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Update on Proposed Work Comp Rate Increase

The Florida Workers' Comp laws since 2003 have provided a very modest fee structure for lawyers to receive while representing injured employees in Workers' Comp claims. The result has been a favorable reduction of 59% in Workers' Comp costs over the past 13 years. In October 2003, the Office of Insurance Regulation approved a 14% rate decrease for all employers after Workers' Comp reform took place in the 2003 legislative session. This 2003 decrease in rates applied to all work comp policies in force on October 1st, 2003.

In April this year, the Florida Supreme Court in a 5-2 decision declared this Lawyer Fee Schedule unconstitutional. In essence, lawyers have navigated their way back into the Workers' Comp "thicket".

NCCI, the Workers' Comp industry rating bureau, has recommended a 17% rate increase effective August 1, 2016. This unwelcome rate increase would apply to all employers on a pro rata basis up to your policy renewal date. The Campbell Agency position will be this increase is unfair and unprecedented!! My 25 years of exclusively specializing in Workers' Comp warrants a prediction of how this event should unfold.

First of all, the Office of Insurance Regulation will rule on this NCCI rate request in July. My hope and prediction is an approval of a lower amount. I'm predicting a 12% increase. This is still unplanned and unfair for our clients, yet lower than a 17% increase.

Secondly, The Campbell Agency feels it's particularly unfair to increase your rates mid-term and before the anniversary date of your Workers' Comp renewal.

In 25 years of first-hand experience, I'm positive Workers' Comp rates have never been decreased before the anniversary date of your renewal! My hope and prediction is the Office of Insurance Regulation will not approve any rate increase until your anniversary renewal date.



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The Campbell Agency needs your help. Please find links to various legislators and officials who should hear from us. Articulate the effect this increase would have on job creation and job sustainability. Other attachments explain this recent NCCI filing and pertinent information.

The Campbell Agency will contact you immediately after the July ruling by the Office of Insurance Regulation. We are preparing our game plan to counter whatever result comes our way and work on solutions to eliminate this increase in premiums to our clients.

J. Kevin Campbell