

Board of County Commissioners Escambia County, Florida

Title: REPORTING SUSPECTED FRAUDULENT
WORKERS' COMPENSATION CLAIMS POLICY
Date Adopted: January 21, 1999; Amended September 9, 2004
Effective Date: September 9, 2004
Reference: Section II, Part C.21
Policy Superseded:

PURPOSE:

Workers' compensation fraud is committed when any person intentionally makes false statements to obtain (or assists in obtaining) workers' compensation benefits to which they are not legally entitled; or when any person knowingly misrepresents information necessary to calculate payment or reimbursement relative to workers' compensation.

The *Reporting Suspected Fraudulent Workers' Compensation Claims Policy* provides a mechanism for the reporting of suspected fraudulent workers' compensation claims against Escambia County. This policy also offers a reward to pay up to \$1,000.00 for information *which leads to the arrest* of anyone filing false information to obtain workers' compensation benefits.

SCOPE:

This policy pertains to all employees covered under the County's Workers' Comp Insurance Program and any individual having knowledge of a suspected fraudulent workers' compensation claim.

GUIDELINES:

1. Information regarding suspected fraudulent workers' compensation claims by employees, medical providers, legal providers, etc., must be reported to the Office of Risk Management.
2. Reports will be documented by Risk Management. To ensure confidentiality, all reports will be assigned a file number, which will be referenced on all future communications regarding the report.
3. Risk Management will initiate an investigation of reports. Anonymous calls will not be investigated. If fraud is detected, claims will be forwarded to the County Attorney's office for review and submission to the State's Bureau of Insurance Fraud. If fraud is detected and proven in reports made by County employees, County employment may be terminated.
4. Risk Management will be responsible for the disbursement of check(s) once the investigation proves that fraud has been committed. A maximum of \$1,000.00 per case will be rewarded. If more than one person reports information regarding the suspected fraudulent claim, the reward will be divided among all callers.

5. The Office of Risk Management will be responsible for ongoing public awareness of the County ' s fraud program via flyers, posters, advertisements, etc.