

# HURLEY ROGNER MILLER, COX & WARANCH, P.A.

ORIGINAL

RESPONSE TO CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

RFP-4460-15-RD

LEGAL COUNSEL FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS

Submitted by

Hurley, Rogner, Miller, Cox & Waranch, P.A.

1280 SW 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue, #100

Pompano Beach, FL 33069

954-580-1500

Contact Person: Andrew R. Borah

**SEPTEMBER 1, 2015** 

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### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND SIGNATURE PAGE**

This form must be completed and submitted by the date and the time of bid opening.
Legal Company Name (include d/b/a if applicable): <u>Hurley, Rogner, Miller, Cox &amp; Waranch, PA</u>
Federal Tax Identification Number: 59-3107040
If Corporation - Date Incorporated/Organized: February 1992
State Incorporated/Organized: Florida
Company Operating Address: 1280 SW 36 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, #100
City: Pompano Beach State: FL Zip Code: 33069
Remittance Address (If different from ordering address): 1560 Orange Avenue, Suite 500
City: Winter Park State: FL Zip Code: 32789
Company Contact Person: Andrew R. Borah Email Address: Aborah@HRMCW.com
Address: 1280 SW 36th Avenue, #100, Pompano Beach, FL 38069
Phone Number (include area code): 954-580-1500 Fex Number (include area code): 954-580-1501
Company's Internet Web Address: www.hrmcw.com
IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED AND AFFIRMED THAT THE BIDDER/PROPOSER CERTIFIES ACCEPTANCE OF THE TERMS, CONDITIONS, SPECIFICATIONS, ATTACHMENTS AND ANY ADDENDA. THE BIDDER/PROPOSER SHALL ACCEPT ANY AWARDS MADE AS A RESULT OF THIS SOLICITATION, BIDDER/PROPOSER FURTHER AGREES THAT PRICES QUOTED WILL REMAIN FIXED FOR THE PERIOD OF TIME STATED IN THE SOLICITATION.
John M 1/31/15
Bidder/Proposer's Authorized Representative's Signature: Date
Type or Print Name: Andrew R. Borah
THE EXECUTION OF THIS FORM CONSTITUTES THE UNEQUIVOCAL OFFER OF BIDDER/PROPOSER TO BE BOUND BY THE TERMS OF ITS PROPOSAL, FAILURE TO SIGN THIS SOLICITATION WHERE INDICATED BY AN AUTHORIZED PERFECUENCE CHAIL BENDER THE BID (PROPOSCAL NON RECEDURACE THE CITY

THE EXECUTION OF THIS FORM CONSTITUTES THE UNEQUIVOCAL OFFER OF BIDDER/PROPOSER TO BE BOUND BY THE TERMS OF ITS PROPOSAL, FAILURE TO SIGN THIS SOLICITATION WHERE INDICATED BY AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE SHALL RENDER THE BID/PROPOSAL NON-RESPONSIVE, THE CITY MAY, HOWEVER, IN ITS SOLE DISCRETION, ACCEPT ANY BID/PROPOSAL THAT INCLUDES AN EXECUTED DOCUMENT WHICH UNEQUIVOCALLY BINDS THE BIDDER/PROPOSER TO THE TERMS OF ITS OFFER. ANY EXCEPTION, CHANGES OR ALTERATIONS TO THE GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS, HOLDHARMLESS/INDEMNITY DOCUMENT OR OTHER REQUIRED FORMS MAY RESULT IN THE BID/PROPOSAL BE DEEMED NON-RESPONSIVE AND DISQUALIFIED FORM THE AWARD PROCESS.

3. RFP Checklist		
Acknowledgment & Signature Page		
One (1) original, six (6) copies and (1) one complete electronic copy (CD) of RFP		
☐ Title Page		
☐ Table of Contents		
RFP Checklist		
Letter of Transmittal		
Profile of Proposer  a) National, Regional or Local b) Location of office c) Firm description d) Similar municipal engagements e) Statement of litigation		
Proposer's Qualifications  a) Good standing with the Florida Bar Association b) Reference Questionnaires (4) c) Lead attorney and team members		
Project Understanding, Proposed Approach and Methodology a) Types of services providedb) Project plan for engagement  Summary of Proposer's Fee Statement		
a) Detailed listing of hourly billing rates b) Anticipated costs and fees Brainst time askedule		
Addenda Hold Harmless & Indemnity Clause Non-collusion Affidavit Sworn Statement on public entity crimes Certifications regarding debarment, suspension & other responsibility matters Drug-Free Workplace Program Solicitation, Giving and Acceptance of Gifts Policy		



### 4. Letter of Transmittal:

August 31, 2015

City of Hollywood, Florida c/o: Office of City Clerk 2600 Hollywood Blvd., Room 221 Hollywood, Ft, 33020

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my privilege to submit the enclosed response to the City of Hollywood's RFP for Workers' Compensation legal counsel.

Hurley, Rogner, Miller, Cox & Waranch, P.A. (Hurley Rogner) is deeply qualified to provide legal review, advice and representation to the City, and it would be our honor to do so.

Our firm specializes in defending Workers' Compensation cases for employers, insurance carriers and third party administrators. Founded in 1992, we have proudly represented dozens of governmental clients in thousands of Workers' compensation cases for the State of Florida, the cities of Vero Beach, Kissimmee and Edgewater, multiple countles and sheriff's offices as well as the Reedy Creek Improvement District, among others. Hurley Rogner has defended many claims involving the firefighter and police presumptions under \$112.18 and will be able to provide counseling as to compensability and aggressive defense of any litigated claims

Our attorneys rank among the most skilled and respected in the Industry: 13 of our 26 attorneys are recognized by the Florida Bar Association as Board Certified Specialists in Workers' Compensation. Our appellate practice has been responsible for more than 300 decisions that have shaped the Workers' Compensation Industry in Florida.

The following persons will be authorized to make representations for our firm;

Andrew R. Borah, Partner, Florida Board Certified, Workers' Compensation; 1280 SW 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue, #100, Pompano Beach, FL 33609 (954) 580-1500

Rex A. Hurley, Managing Partner, Florida Board Certified, Workers' Compensation; 1560 Orange Avenue, Sulte 500, Winter Park, Ft 32789 (407) 571-7400

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely.

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### 5. Profile of Proposer, Hurley, Rogner, Miller, Cox & Waranch, PA (Hurley Rogner);

- a) National, Regional or Local; Hurley Rogner Miller Cox & Waranch, PA, is a regional firm, representing clients across Florida, with offices in six cities including an office in Pompano Beach, Broward County.
- **b)** Location of Office: Work for the City of Hollywood will be performed from our Pompano Beach office, which is located less than 10 minutes from the Ft. Lauderdale district offices of the Judges of Compensation Claims and 16 miles/25 minutes from the City of Hollywood City Clerk's office.
- c) Firm Description: Hurley, Rogner, Miller, Cox & Waranch, P.A. has been defending Workers' Compensation cases for employers, insurance carriers and third party administrators since 1992, with 26 attorneys in six offices across the state of Florida Pompano Beach, Miami, Tallahassee, Winter Park, Ft. Pierce and Ft. Myers.

