Steven W. Jennings Crowley, Haughey, Hanson, Toole & Dietrich P.L.L.P. P. O. Box 2529 Billings, MT 59103-2529 (406) 252-3441 Attorneys for Millers First Insurance Company

FILED

JUN 1 6 2005

OFFICE OF
WORKERS' COMPENSATION JUDGE

IN THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

ROBERT FLYNN and CARL MILLER, Individually and on Behalf of Others Similarly Situated,	) ) ) WCC No. 2000-0222
Petitioners, vs.	) ) ) MOTION TO DISMISS AND ) SUPPORTING BRIEF
MONTANA STATE FUND,	) )
Respondent/Insurer,	) }
and	<i>)</i> )
LIBERTY NORTHWEST INSURANCE CORPORATION,	) ) )
Intervenor.	) )

## **MOTION**

COMES NOW Millers First Insurance Company, and moves this Court for an order dismissing it from the above-entitled action. Millers First Insurance Company advises that it attempted to contact Petitioners' counsel regarding this motion and was advised by his office that Petitioner neither opposes nor stipulates to this motion but will defer to the Court's decision.

## BRIEF

Millers First Insurance Company states that a review of its files and records reveals that it has not taken a social security offset for any workers' compensation benefits paid or payable to Montana claimants and thus is not liable for any claims that meet the criteria set forth in the *Summons* dated May 4, 2005.

The methodology that Millers First Insurance Company used to determine that it had no *Flynn*-type liability was as follows: Millers First Insurance Company was licensed in Montana in 1986. In order to identify claims fitting the criteria set forth in the *Summons*, Millers First Insurance Company used reports from its computerized policy and claims processing systems to identify Montana workers compensation paid losses from 1986 to 2005. This search included reports from our State 2 Financials, listings of workers' compensation claims with an accident in the State of Montana, policy listing for policyholders with an address in Montana, and a policy listing of policies with a location or site in Montana. Millers First Insurance Company then did a manual search against each policy to verify whether a claim was reported.

WHEREFORE, because it has in good faith and with due diligence searched its records and found no *Flynn*-type claimants, Millers First Insurance Company requests that this Court issue an order;

- 1. dismissing Millers First Insurance Company from the above-entitled action or, alternatively;
- 2. in the event the Court denies this motion, an order permitting Millers First Insurance Company to file a Response within 30 days of said denial.

Dated this 16th day of June, 2005.

CROWLEY, HAUGHEY, HANSON, TOOLE & DIETRICH P.L.L.P.

Attorneys for Millers First Insurance Company

By:

STEVEN W. JENNINGS

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, STEVEN W. JENNINGS, one of the attorneys for the law firm of Crowley, Haughey, Hanson, Toole & Dietrich P.L.L.P., hereby certify that on the day of June, 2005, I mailed a true and correct copy of the foregoing document, postage prepaid, to the following:

Mr. Rex Palmer Attorneys Inc., PC 301 W. Spruce Missoula, MT 59802

STEVEN W. JENNING

Motion to Dismiss and Supporting Brief – Page 2

# CROWLEY, HAUGHEY, HANSON, TOOLE & DIETRICH P.L.L.P.

#### **ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

500 Transwestern Plaza II · 490 North 31st Street · Billings, Montana 59101 P.O. Box 2529 · BILLINGS, MONTANA 59103-2529 TEL (406) 252-3441 · FAX (406) 252-5292 www.crowleylaw.com

STEPHEN M. BARRETT COLBY L. BRANCH \* #
KATY A. BRANDIS
ALAN C. BRYAN #
ASHLEY BURLESON ASHLEY BURLESON
DAVID L. CHARLES
PAUL C. COLLINS
GARY M. CONNELLEY
RENEE L. COPPOCK
MARCIA J. DAVENPORT
JASON A. DELMUE
MICHAEL S. DOCKERY
DOWN B. DIDIS ID JOHN B. DUDIS, JR. JON T. DYRE # MARY SCRIM DYRE SCOTT A. FISK BRUCE A. FREDRICKSON \*
MICHAEL W. GREEN ROBERT C. GRIFFIN PETER F. HABEIN SCOTT D. HAGEL NATHAN S. HANEY KEVIN P. HEANEY KENNETH G. HEDGE \*
JAMES R. HINTZ
BRIAN HOLLAND LARRY A. HOLLE STEVEN W. JENNINGS DANIEL D. JOHNS DARIN W. JOHNSON JOEL L. KALEVA ALLAN L. KARELL KIELY S. KEANE PETER M. KIRWAN WILLIAM D. LAMDIN III MICHAEL J. LANSING #

KENNETH K. LAY JOHN R. LEE \*
JARED M. LE FEVRE
STEVEN J. LEHMAN JULIE A. LICHTE DENISE D. LINFORD # JASON P. LOBLE CHRIS MANGEN, JR. WILLIAM I MATTIX JOE C. MAYNARD, JR JOHN H. MAYNARD JOSEPH P. MAZUREK IAN McINTOSH DANIEL N. McLEAN MATTHEW F. McLEAN # ROBERT G. MICHELOTTI, JR. STEVEN R. MILCH KIMBERLY S. MORE

DONALD R. MURRAY, JR. KRISTIN L. OMVIG JEFFERY J. OVEN # SHANE D. PETERSON \*
HERBERT I. PIERCE III FRED C. RATHERT \*
STEVEN P. RUFFATTO
GINA S. SHERMAN SCOTTLM SHINGLETON JAMES P. SITES GARTH H. SJUE LEONARD H. SMITH CHRISTOPHER C. VOIGT # DAVID M. WAGNER NEIL G. WESTESEN BRYAN P. WILSON RONALD E. YOUDE

OF COUNSEL
GEORGE C. DALTHORP
JOHN M. DIETRICH
DA VID L. JOHNSON
GARELD F. KRIEG
ARTHUR F. LAMEY, JR.
LOUIS R. MOORE \*
MYLES J. THOMAS
FRED F. WILLIESNAMD \* FRED E. WHISENAND \* 100 NORTH PARK AVENUE

111 EAST BROADWAY RETIRED P.O. BOX 1206 WILLISTON, ND 58802-1206 PHONE (701) 572-2200 JAMES M. HAUGHEY BRUCE R. TOOLE OF COUNSEL

OFFICES

SUITE 300, P.O. BOX 797 HELENA, MT 59624-0797

PHONE (406) 449-4165

431 FIRST AVENUE WEST P.O. BOX 759 KALISPELL, MT 59903-0759 PHONE (406) 752-6644

45 DISCOVERY DRIVE SUITE 200, P.O. BOX 10969 BOZEMAN, MT 59719-0969 PHONE (406) 556-1430

700 S.W. HIGGINS SUITE 200 MISSOULA, MT 59803 PHONE (406) 829-2732

Attorneys are licensed in Montana unless otherwise noted; \* also licensed in North Dakota; # also licensed in Wyoming; + not licensed in Montana

June 16, 2005

Workers' Compensation Court PO Box 537 Helena, MT 59624-0537

RE:

Robert Flynn and Carl Miller vs. Montana State Fund, et al.

WCC No. 2000-0222

Dear Clerk:

Enclosed please find Motions to Dismiss with Supporting Briefs in the matter referenced above on behalf of our client insurance companies. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter.

Sincerely yours,

CROWLEY, HAUGHEY, HANSON, TOOLE & DIETRICH P.L.L.P.

Myrna Henschel, Certified PLS

Legal Secretary to Steven W. Jennings

Myrna Henschel, PLS

mlh

Enclosure

c (w/encls.): Rex Palmer, Esq.