VOICES, INC.

VOICES, Inc. is a non-profit organization that exists to provide assistance, support and advocacy for injured workers. It has over 5000 members in Florida and chapters in North Carolina and California.

VOICES, Inc. was started in 1993 by Beverly Haire, herself an injured worker, who vowed that others should not have to go through the same ordeals she has had to endure in the Florida Workers Compensation system.

The Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers gave VOICES, Inc. an award recognizing it as one of the premier advocacy groups for workers' rights in the 2002 Florida legislative session.

For an excellent website about workers compensation woes, go to

www.workerscompensationinsurance.com For information specific to Florida, see www.voicesflorida.com



Our voices WILL be heard!

7900-20 103rd Street, Suite
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VOICES, Inc.

2003

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Our Voices Will Be Heard!

Legislative Talking Points



The Premier Advocacy Group For Injured Workers In Florida

VOICES speaks out :

- 1. Timely, appropriate medical treatment is a paramount concern.
- All workers compensation rules and laws should be enforced.
- Timely administration of medical and indemnity benefits should be enforced.
- Many injuries require more than one specialist's care. We need more than one IME (independent medical examination) per injury.
- Chronic pain, repetitive motion injuries (RMI) and psychiatric injuries should be covered, compensable injuries.
- 6. There must be no cuts in attorney fees because injured workers will



not be able to obtain an attorney.

Make your points without getting off-track. Use your time well.

7. In a tort caseagainst an employer,the standard for

- "negligence" by the employer must not be increased to "intent to harm or kill" which is a legal definition of murder.
- The employer and carriers should be held responsible for their actions. The carrier should fulfill its contracts with the employer and the employee.

Ask your

legislators:

 Where do you stand on the issue of workers compensation?



Be sure to check to see if you understand the legislator's questions AND answers.

- 2. What are you going to do to help injured workers?
- 3. Do you understand why attorneys are so vital to injured workers?
- 4. Do you understand how the existing laws are ignored by carriers?
- 5. Do you need more information on workers compensation and the situation in Florida with injured workers?
- 6. How can VOICES assist you in staying informed about the position of VOICES on pertinent issues?
- 7. Will you avoid blocking emails from constituents on issues dealing with injured workers?

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