We have proudly represented dozens of governmental clients in thousands of Workers' compensation cases for the State of Florida, the cities of Vero Beach, Kissimmee and Edgewater, multiple counties and sheriff's offices as well as the Reedy Creek Improvement District, among others.

Our attorneys rank among the most skilled and respected in the industry: 13 of our 26 attorneys are recognized by the Florida Bar Association as Board Certified Specialists in Workers' Compensation. Our appellate practice has been responsible for more than 300 decisions that have shaped the Workers' Compensation industry in Florida.

Hurley Rogner is committed to pursuing the quick, efficient resolution of Workers' Compensation cases, but where the facts dictate, we are equally adept at preparing for and attending trial. We endeavor to invest whatever time is necessary to completely prepare and research each case, and wherever possible, we employ our skilled team of paralegals to reduce overall litigation expense. We zealously seek prevailing party costs on behalf of our clients when we prevail at trial. Many of those Orders have resulted in payments back to our clients.

### d) Similar Municipal Engagements

Linda Allison
Brevard County Board of Commissioners
Linda.Allison@brevardcounty.us
(321) 637-5364 (FAX)
(321) 637-5447 (PHONE)
Dates of Representation: 1995 to present

Beth Martin
Indian River County

BMartin@ircgov.com
(772) 770-5098 (FAX)
(772) 226-1287 (PHONE)
Dates of Representation: 2005 to present

Dana Keller
Reedy Creek Improvement District
DKeller@rcid.org
407-828-2633 (FAX)
(407) 938-1437 (PHONE)
Dates of representation: 1992 to present

Judy Boling
Florida Sheriff's Risk Management Fund
Judy.Boling@fsrmf.org
(850) 320-6939 (FAX)
(850) 320-6880 (PHONE)
Dates of Representation: 2003 to present

e) Statement of Litigation —Hurley Rogner has not been involved in any litigation arising out of professional performance; not in the past five years or ever in our firm's 23-year history.

### 6. Hurley Rogner's Qualifications

- a) **Good standing:** All Hurley Rogner attorneys are licensed and in good standing with the Florida Bar Association.
- b) **Reference questionnaires** Please see the attached documents immediately following this page:
  - --Brevard County
  - --Indian River County
  - --Reedy Creek Improvement District
  - --Florida Sheriffs Risk Management Fund

It is the responsibility of the contractor/vendor to provide a minimum of three (3) similar type references using this form and to provide this information with your submission. Failure to do so may result in the rejection of your

empiripalmit.
alving reference for: Hurry, Bogner, Miller, Cox & Warance
Address: 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way  Phone: (301) 637 5447
Fax: (1301) (137 53 (11)
Emall: Lind Co. allison a horrord county. us
1. Q:What was the dollar value of the contract? A: NAMA
2. Have there been any change orders, and if so, how many? A: \( \Lightarrow \lightarrow A \)
3. Q: Did they perform on a timely basis as required by the agreement? A: yes
4. Q: Was the project manager easy to get in contact with?  A: Yes
6. Q: Would you use them again?  A: Definitely and have had a retationship with the law firm for aver 2 byrs.  6. Q: Overall, what would you rate their performance? (Scale from 1-5)
A: Excellent
7. Q; is there anything else we should know, that we have not asked? A: Please see below.
The undersigned does hereby certify that the foregoing and subsequent statements are true and correct and are made independently, free from vendor interference/collusion.
Name: Linda Reid Allison The Risk Claims Specialis
Signature: Lindo Roid allis Pate: 8 31 15
Brevord County has used the above appronect law firm
for 20 pless years. They provide exactlent service in
Knowledgeable and our overall experience has
been executent.

for 20

It is the responsibility of the contractor/vendor to provide a minimum of three (3) similar type references using this form and to provide this information with your submission. Failure to do so may result in the rejection of your submission.

Giving reference for: Hurley Rogner Miller Cox & Waranch				
Firm giving Reference: Indian River County, Risk Management				
Address: 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach FL 32960				
Phone: <u>(772) 567-8000, ext. 1287</u>				
Fex:(7.7.2), 7.70-5.098				
Emall:bmarlin@ircgov.com				
Q: What was the dollar value of the contract?     A: hourly rate				
2. Have there been any change orders, and if so, how many?  A: none				
3. Q: Did they perform on a timely basis as required by the agreement?  A:  yes				
4. Q: Was the project manager easy to get in contact with? A: yes				
5. Q: Would you use them again? A: yes				
6. Q: Overall, what would you rate their performance? (Scale from 1-5)				
A: 🔀5 Excellent 🖂4 Good 🖂3 Fair 🖂 2 Poor 🖂1 Unacceptable				
<ul> <li>Q: is there anything else we should know, that we have not asked?</li> <li>A: We have used this defense firm for several years, and their service has consisten</li> </ul>	tly			
been outstanding. We highly recommend them. The undersigned does hereby certify that the foregoing and subsequent statements are true and correct and are made independently, free from vendor interference/collusion.	•			
lame: Beth Martin Tille Risk Manager	ــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــــ			
Signature:	*******			

It is the responsibility of the contractor/vendor to provide a minimum of three (3) similar type references using this form and to provide this information with your submission. Failure to do so may result in the rejection of your submission.

Giving reference for: Hurley, Rogner
Firm giving Reference: Reedy Creek Improvement District
Address: 1900 Hotel Plaza Blud., Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830
Phone: (407) 938-1437
Fax: (407) 828-2171
Email: dkellerercid.org
1. Q: What was the dollar value of the contract? A: Hourly basis, per case file
2. Have there been any change orders, and if so, how many?  A: MA
3. Q: Did they perform on a timely basis as required by the agreement? A: 1/8
4. Q: Was the project manager easy to get in contact with?  A: Yes
5. Q: Would you use them again? A: Yes
6. Q: Overall, what would you rate their performance? (Scale from 1-5)
A: X15 Excellent
7. Q: is there anything else we should know, that we have not asked?  A: Firm has represented the District as WC defense counsel for 13' years and we remain very satisfied with our outcomes.
The undersigned does hereby certify that the foregoing and subsequent statements are true and correct and are made independently, free from vendor interference/cellusion.
Name: Dana Keller Tille Risk Administrator
Signature Junt tellu Date: 8-28-15
f .

