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## FILED

FEB - 3 2006

OFFICE OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION JUDGE HELENA, MONTANA

#### IN THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

CASSANDRA SCHMILL,

Petitioner,

WCC NO. 2001-0300

٧.

REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR EXTENSION

LIBERTY NORTHWEST INSURANCE CORPORATION,

Respondent/Insurer,

and

MONTANA STATE FUND.

Intervenor.

COMES NOW Bryce R. Floch, on behalf of the insurers/ self insureds identified above, and hereby files the reply in support of the motion for an extension of time. The motion for extension of time should be granted as the insurers and self insureds have

reasonably demonstrated due diligence in their attempts to comply with the amended summons.

Petitioner's counsel concedes a 60 day extension would be reasonable if the insurers demonstrate due diligence in complying with the amended summons. Specifically, the Petitioner's response states:

Petitioner would ask that the Insurers be required to provide the Court with information outlining the due diligence taken to respond to the Amended Summons and why additional time is needed in order to do so.

(Petitioner's January 26, 2006 Response, Docket #202)

Attached hereto, and hereby incorporated by reference, are the affidavits of Sandy Mayernik and Rick Davenport. Both of these affidavits demonstrate that: 1) the insurers cannot reasonably respond to the amend summons by February 22, 2006; 2) the insurers have been diligently attempting to identify files which were effected by the *Schmill* decisions; 3) the insurers believe is it is more appropriate to take them time and perform a thorough and complete search to identify files, rather than an expedited and cursory review; and 4) the insurers are attempting to identify all the claims files effected by all of the common fund cases (*Ie. Raush-Ruhd*) during their physical file reviews, rather than duplicating the effort for each common fund case.

The Petitioner's contention it will be prejudiced by allowing these eleven (11) relatively small insurers and self-insureds an additionally 30 days to respond to the Amended Summons is overreaching at best, and unreasonable at worst. These Intervenors have met the due diligence standard enounced by the Petitioner in her response and this Court should grant the above referenced insurers and self-insureds until March 23, 2006 to respond to the Amended Summons.

DATED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2006.

HAMMER, HEWITT & JACOBS, PLLC

Bryce R. Floch P.O. Box 7310

Vallerall MT 50004

Kalispell, MT 59904-0310

REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR EXTENSION

Page 2

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

This is to certify that I, David M. Sandler sent on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of Jnauary, 2006, the forgoing attached REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR EXTENSION was duly serviced upon the following attorneys of record, by depositing a true copy thereof in the United States mail, postage paid, addressed as:

Laurie Wallace PO Box 2020 Columbia Falls, MT 59912

Bryce R. Floch

Bryce R. Floch
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Attorneys for, Lumberman's Underwriting Alliance, ASARCO, Inc., Benefis Healthcare, Continental Casualty Co., Golden Sunlight Mines, Northwest Healthcare, Corp., Northwestern Energy, LLC, F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Co., Plum Creek Timber Co. Inc, Rosauers, and Safeway.

## IN THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

CASSANDRA SCHMILL, Petitioner,	WCC NO. 2001-0300
V.	AFFIDAVIT OF SANDY MAYERNIK
LIBERTY NORTHWEST INSURANCE CORPORATION,	
Respondent/Insurer,	
and	
MONTANA STATE FUND,	
Intervenor.	
STATE OF MONTANA )	
: ss County of Cascade )	

- I, Sandy Mayernik, being first duly sworn upon oath, depose and say:
- 1. I am an adjuster for Crawford & Company. Crawford & Company is the third party administrator for Continental Casualty Company.
- 2. Continental Casualty Company has identified 181 files which will need to be physically reviewed in order to determine if they are effected by the Schmill decisions.
- 3. We cannot reasonably review the files and respond to the December 7, 2005 Amended Summons by February 22, 2006.
- 4. We have been diligently attempting to comply with the December 7, 2005 Amended Summons, but given the number of files identified, and the fact some of them are stored off site, we cannot perform a thorough and complete search by February 22, 2006.
- 5. Rather than physically reviewing claims files for each different common fund case on more than one occasion, we believe it is more efficient to review the claims files once to determine if it is effected by any of the common fund cases.

