

35 years

Wisconsin Lawyers Mutual
INSURANCE COMPANY

725 Heartland Trail, Suite 300
Madison, WI 53717
(800) 373-3839
www.wilmic.com



WILMIC maintains decades-long commitment to Wisconsin lawyers

While the world and the practice of law have changed greatly in the past 35 years, the priorities of Wisconsin Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company have not.

"We were created to provide good coverage and great service to policyholders and lawyers in Wisconsin, not just lawyers who buy our insurance," said Katja Kunzke, president and CEO of WILMIC. "That was our mission from the beginning."

Thousands of Wisconsin attorneys have relied on WILMIC for quality professional-liability insurance since the company's beginnings in 1986. Many national carriers then weren't interested in insuring solo practitioners and small firms and, as a result, lawyers were getting priced out of coverage.

The State Bar of Wisconsin asked a group of lawyers to look into possible remedies, and the group concluded the best option was to start a new insurance company. Members then started asking other lawyers to support their fledgling company by buying bonds.

"You have to have a certain amount of money in the bank before you can call yourself an insurance company because you have to be able to pay claims," Kunzke said. "They raised \$3.5 million, and WILMIC was able to open for business on July 1, 1986."

Today, WILMIC provides attorneys with professional liability insurance, supplemental

coverage, abstracter and title insurance agent coverage, intellectual property coverage, and access to cyber-liability coverage and court bonds. Policy limits range from \$100,000 to \$15 million.

"Lawyers in Wisconsin really work hard to do what their clients need," Kunzke said. "I see so much goodwill and so much good intention, but we all make mistakes. It's an honor to be part of an insurance company that is really here to help lawyers finish what they start."

Kunzke, who's been with WILMIC since 1989, is a lawyer, as are many of the company's board members and staff. Having people who understand what it's like to practice law makes a big difference in the quality of service the company can offer.

"I'm fine with my car insurance being numbers-driven, but as far as my profession, I want human beings who know who I am," Kunzke said. "And that's who we are. We're lawyers, and we work hard to understand what lawyers are facing and what their clients expect from them."

She and other WILMIC staff members regularly talk to lawyers of all ages in different parts of the state and practice areas. They listen to attorneys' concerns, find appropriate responses and then share that knowledge with the legal profession through risk-management programming.



Katja Kunzke

"If we don't take what we learn in claims to try to proactively prevent claims, then I think we're really wasting a valuable resource," Kunzke said.

Kunzke said fewer people are pursuing law as a career, and WILMIC is taking that into consideration as it prepares for its next 35 years and beyond in business. The key to success, Kunzke said, will be maintaining the company's local connections and commitment to Wisconsin attorneys.

"We keep trying to find new ways to be helpful and relevant," Kunzke said. "Our goal is not to make money. It is to do this right."