It is the responsibility of the contractor/vendor to provide a minimum of three (3) similar type references using this form and to provide this information with your submission. Failure to do so may result in the rejection of your submission.

submission.
Giving reference for: Hurley Rogner Miller Cox & Warranch, P.A.
Firm giving Reference: Judy Boling on behalf of the FL Sheriffs Risk Mant. Furd
Address: PO Box 12909, Tallahassee, FL 32317
Phone: 850-320-6910
Fex: 850 - 320 - 6939
Email: judy. boling@fsrmf.org
1. Q: What was the dollar value of the contract? A: We do not have a contract, only an agreement as to hourly
2. Have there been any change orders, and if so, how many?  A: NO, NONE  4. P.O. NONE
3. Q: Did they perform on a timely basis as required by the agreement? A: VES
4. Q: Was the project manager easy to get in contact with? A: VES
5. Q: Would you use them again? A: Ves
6. Q: Overall, what would you rate their performance? (Scale from 1-5)
7. <b>(</b>
The under

Independe

Name:

Signature

### c) Lead Attorney and Team Members

Hurley Rogner has assembled a City of Hollywood team with significant Workers' compensation experience and expertise. Lead attorney **Andrew R. Borah** is Board Certified as a Specialist in Workers' Compensation and is the managing partner in charge of our Pompano Beach office. Additional team members include attorney **Kate Albin** and legal assistants Meghan McCauley and Angie Walker.

Please see the attached documents immediately following this page:

### Andrew R. Borah

- --Resume
- --Trial list
- --Florida Bar Board Certification certificate

### Kate E. Albin

- --Resume
- -- Copies of Florida Bar licenses for Mr. Borah and Ms. Albin

### Andrew R. Borah



1280 SW 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 100 Pompano Beach, FL 33069

Phone: (954) 580-1500 Fax: (954) 580-1501 Email: aborah@hrmew.com

### **Current Employment Position(s):**

Partner

### **Areas Of Practice:**

Workers' Compensation-Board Certified since 2009

### **Bar Admissions:**

U.S. District Court Southern District of Florida, 2002 Florida, 2001

### **Education:**

University of Florida College of Law, Gainesville, Florida, 2000 J.D.

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA, 1997

B.A

Honors: With Honors Major: Criminal Justice

### **Published Works:**

Apportionment Clarified: Staffmark v. Merrell, Florida Bar Association News & 440 Report 1 (Fall 2010)

Apportionment: Pointing Fingers, Florida Bar Association News & 440 Report 3, (Fall 2009)

### Representative Cases:

Limith v. Lenox of the Lake, case no. 1D14- 3761 (Fla. 1st DCA, April 17, 2015)

Newick v. Webster Training Center, 78 So.3d 108 (Fla. 1st DCA 2012)

Santiago v. Florida Highway Patrol, OJCC Case #14-018783MAM, March 27, 2015

James Precourt v. Reedy Creek Improvement District and Unisource Administrators, 894 So.2d 249 (Fla. 1st DCA 2005)

David Rice v. Reedy Creek Improvement District and Unisource Administrators, 924 So.2d 882 (Fla. 1st DCA 2006)

### **Professional Associations and Memberships:**

Super Lawyers, 2013, 2014 and 2015 Rising Star

### **Birth Information:**

1975, Smithtown, New York, United States of America

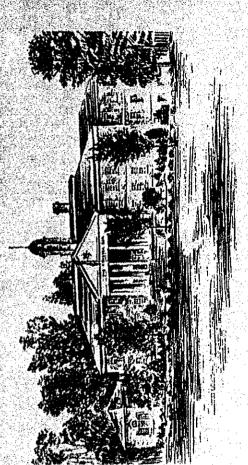


### Andrew R. Borah, Litigated Workers' Compensation Trials

### 36 Trials since August 2009, 31 E/C Wins

Claimant	Docket No.	Date	Results
Bette Peters	97-028443	8/7/15 and 8/17/15	-E/C Win
Nazir Mohammed	11-00724	8/3/15	-E/C Win
Anson Jean-Pierre	96-027093	7/20/15	-E/C Win
Rene Valdez	12-006304	7/10/15	-E/C Win
Guillermo Santiago	14-018783	3/11/15	-E/C Win
Raymonde Etienne	13-004248	2/4/15	-E/C Win
Jorge Carrazana	14-003324	1/8/15	-E/C Win
Sally Vice	14-014553	1/6/15	-E/C Win
Marcelin Phedor	12-021207	9/4/14	-E/C Win
Federic Tamargo	12-019789	4/10/14	-E/C Win
Brenda Leiva	10-005184	3/3/14	-E/C Win
Luis Angel Perez	13-15146	3/3/14	-E/C Win
Julian Alfonso	11-016004	11/12/13	-E/C Win
Lourdes Muro	12-023144	9/19/13	-E/C Win
Anne Marie Limith	11-024247	7/16/13	-E/C Win
Pavel Chipi Gattorno	10-009340	4/16/13	-E/C Win
Oswaldo Sauri	12-021001	3/7/13	-E/C Win
Maria Isabel Delgado	12-001094	2/21/13	-E/C Win
Juan Alitimon	10-06410	10/8/12	-E/C Loss
Collis L. Thomas	11-015914	5/15/12	-E/C Loss
Tressa Rose	10-004343	4/19/12	-E/C Win
Olive McLeish	10-013501	2/7/12	-E/C Loss
Coretta Lewis Baker	10-011460	1/10/12	-E/C Win
Alberto Rodriguez	06-020059	12/8/11	-E/C Win
Martha Noguera	10-000499	12/8/11	-E/C Win
Juan Lantiqua	07-036115	11/17/11	-E/C Win
Alberto Rodriguez	06-020059	11/4/11	-E/C Win
Osvaldo Sanchez	11-007716	10/24/11	-E/C Win
Jeoffre Herrada	08-023358	9/20/11	-E/C Loss
Marcos Fuentes	10-019178	5/25/11	-E/C Win
Casey Newick	10-010678	3/22/11	-E/C Win
Peggy Kash	10-003216	12/16/10	-E/C Win
Martha Noguera	10-000499	11/2/10 and 11/30/10	-E/C Loss
James Wilcox	09-020203	6/24/10	-E/C Win
Maria Iglesias	08-026857	4/28/10	-E/C Win
Marta Cortez	08-029358	8/25/09	-E/C Win

Ohe Alorida Car



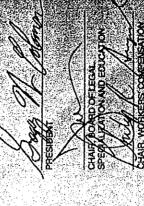
he if known that

# Andrem R. Marsh, M.C.S.

has met the Standards of Certification and is a Quard Certified Specialist in

and is granted the rights and privileges appertaining to such certification Morkers' Compensation

August 1, 2009 to for July 31, 2019



### Kate E. Albin



1290 SW 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 100 Pompano Beach, FL 33069 Phone: (954) 580-1500 Fax: (954)580-1501

Email: KAlbin@hrmcw.com

Current Employment Position(s): Associate

Areas Of Practice: Workers' Compensation Law

Certifications/Specialties:

**Bar Admissions:** 

Florida, 2011

Education:

University of Florida Levin College of Law, JD, 2010

University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, B.A. Economics, 2008

**Published Works:** 

Representative Cases:

**Professional Associations and Memberships:** 

American Bar Association Member

Dade County Bar Association Member

**Prior Experience:** 

Hernandez, Hicks & Valois, 2011-2012

**Birth Information:** 

Champaign, Illinois

e Florida Member Since 05/03/2001

Andrew Richard Borah



0480258

ar Florida

Kate E Albin

Member Since 04/25/2011

0089318

### 7. Project Understanding, Proposed Approach and Methodology:

a) Types of services provided: Complete Workers' Compensation litigation claims defense

<u>Preliminary Case Evaluation</u> – Our firm's mandatory practice is to provide a claims evaluation and plan of action within seven (7) days of receipt. We are committed to quick, efficient resolution of cases and excel at developing legal strategies to achieve that end. We understand how to assess the facts of a case, distill our client's legal exposure based upon the application of the law and advise accordingly regarding litigation and potential settlement.