DATED this 3rd day of February, 2006.

Sandy Mayernik

AFFIDAVIT OF SANDY MAYERNIK
Page 2

\*\* TOTAL PAGE.03

STATE OF MONTANA	
------------------	--

County of Cascade

On this 300 day of February, 2006, before me, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared Sandy Mayernik, and acknowledged to me that she executed the foregoing Affidavit and stated under oath that the matters and things therein set forth are true of her own knowledge.

Signed and sworn to before me on the date first-above written.

Notary Public of the State of Montana Residing at Cascadre County

My Commission Expires:

AFFIDAVIT OF SANDY MAYERNIK Page 3

Bryce R. Floch HAMMER, HEWITT & JACOBS, PLLC Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 7310 Kalispell, MT 59904-0310

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#### IN THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

CASSANDRA SCHMILL, Petitioner,	WCC NO. 2001-0300		
٧.	AFFIDAVIT OF RICK DAVENPORT		
LIBERTY NORTHWEST INSURANCE CORPORATION,			
Respondent/Insurer,			
and			
MONTANA STATE FUND,			
Intervenor.			
STATE OF MONTANA )			

- I, Rick Davenport, being first duly sworn upon oath, depose and say:
- 1. I am the executive vice-president for Putman & Associates. Putman & Associates is the third-party administrator for ASARCO, Inc., Benefis Healthcare, Golden Sunlight Mines, Northwest Healthcare, Corp., Northwestern Energy, LLC, F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Company, Plum Creek Timber Co. Inc, Rosauers and Safeway.
- 2. These insurers and self-insureds, with my assistance, are reviewing claims files which may have been effected by the *Schmill* decisions.
- 3. We cannot reasonably review the files and respond to the December 7, 2005 Amended Summons by February 22, 2006.
- 4. We have been diligently attempting to comply with the December 7, 2005 Amended Summons, but given the number of potential claims files, and the fact some of them are stored off site, we cannot perform a thorough and complete search by February 22, 2006.
- 5. Rather than physically reviewing claims files for each different common fund case on more than one occasion, we believe it is more efficient to review the claims files once to determine if the particular file was affected by any of the common fund cases.

DATED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2006.

Rick Davenport

STATE OF MONTANA	)
Flathead	: ss
County of Gascade	)

On this \_\_\_\_\_ day of February, 2006, before me, a Notary Public for the State of Montana, personally appeared Rick Davenport, and acknowledged to me that he executed the foregoing Affidavit and stated under oath that the matters and things therein set forth are true of his own knowledge.

Signed and sworn to before me on the date first-above written.

Printed Name: = 1-100000 (20) Herban

Notary Public of the State of Montana

Residing at Kalispell MT My Commission Expires: 11/23/2008,



# HAMMER, HEWITT & JACOBS, PLLC

TODD A, HAMMER, ATTORNEY LINDA HEWITT CONNERS, ATTORNEY ANGELA K. JACOBS, ATTORNEY BRYCE R. FLOCH, ATTORNEY 100 Financial Drive, Suite 100 P.O. Box 7310 Kalispell, MT 59904 Telephone (406) 755-2225 Fax: (406) 755-5155 Website: POOKIE BROWN, PARALEGAL PAM WARBURTON, PARALEGAL JARA STANFORD, PARALEGAL

# Fax

To:	Pat (406) 444-7798			From:	Jara		
Fax:				Pages:	9		
Re:	•	Reply in Support of Motion for Extension		Date:	February 3, 2006		
□ Urg	gent	☐ For Review	☐ Please	Comment	☐ Please Reply		
		·					

I am sending the original in the mail today.

Jara Stanford

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