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NEWS RELEASE

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RLI Awards Steeves Memorial Scholarship to Two Bradley University Students

PEORIA, ILLINOIS, April 30, 2012, RLI Corp. (NYSE:RLI) – RLI has awarded the 2012 James D. Steeves CPCU Memorial Scholarship at Bradley University to juniors Jessica Martinez and Alexander Wilson, both of Washington, Illinois.

Martinez is a marketing major and is active with the American Marketing Association and Rotaract. Wilson, a finance major, has worked as a volunteer at Maple Lawn Homes in Eureka and is a youth group sponsor at Calvary Mennonite Church. Both are graduates of Washington Community High School.

The scholarships are named after the late James D. Steeves, a chartered property casualty underwriter (CPCU) and vice president of property underwriting for RLI. Awards have been made since 1998 to full-time undergraduate students of Bradley University who excel academically and are pursuing coursework in the areas of risk management, actuarial science, accounting, finance, marketing or business administration.

Recipients of the Steeves scholarship are also provided the opportunity for internships with RLI, which provide practical experience in the field of property and casualty insurance.

RLI, a specialty insurance company, offers a diversified portfolio of property and casualty coverages and surety bonds serving niche or underserved markets. RLI operates in all 50 states from office locations across the country. RLI's insurance subsidiaries – RLI Insurance Company, Mt. Hawley Insurance Company and RLI Indemnity Company – are rated A+ "Superior" by A.M. Best Company and A+ "Strong" by Standard & Poor's. Contractors Bonding and Insurance Company, is rated A "Excellent" by A.M. Best Company.

Bradley is a private, independent university in Peoria, Illinois, offering 6,000 students the choice of more than 100 academic programs. Bradley links academic excellence, experiential learning and leadership development with an entrepreneurial spirit for a world-class education. Its size provides students with extensive resources not available at most private colleges and the personal attention not commonly found at large universities.

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