Reporting – In litigation, effective, timely communication is key. We place a premium on clear, concise reports to our clients, and that philosophy extends to our interactions with all parties involved in a case. The City of Hollywood and its TPA will receive the following reports: 1) Initial case evaluation; 2) pre-mediation report at least 30 days before mediation; 3) deposition summaries; 4) pre-trial evaluation 60 days prior to final hearing; and 5) medical and case updates regularly as actions develop.

<u>Trial Preparation/Case Resolution</u> — Our first objective is always prompt and reasonable resolution, without incurring unnecessary costs. We advise and work with our clients to determine what level of discovery is warranted in a case. It is our policy to obtain client approval before retaining experts or other consultants, and before sending subpoenas, setting depositions or conferring with witnesses.

<u>Settlement, Mediation & Trial Conferences</u> - Hurley Rogner will prepare the file and the claims adjuster for settlement and mediation, and will attend mediation and set trial conferences.

<u>Post Trial/Post Settlement Analyses</u> – Through regular reporting, a post-trial summary and/or expert analysis will be timely provided.

Multi-Forum, Fraudulent and Overlapping Claims - Hurley Rogner has extensive experience regarding exposure for potential liability in other legal venues and under related legal theories. As Workers' Compensation claims necessarily arise out of the employment context, the firm routinely provides counsel regarding EEOC, ADA, FMLA, FLSA, Liability and any other attendant legal claims. The firm has handled wage and hour matters, and has lectured with Employment law litigators regarding the overlapping nature of all employment related claims, and the need for

employers and managers to be savvy regarding the possibility for claimants to raise multiple employment related claims. In addition to those claims, our firm has handled multiple claims involving subrogation (see below), Medicare set asides, Medicaid Liens, hospital Liens, and is fully committed to working with all related City of Hollywood counsel in a collaborative approach should any of the above issues present themselves.

Hurley Rogner has handled multiple cases involving alleged misrepresentation under F.S. s. 440.105 and resultant denials of benefits under F.S. s. 440.09. These cases implicate serious issues for the claimant, and require a thorough understanding of the requisite elements of misrepresentation, especially as it relates to the claimant's intent to secure benefits via their false statements. In all cases where fraud is suspected, we will work closely with adjusters for the TPA, the City of Hollywood Risk Management and other administrative staff to ensure that such cases are prosecuted to the fullest extent, and referred to the appropriate outside entities as needed.

Appeals, Continuances, Waivers - The firm understands that the potential may arise for the City of Hollywood to seek appellate review of an underlying decision of the Judge of Compensation claims. Although the parties have 30 days from the date a final order is rendered, the firm's practice, if an adverse ruling is obtained, is to schedule an immediate conference with the client to assess the potential legal errors or issues at stake, discuss the potential additional exposure and expense in pursuing an appeal, and immediately decide whether or not to file a notice of appeal. The firm has represented clients in more than 300 such cases, and is well versed in appellate procedure. In the event the firm were to represent the City of Hollywood in an appellate issue, Partner Bill Rogner would likely be asked to consult and/or handle the appeal. One of a handful of attorneys certified by the Florida Bar as an expert in both Workers' Compensation and Appellate Practice, Bill's expertise in Appellate matters will be invaluable for the City of Hollywood.

<u>Subrogation</u> - As the City of Hollywood has operations on public roadways, the potential for accidents involving third party tortfeasors and subrogation is ever present. Hurley Rogner has a separate subrogation unit that aggressively pursues our clients' lien rights to ensure we obtain the maximum percentage recovery under F.S. s. 440.39 and the attendant <u>Manfredo</u> formula. For our firm, the issue of lien rights is not a detached negotiation about percentages of recovery, but an active analysis of our position, the merits of the third party case, a detail-oriented review

of the concept of "full value" of the underlying third party case, and the confidence to litigate that percentage of recovery if necessary. The firm's reputation in this regard allows us to negotiate with plaintiff's/claimant's counsel, and recover the maximum allowable lien recovery for our clients.

<u>File Retention</u> — After closing a file, Hurley Rogner will forward all documents not already provided to the TPA's claims adjuster and City of Hollywood Risk Management. We will retain our complete Litigation Claim file for three years post settlement, and five years from the Notice of Injury. We will notify the City of Hollywood prior to destroying physical claims records, but maintain an electronic copy indefinitely.

### b) Project Plan for Engagement

- **1. New Claims:** Any new claims may be referred to Hurley Rogner at any time with immediate ability to represent, counsel and defend the city.
- 2. Old Claims/Transfer: Our firm has the capacity to assume legal representation for all City of Hollywood Workers' Compensation cases currently being handled by any other defense firms. Upon notification that Hurley Rogner has been chosen as WC counsel, we will immediately contact City of Hollywood Risk Management to discuss the transfer and obtain a list of any files to be transferred. Upon receipt of the transferred files, we will promptly review each file and provide a detailed evaluation report within fourteen (14) days. Part of that evaluation includes ranking the listed files in terms of Exposure (greatest to smallest) and Urgency (Files with pending mediations and/or hearings).

Hurley Rogner will prepare Joint Motions for Substitution of Counsel to be submitted to the JCC as soon as the prior attorney is able to sign the Motion.

We will then immediately review the online docket for each case on the DOAH/JCC website, documenting all court calendared events including mediations and trials.

Hurley Rogner will then travel to any office in possession of such files and personally transport the files to our Pompano Beach office.

Following the "Urgency" Ranking above, we will begin analyzing the claims, defense's exposure and recommended strategy for either settlement or trial. We would contact all opposing counsel and speak with them personally regarding the transfer, including any potential needs to reschedule events.

It is not anticipated that any appreciable delay will result upon transfer of the files, related to scheduling conflicts.

### **Technology**

Hurley Rogner utilizes the latest proven technology innovations to increase our efficiency and improve our services. We use leading case management software Client Profiles to track all timekeeper hours, manage documents and integrate all related data, including emails and scheduled activities. This system enables nearly instantaneous access to up-to-the-minute reports on all client matters.

Our attorneys can access email and client files remotely – and securely – via the **Citrix** virtual private network, using smart phones, laptops and tablet devices.

Our firm's data is hosted in a **cloud environment** at an offsite data center which provides highly secure, adequate storage space, as well as the ability to access and retrieve data remotely in the event of weather-related emergencies or power outages.

