share will be payable December 29, 2008 to stockholders of record at the close of business on December 15, 2008.

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