

Division of Workers' Compensation P.O. Box 20190, Cranston, RI 02920-0942 Phone 401-462-8100 Fax 401-462-8105 http://www.dlt.ri.gov/wc

Information Letter 2014-04 March 24, 2014

Notice of 2014 Cost of Living Increase

Rhode Island General Law Sections 28-33-17(f)(1), <u>Weekly Compensation for Total Incapacity</u>, 28-33-18.3(b)(1), <u>Continuation of Benefits – Partial Incapacity</u> and 28-37-30, <u>Cost of Living Increase</u>, provide for annual benefit increases to certain classes of employees.

By the statutes listed above, the increases to these employees shall be by an amount equal to the total percentage increase in the annual Consumer Price Index, United States city average for urban wage earners and clerical workers' as formulated and computed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor for the period of March 1 to February 28 each year.

Cost of Living Increase Effective May 10, 2014 is 1.0%

Effective May 10, 2014, weekly benefits paid to these employees should be increased 1.0%. By statute, increases shall be paid by insurers and employers without further order of the court. Late payment of the increase may result in the assessment of a 20% penalty on the unpaid amount.

For questions about this increase please contact a Workers' Compensation Education Unit Representative at (401) 462-8100, option #1 or WCEdcUnit@dlt.ri.gov.

Sincerely,

Matthew P. Carey, III Assistant Director

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