We employ document scanning and electronic delivery in every possible instance in order to reduce the expense of paper copies and postage.

### **8.Summary of Hurley Rogner's Fee Statement**

### a) Detailed Listing of Hourly Billing Rates

Principal Attorney(s):

\$115 per hour

Associate Attorneys(s):

\$100 per hour

Legal Assistant:

\$70 per hour

Hurley Rogner will adhere to the highest ethical standards in billing actual time on work performed on a per hour basis: The firm will submit billing electronically or by paper and will follow all City of Hollywood guidelines promulgated for billing standards.

### b)Anticipated Costs & Fees

Our firm generally bills clients monthly. We provide a detailed report of all attorney and paralegal time spent on the client's behalf, reporting professional time in increments of .10 per hour. Events are clearly identified as to the specific task performed.

The only soft costs that will be billed regularly are photocopies and overnight postage such as Fed Ex or UPS, if requested by the client. There will be no fax fees, no charge for local postage and no charge for travel within Broward County.

Hurley Rogner will not incur costs for court reporters, expert testimony or other out of pocket vendor fees without prior approval from the City of Hollywood.

Upon receipt of an invoice for services from a vendor (court reporter, medical records provider, etc.), the invoice will be sent directly to the City of Hollywood for payment.

### 9. Project Time Schedule, If Applicable.

Hurley Rogner is prepared to represent the City of Hollywood immediately.

### HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNITY CLAUSE

### (Company Name and Authorized Representative's Name)

, the contractor, shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City of Hollywood, its elected and appointed officials, employees and agents for any and all suits, actions, legal or administrative proceedings, claims, damage, liabilities, interest, attorney's fees, costs of any kind whether arising prior to the start of activities or following the completion or acceptance and in any manner directly or indirectly caused, occasioned or contributed to in whole or in part by reason of any act, error or omission, fault or negligence whether active or passive by the contractor, or anyone acting under its direction, control, of on its behalf in connection with or incident to its performance of the contract.

HURLEY, ROGNER, MILLER, COX + WARANCH, PA

COMPANY OF NAME

DATE

DATE

Failure to sign or changes to this page shall render your bid non-responsive.

### **NONCOLLUSION AFFIDAVIT**

STATE OF: Floride			
COUNTY OF			
(1)	He/she is Managing Partner of HURLEY, ROGNER, the Bidder that has submitted the attached Bid.  MILLER, COX + W + R + NCH, I +		
(2)	He/she has been fully informed regarding the preparation and contents of the attached Bid and of all pertinent circumstances regarding such Bid;		
(3)	Such Bid is genuine and is not a collusion or sham Bid;		
(4)	Neither the said Bidder nor any of its officers, partners, owners, agents, representatives, employees or parties in interest, including this affiant has in any way colluded, conspired, connived or agreed, directly or indirectly with any other Bidder, firm or person to submit a collusive or sham Bid in connection with the contractor for which the attached Bid has been submitted or to refrain from bidding in connection with such contract, or has in any manner, directly or indirectly, sought by agreement or collusion or communication or conference with any other Bidder, firm or person to fix the price or prices, profit or cost element of the Bid price or the Bid price of any other Bidder, or to secure an advantage against the City of Hollywood or any person interested in the proposed Contract; and		
(5)	The price or prices quoted in the attached Bid are fair and proper and are not tainted by any collusion, conspiracy, connivance or unlawful agreement on the part of the Bidder or any of its agents, representatives, owners, employees, or parties in interest, including this affiant.		
(SIGNED)	Title		

Failure to sign or changes to this page shall render your bid non-responsive.

# SWORN STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 287.133 (3) (a) FLORIDA STATUTES ON PUBLIC ENTITY CRIMES

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND SWORN TO IN THE PRESENCE OF A NOTARY PUBLIC OR OTHER OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO ADMINISTER OATHS
1. This form statement is submitted to City of Hower Down House WX + WX
2. I understand that "public entity crime," as defined in paragraph 287.133(1)(g), Florida Statues, means a violation of any state or federal law by a person with respect to and directly related to the transaction of business with any public entity or with an agency or political subdivision of any other state or with the United States, including, but not limited to, any bid, proposal, reply, or contract for goods or services, any lease for real property, or any contract for the construction or repair of a public building or public work, involving antitrust, fraud, theft, bribery, collusion, racketeering, conspiracy, or material misinterpretation.
3. I understand that "convicted" or "conviction" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(b), Florida Statutes, means a finding of guilt or a conviction of a public entity crime, with or without an adjudication of guilt, in an federal or state trial court of record relating to charges brought by indictment or information after July 1, 1989, as a result of a jury verdict, nonjury trial, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere.
4. I understand that "Affiliate," as defined in paragraph 287.133(1)(a), Florida Statutes, means:
<ol> <li>A predecessor or successor of a person convicted of a public entity crime, or</li> <li>An entity under the control of any natural person who is active in the management of the entity and who has been convicted of a public entity crime. The term "affiliate" includes those officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, and agents who are active in the management of an affiliate. The ownership by one person of shares constituting a controlling interest in another person, or a pooling of equipment or income among persons when not for fair market value under an arm's length agreement, shall be a prima facie case that one person controls another person. A person who knowingly enters into a joint venture with a person who has been convicted of a public entity crime in Florida during the preceding 36 months shall be considered an affiliate.</li> </ol>
5 I understand that "person," as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(e), Florida Statues, means any natural person or any entity organized under the laws of any state or of the United States with the legal power to enter into a binding contract and which bids or applies to bid on contracts let by a public entity, or which otherwise transacts or applies to transact business with a public entity. The term "person" includes those officers, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, and agents who are active in management of an entity.
6. Based on information and belief, the statement which I have marked below is true in relation to the entity submitting this sworn statement. (Please indicate which statement applies.)
Neither the entity submitting sworn statement, nor any of its officers, director, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in the management of the entity, nor any affiliate of the entity has been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime subsequent to July 1, 1989.
The entity submitting this sworn statement, or one or more of its officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in the management of the entity, or an affiliate of the entity, or an affiliate of the entity has been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime subsequent to July 1, 1989.

# City of Hollywood, Florida Solicitation #RFP-4460-15-RD

The entity submitting this sworn statement, or one or more of its officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in the management of the entity, or an affiliate of the entity has been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime, but the Final Order entered by the Hearing Officer in a subsequent proceeding before a Hearing Officer of the State of the State of Florida, Division of Administrative Hearings, determined that it was not in the public interest to place the entity submitting this sworn statement on the convicted vendor list. (attach a copy of the Final Order).

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM TO THE CONTRACTING OFFICER FOR THE PUBLIC ENTITY IDENTIFIED IN PARAGRAPH 1 (ONE) ABOVE IS FOR THAT PUBLIC ENTITY ONLY AND THAT THIS FORM IS VALID THROUGH DECEMBER 31 OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH IT IS FILED. 1 ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT I AM REQUIRED TO INFORM THAT PUBLIC ENTITY PRIOR TO ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT IN EXCESS OF THE THRESHOLD AMOUNT PROVIDED IN SECTION 287.017 FLORIDA STATUTES FOR A CATEGORY TWO OF ANY CHANGE IN THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FORM.

