



THE TREASURER OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

BILL NELSON

MEMORANDUM

December 27, 2000

TO: Workers' Compensation Claim Coordinators, Personnel Officers, and Safety Coordinators

FROM: Denzil Weimorts

SUBJECT: Important Workers' Compensation Information

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- Thank you for your hard work.

With the closing of 2000, the staff of Risk Management would like to say "thank you" to all agency personnel who are involved with providing workers' compensation benefits to injured state employees. You provide a vital and essential service and we could not do our job without your help. Again, thank you for your good work in 2000 and we look forward to working with you in 2001!

- Maximum Compensation Rate, Effective January 1, 2001:

In accordance with Section 440.12(2)(a)(b), Florida Statutes, effective January 1, 2001, the maximum compensation rate will be \$571.00 per week. Injured employees on temporary total disability are paid 66 2/3% of their average weekly wage, not to exceed the maximum compensation rate, or \$571.00 per week for accidents that occur in calendar year 2001. The maximum compensation rate for accidents that occur in calendar year 2000 is \$541.00 per week.

- First Report of Injury forms:

Effective with dates of accident on or after April 1, 2000, all state agencies have reported injury information directly to Protegrity/Humana. Protegrity is responsible for producing the First Report of Injury forms, and providing a copy to Risk Management, the injured employee and the reporting agency.

TREASURER • INSURANCE COMMISSIONER • FIRE MARSHAL

DENZIL WEIMORTS, CLU • MGMT. REVIEW SPECIALIST • DIVISION OF RISK MANAGEMENT, BUREAU OF STATE EMPLOYEES' WC CLAIMS
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Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer

➤ Mentor and Community Volunteer Programs:

State employees are not eligible for workers' compensation benefits from the State if injured while performing mentor/volunteer services or while traveling to and from the location. The employees are considered volunteers or employees for the school district, etc., for whom they are providing the service. Employees should be cautioned regarding volunteer work for those organizations that are not a county, municipality, or other governmental entity.

➤ Special Disability Trust Fund:

It is no longer necessary for state agencies to complete the "Medical Information Questionnaire" for Special Disability Trust Fund purposes. Legislation passed eliminating claims for reimbursement from the Special Disability Trust Fund on dates of accident after December 31, 1997. Questionnaires previously completed should be maintained in employees' personnel file.

➤ State Employees' Bureau of Workers' Compensation Claims Personnel:

All bureau personnel have a direct telephone extension and e-mail capability. Attached find a list of all bureau personnel that handle workers' compensation claims, along with telephone extensions and e-mail addresses. Instructions to determine which staff member is responsible for a specific claim are also included. We encourage your use of e-mail to communicate information such as medical status, return to work dates, questions to individual staff members, etc.