Failure to sign or changes to this page shall render your bid non-responsive.

ded Thru Notary Public Underwriters

### CERTIFICATIONS REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

The applicant certifies that it and its principals:

- (a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, sentenced to a denial of Federal benefits by a State or Federal court, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency:
- (b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction, violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property:

Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (b) of this certification; and Have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transactions (Federal, State, or local) terminated for cause or default. Applicant Name and Address: HURLEY, ROGNER MILLER, COX + WARANCH, PA 1280 SW 36 th AVE, #100 POMPANO BEACH FL 33069 Application Number and/or Project Name:

RFP - 4460-15-RD / LEGAL COUNSEL FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION

CLAIMS Applicant IRS/Vendor Number: 59-3107-040 Type/Print Name and Title of Authorized Representative: HURLEY, MANAGING PARTNER

Date: 8/31/15

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### DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE PROGRAM

IDENTICAL TIE BIDS - Preference shall be given to businesses with drug-free workplace programs. Whenever two or more bids which are equal with respect to price, quality, and service are received by the State or by any political subdivision for the procurement of commodities or contractual services, a bid received from a business that certifies that it has implemented a drug-free workplace program shall be given preference in the award process. Established procedures for processing tie bids will be followed if none of the tied vendors have a drug-free workplace program. In order to have a drug-free workplace program, a business shall;

- Publish a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, 1. or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition.
- Inform employees about the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, the business's policy of maintaining a 2. drug-free workplace, any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs, and the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations.
- Give each employee engaged in providing the commodities or contractual services that are under bid a copy of 3. the statement specified in subsection (1),
- In the statement specified in subsection (1), notify the employee that, as a condition of working on the 4. commodities or contractual services that are under bid, the employee will abide by the terms of the statement and will notify the employer of any conviction of, or plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, any violation of chapter 893 or of any controlled substance law of the United States or any state, for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five (5) days after such conviction.
- Impose a sanction on, or require the satisfactory participation in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation 5. program (if such is available in the employee's community) by, any employee who is so convicted.

Make a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of these 6. requirements.

ne person authorized to sign the statement, I certify that this firm complies fully with the above requirements.

REXA. HURLEY
PRINTED NAME

ROGNER, MILLER COX +W+RANCH, PA

### SOLICITATION, GIVING, AND ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS POLICY

Florida Statute 112.313 prohibits the solicitation or acceptance of Gifts. - "No Public officer, employee of an agency, local government attorney, or candidate for nomination or election shall solicit or accept anything of value to the recipient, including a gift, loan, reward, promise of future employment, favor, or service, based upon any understanding that the vote, official action, or judgment of the public officer, employee, local government attorney, or candidate would be influenced thereby.". The term "public officer" includes "any person elected or appointed to hold office in any agency, including any person serving on an advisory body."

The City of Hollywood policy prohibits all public officers, elected or appointed, all employees, and their families from accepting any gifts of any value, either directly or indirectly, from any contractor, vendor, consultant, or business with whom the City does business.

The State of Florida definition of "gifts" includes the following:

Real property or its use,

Tangible or intangible personal property, or its use.

A preferential rate or terms on a debt, loan, goods, or services,

Forgiveness of indebtedness,

Transportation, lodging, or parking,

Food or beverage,

Membership dues.

Entrance fees, admission fees, or tickets to events, performances, or facilities,

Plants, flowers or floral arrangements

Services provided by persons pursuant to a professional license or certificate.

Other personal services for which a fee is normally charged by the person providing the services. Any other similar service or thing having an attributable value not already provided for in this section.

Any contractor, vendor, consultant, or business found to have given a gift to a public officer or employee, or his/her family, will be subject to dismissal or revocation of contract.

the person authorized to sign the statement, I certify that this firm will comply fully with this policy. PRINTED NAME

HUZLEY ROBNER MANTEING PARTNER

MILLER, COX +

WARANCH, PA Failure to sign this page shall render your bid non-responsive.

## **ATTORNEYS**

### **SHAREHOLDERS**

Rex A Hurley\*

William H. Rogner\*t

Scott B. Miller\*

Derrick E. Cox\*

Michael S. Waranch\*

Gregory D. White\*

W. Rogers Turner, Jr.\*

Paul L. Luger

Gregory S. Raub\*

Anthony M. Amelio\*

Matthew W. Bennett\*

Andrew R. Borah\*

Jonathan L. Cooley\*

### **ASSOCIATES**

Robert J. Osburn, Jr.

Allison M. Twombly

Sandra D. Wilkerson

Timothy F. Stanton\*

Matthew J. Troy\*

C. Bowen Robinson

Kate E. Albin

Julie C. Bixler

Jeffrey D. Thompson

Scott D. Newsom

Mark E. Hill

Heather D. Bondhus

Scott Glick

\* Florida Bar Board Certified Workers' Compensation

<sup>t</sup> Florida Bar Board Certified Appellate Practice

### **CLIENTS**

40ver, Inc. ACE USA

ACE/CIGNA-Healthsouth

AirTran Alphastaff

American Coach Lines Anerican Hardware Mutual Americomp Insurance

Amerisure AmTrust Aviall Avizent

Baker Concrete Berkley Specialty

Boeing

Borden Dairy
Boston Market
Brentwood Services
Administration
Brevard County
Broadspire
Buckhead Beef

Burger King Corporation Cambridge Integrated

Services

Castlepoint Florida Insurance Company

Cemex

Central Florida Regional

Hospital

Chartis Insurance
Chico's FAS, Inc.
Chubb Services
Church Mutual
City of Edgewater
City of Kissimmee
City of Vero Beach

Claims Center Claims Management,

Inc.

Clay County School

Board

Co-Advantage Columbia Insurance

Group

Corporate Claims Management

**Correct Care Solutions** 

CorVel

Cost Plus World Market

Cracker Barrel

Crawford & Company

Crum& Forster
Insurance Company

Davita, Inc.

Daytona State College

Dean Foods Decision HR Delta Airlines

Dillard Department

Stores

Dunkin Donuts EMC Insurance Employbridge Employee Leasing

Solutions Employers

**Employers Mutual** 

Insurance Enterprise HR

**ESIS** 

Exceptional Pay, Inc.

Family Dollar

FARA FCCI

FFVA Mutual Insurance

First Financial
Employee Leasing
Fleetwood Homes
Florida Department of
Corrections

Florida Highway Patrol Florida Power & Light

Florida Sheriffs Risk Management Fund Florida State University Florida United Methodist

Churches

Frank Winston Crum Ins.

Freshpoint, Inc. GAB Business Services Gallagher Bassett Gate Petroleum

GEICO

Global Risk Services Goodwill Industries Great Dane Trailers Guarantee Insurance Gulfcoast Healthcare

HCA

HealthSouth

Heartland Express, Inc. HelmsmanMgmt.Svcs.,Inc.

Hortica

Howard Leasing Hubbard Construction

Hvatt

Indian River County Insurance Companies of the Americas

Insurance Company of the West

Johns Eastern Key Risk Management

Kirkland's Labor Finders

Lamorte Burns & Co. Lee County School Board

Lee County School Board Lennar Homes

Liberty Mutual Logan's Roadhouse Lumberman's

Underwriting Alliance

Mastec

McKesson Corporation Michael's Craft Stores Modern Business

Associates

National Employer Services Northern American Risk

Services OccuSure

Okeechobee County Sheriff's Office

Omni Hotels OneBeacon Insurance Orange County Risk

Management
Packard Claims
Administration
Parrish Medical Center

Pilot Travel Centers

Piper Aircraft PMA Group

Preferred Governmental

Claims Solutions Premier Group Insurance

Progressive Employer

Services

Protective Insurance Protegrity Services

Randstad

Ranger Construction

Reedy Creek

Improvement District

Regis HR

Risk Management

Services Safety National

Scibal Associates
Sedgwick Claims
Management Services

Select Insurance Co.

Select Staffing

Sentry Claims Service Service Management

Systems

Signature Flight Support

SMS Holdings St. Lucie County

Sheriff's Office

St. Paul Fire & Marine Insurance Company

Stafflink

State of Florida,

Div. of Risk Mgmt.

**SUA Claims** 

Suffolk Construction

Summit Claims
Sunz Insurance

Swiss Re Tenet

The GEO Group The Hartford

Thompson & Company of

Tampa

ThyssonKrupp Elevator TIG Specialty Insurance Tokio Marine Management

Tower Group Companies

Town of Jupiter Tovs R Us

Tradesmen International

Travelers Insurance

Company TriNet U.S. Security

Underwriters Safety &

Claims

United Launch Alliance

United Self Insured

Services

Unitek/FTS USA Universal Forest Products/

Aljoma Lumbar Volusia County Waffle House

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. Walt Disney World

Company

Westfield Companies
Wharton-Smith. Inc.

Whole Foods

Winn Dixie Stores, Inc. Wuesthoff Hospital YRC Transportation

Zachry Holdings Zenith Insurance

Company Zurich Insurance

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# **LOCATIONS**

### Central Florida

1560 Orange Ave, Suite 500 Winter Park, FL 32789 Phone: (407) 571-7400 Fax: (407) 571-7401

### North Florida

1701 Hermitage Blvd., Suite 103 Tallahassee, FL 32308 Phone: (850) 222-1200 Fax: (850) 222-5553

### **Treasure Coast**

603 North Indian River Dr., Suite 200 Ft. Pierce, FL 34950 Phone: (772) 489-2400 Fax: (772) 489-8875

### Southwest Florida

4460 Camino Real Way, Suite 2 Ft. Myers, FL 33966 Phone: (239) 939-2002 Fax: (239) 939-2247

### **Broward**

1280 SW 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 100 Pompano Beach, FL 33069 Phone: (954) 580-1500 Fax: (954) 580-1501

### Miami-Dade

80 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 2000 Miami, FL 33130 Phone: (305) 423-7182 Fax: (305) 908-7601

Email: <u>HurleyRogner@hrmcw.com</u>
Website: www.hrmcw.com



## **SEMINARS**

Hurley, Rogner, Miller, Cox & Waranch, PA, is accredited by the Florida Department of Financial Services as an official provider of Continuing Educational Units, or CEUs, for Workers' Compensation insurance adjusters. Our attorney-instructors present seminars at our clients' offices, and we coordinate all credit submissions and reporting with the state. Topics include:

### LAW & POLICY CREDITS

5-Hour Law & Ethics Update	5 Credits, 92595	
2015 Florida Case Law Update (One Hour)	1 Credit, 92757	
How Will the Affordable Care Act Impact Florida's WC Industry?	2 Credits, 85382	
Workers' Compensation Fraud	2 Credits, 58746	
Workers' Compensation: Rules of the Game	2 Credits, 37814	
What Time Is It? (Fla. Statutes & Chapter 440 deadlines)	2 Credits, 59857	
Managed Care Basics	1 Credit, 60108	
Firefighter & Law Enforcement Presumption Claims	2 Credits, 61220	
Third Party Liens (One Hour)	1 Credit, 60414	
Third Party Liens Offsets, Apportionment & Contributions (Two Hour)	2 Credits, 42032	
Workers' Compensation for the PEO Adjuster & Risk Manager	2 Credits, 64615	
Florida Workers' Compensation Appeals	1 Credit, 64942	
Utilization Reviews	1 Credit, 93196	
Permanent Total Disability 1 Credit, 64503; 2 Credits 86852		
Malingering and Deception	1 Credit, 65404	
FMLA, Leave and Workers' Compensation	1 Credit, 65821	
Employer/Carrier Paid Attorney's Fees	1 Credit, 66331	
Part B(II) Coverage Issues And Claims Handling	1 Credit, 66132	



### LAW & POLICY CREDITS, cont'd.

The 2003 PTD Standard	2 Credits, 64430
Use and Admissibility Of Surveillance	2 Credits, 64639
Effective Settlement Strategies	2 Credits, 68935
Apportionment, Contribution Between Carriers & Carrier Responsibility For Injuries Not Sustained In An Industrial Accident (One Hour or Two Hours) 1 Credit, 68963	3; 2 Credits, 69594
Occupational Disease and Exposure Claims in the Workplace	2 Credits, 73236
Liability Under Part II of the Standard Workers' Compensation Policy	2 Credits, 73142
Special Compensability Rules	2 Credits, 74849
Heart Attack, Stroke and Cardiovascular Event Compensability	1 Credit, 75337
Social Security Offsets	1 Credit, 77156
Occupational Disease and Exposure Claims in the Workplace	1 Credit, 77788
Workers' Compensation Identity Fraud	1 Credit, 80755
Temporary Benefits; Partial & Total	2 Credits, 86815

### **OPTIONAL CREDITS**

OSHA Reporting & Recordkeeping for the WC Professional (WEBINAR)	1 Credit, 93723
Medical Benefits: Non-Managed Care Cases	2 Credits, 61049
Giving and Taking Depositions	1 Credit, 60255
Negotiation Strategies	1 Credit, 59898
Subrogation Claims in Florida	1 Credit, 64814
Employer Handbook for Strategic WC Claims Handling	1 Credit, 74786
Social Media	2 Credits, 85808





# Case Law Update

WINTER PARK

1560 Orange Avenue, Suite 500 Winter Park, FL 32789

TEL: (407) 571-7400 FAX: (407) 571-7401 www.hrmcw.com

This Update contains summaries of all relevant Appellate decisions for the preceding week, with comments on how a particular decision affects you. In addition, we review daily the Merit Orders posted on the DOAH website. This Update contains summaries and links to relevant JCC decisions for the past week.

Please feel free to contact Rogers Turner (<u>rturner@hrmcw.com</u>) or Matthew Troy (<u>mtroy@hrmcw.com</u>) with questions or comments on any of the listed cases.

# HRMCW Cases

JCC Almeyda (Miami) (Andrew Borah) - Denied authorization of an alternate physiatrist. 1997 d/a. The claimant sought an IME and physiatrist treatment. The claims assistant mistakenly set up the evaluation as an IME which was corrected. The JCC found the mistake was timely corrected and that the physiatrist could remain the authorized doctor. The JCC previously awarded the IME in a prior hearing. Click here to view Order

JCC Hill (Gainesville) (Matthew Bennett) – Denied claimant's motion for protective order for IME. The JCC found the motion, filed 24 hours before the appointment, to be untimely. Click here to view Order

JCC Forte (Ft. Lauderdale) (Scott Miller) – Denied claimant's motion for summary final order on 440.105. The JCC rejected the claimant's argument that the JCC must enter an order denying benefits before the E/C may unilaterally suspend benefits. Click here to view Order

JCC Lewis (Ft. Lauderdale) (Matthew Troy) – Taxed \$1,122.42 against the claimant. Click here to view Order

# **District Court of Appeal Cases**

<u>Vasquez v. Romero, et al,</u> So. 3d \_\_\_ (Fla. 1<sup>st</sup> DCA 8/19/15) Jurisdiction of JCC over discovery after withdrawal of PFB

The DCA granted the injured worker's Writ of Prohibition, which challenged the JCC's jurisdiction to rule on discovery matters. The injured worker initially filed, but then withdrew without prejudice his PFB. He then filed suit in civil court against Romero and other entities. Romero and his carrier then sought discovery in the form of medical records from a non party doctor, and discovery related to their claim for contribution from another alleged employer. Romero argued the JCC had jurisdiction because the dismissal of the PFB was without prejudice and could be re-filed, or because of their contribution claim under F.S. s. 440.42(4). The DCA granted the writ, finding that jurisdiction of the JCC is removed by the dismissal of a PFB, and that the JCC's jurisdiction under the contribution statute is only conferred once responsibility of a carrier has been established.

The opinion appears to conflict with Chapter 440 and DOAH rules governing discovery, and does not mention HRMCW's 2013 <u>Covell v. Cracker Barrel</u> case, which states "We conclude that a JCC has jurisdiction to compel the production of documentary evidence, even before the filing of a PFB. See <u>Canovas v. Sugar Supply, Inc., 921 So. 2d 26 (Fla. 1st DCA 2006)</u>." The opinion would have provided clearer guidance if it perhaps limited the holding to cases where no benefits were being provided or sought. <u>Click here to view Opinion</u>

<u>Vancamp v. Decision HR 30/FWCGIA/USIS</u>, So. 3d (Fla. 1<sup>st</sup> DCA 8/19/15) Temporary Benefits

The DCA affirmed the JCC's denial of additional temporary benefits under <u>Westphal</u>, and noted the claimant failed on appeal to prove that the 104 week limit on temporary benefits was unconstitutional, either facially or as applied. <u>Click here to view Opinion</u>

# JCC Merit Orders

### Compensability

JCC Lorenzen (Tampa) - Denied compensability. The claimant was a welder who the employer argued was an independent contractor. The JCC found that the claimant was covered by WC as he worked in the construction industry. However the JCC found the claimant not credible regarding his alleged accident. <u>Click here to view Order</u>

JCC Spangler (VTC Miami) – Awarded compensability of one 2008 d/a. Denied E/C's SOL defenses. Denied medical treatment for either date. The claimant alleged two dates of accident in 2008, a repetitive trauma injury and a specific back injury. She also alleged two other dates in 2012 and 2013 which were not part of these claims. The JCC found that for the specific injury claim, the E/C had not obtained MMI and a rating from a doctor, only an ARNP which was legally not sufficient. The JCC also found the E/C did not timely deny compensability and therefore compensability was legally established. The JCC also found the repetitive exposure claim was timely filed in 2012 with a 2008 date of accident as that is when the claimant was first advised that her back complaints could be work related. Finally the JCC accepted the EMA (Wolff) opinions that the claimant's injuries had completely resolved and no treatment was necessary. Click here to view Order

### **Permanent Total Disability**

JCC Castiello (Miami) – Awarded new law (2013) PTD and increase in AWW. Abbreviated order. Click here to view Order

### **Indemnity Benefits**

JCC Humphries (Jacksonville) – Awarded TPD and medical treatment. The claimant injured her shoulder while driving a truck. The JCC rejected the E/C's argument that the claimant was required to file for and accept Nebraska WC benefits by contract. The JCC also rejected that the claimant sustained an intervening accident. The JCC found the E/C's IME report was not admissible. Finally the JCC found the E/C waived compensability by not challenging it within 120 days. Click here to view Order

JCC Anderson (VTC Miami) - Denied TTD/TPD. The claimant was injured in 2010 and quickly returned to her pre injury job until 2014. The JCC found the claimant had reached MMI in 2010 and TTD/TPD was not due. Click here to view Order

### **Medical Benefits**

JCC Sojourner (Lakeland) – Awarded rhizotomy. 1988 d/a. The JCC rejected the E/C's argument that the neck was not related as the authorized doctor opined it was and the E/C had not timely denied the neck. The JCC also accepted the authorized doctor's opinion that the treatment was medically necessary. Click here to view Order

JCC Rosen (St. Petersburg) - Denied ER treatment. 2002 d/a. The claimant had a SCS surgically removed. When he was found unresponsive in his home he was taken to the emergency room and treated for sepsis. The JCC accepted the EMA opinon (McClusky) that the ER treatment was unrelated. The JCC rejected the claimant's untimely <u>Daubert</u> challenge. <u>Click here to view Order</u>

JCC Roesch (Panama City) – Awarded on-call attendant care. 1981 d/a. Remand. <u>Click here to view Order</u>

JCC Pitts (Orlando) – Awarded Deplin (an augmentation treatment for depression approved by the FDA). The claimant sustained a compensable shoulder injury with depression. The authorized psych prescribed Deplin and testified that it was medically necessary for treatment under the "monoaine" theory of depression. The JCC rejected the E/C's <u>Daubert</u> challenge and found Deplin was not a nutritional supplement. Alternatively the JCC found that the nutritional supplement ban was substantive and did not apply to this date of accident. <u>Click here to view Order</u>

Please note that the DCA Opinions and Merit Orders contained in this newsletter are non-final until 30 days after their rendition. Until that time, they are subject to amendment, vacation, or other action which may remove or alter some or all of the decision. Please contact any HRMCW attorney if you have a question as to the finality and applicability of an Opinion or Order. We endeavor to include any amendments or alterations to Opinions or Orders that may occur at a later date.

Treasure Coast	North Florida	Miami-Dade	Broward	Southwest Florida
772-489-2400	850-222-1200	305-423-7182	954-580-1500	239-939-2002