IN THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

WCC No. 2001-0300

CASSANDRA SCHMILL

Petitioner

VS.

FILED

LIBERTY NORTHWEST INSURANCE CORPORATION

NOV 2 0 2006

Respondent/Insurer

OFFICE OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION JUDGE HELENA, MONTANA

MONTANA STATE FUND

intervenor.

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STATE OF Florida)

County of Dura ()

¶1 1 Kobert Wortelboer (NAME), being first duly sworn upon oath, depose and say:

12 1, Robert Wortelboer (NAME), am the General Counsel & V.P. (POSITION) of First Professionals Ins. Co. (NAME OF INSURER OR SELF-INSURER).

- In my capacity as General Coursel & V.P. (POSITION) of First Professionals Ins. Co. (NAME OF INSURER OR SELF-INSURER), I am authorized to make the statements set forth in this affidavit on behalf of First Professionals Ins. Co. (NAME OF INSURER OR SELF-INSURER) and to bind First Professionals Ins. Co. (NAME OF INSURER OR SELF-INSURER) by these statements.
- (NAME OF INSURER OR SELF-INSURER) should be dismissed from the above-entitled action for any or all of the following reasons (check any or all that apply):

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	First Professionals In INSURER) has ne the state of Montar	ver written worke	OF INSURER	R OR on insur	SELF- ance in
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	INSURER) has no matter as set forth	claimants meet	OF INSURER		
	INSURER) was or forth in the amende	is in liquidation de			
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DATED this	der penalty of perjung	Pobert Wortelb Coneral Co	, 2006. War (Nam unsel & V.) (Title		
Signed and	sworn to before me t	his <u>//3¹</u> day of	Nevember	, 20	0 <u>6</u> .
Notary Pu My comm.	GGINBOTHAM Dlic, State of Florida exp. Nov. 17, 2007 No. DD 268190	Notary Public for Residing at: My Commission	acconi	10000 1/605/	in Hu

Sothe & Lauridsen. P.C.

5 HIGHWAY 2 EAST P.O. BOX 2020 COLUMBIA FALLS, MT 59912

(406) 892-2193 1 (800) 354-3262 FAX (406) 892-0207 E-MAIL: legalpad@digisys.net WEBSITE: www.bandilaw.com

KENNETH S. THOMAS DAVID W. LAURIDSEN LAURIE WALLACE DAVID M. SANDLER

JOHN H. BOTHE (1951-1996) November 13, 2006

VIA FACSIMILE - 904-358-6424

Mr. Robert Wortelboer, Jr. FPIC P.O. Box 44033 Jacksonville, FL 32231-4033

RE:

First Professional Ins. Co.

SCHMILL v. LIBERTY NW INS. CORP., et al.

WCC No. 2001-0300

Dear Mr. Wortelboer:

Pursuant to our phone conversation, attached please find a copy of the Amended Summons with the Affidavit in regard to the above-referenced matter. As we discussed, you need to fill in the Affidavit and forward it onto the Montana Workers' Compensation Court at the following address, with a copy to this office:

Ms. Clara Wilson Clerk of Workers' Compensation Court P.O. Box 537 Helena, MT 59624-0537

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Robin Stephens, Secretary BOTHE & LAURIDSEN, P.C.

Enc.

IN THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

WCC No. 2001-0300

CASSANDRA SCHMILL

Petitioner

DEC - 7 2005

VS.

OFFICE OF WORKER'S COMPENSATION JUDGE LIBERTY NORTHWEST INSURANCE CORPORATION LELENA, MONTANA

Respondent/Insurer

and

MONTANA STATE FUND

intervenor.

AMENDED SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ATTORNEY FEE LIEN

AT&T COMMUNICATIONS INC ACCEPTANCE INDEMNITY INS CO ACE AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY ACE AMERICAN REINSURANCE CO ACE FIRE UNDERWRITERS INS CO ACE INDEMNITY INSURANCE COMPANY ACE PROPERTY & CASUALTY INS CO ACIG INS CO ADVANTAGE WORKERS COMP INS CO AIG NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY AIG PREMIER INSURANCE COMPANY AIU INSURANCE CO ALAMANCE INSURANCE COMPANY ALASKA NATIONAL INS CO ALBERTSONS INC ALEA NORTH AMERICA INS CO ALLIANZ GLOBAL RISKS US INSURANCE CO ALLIED MUTUAL INSURANCE CO ALLIED PROPERTY & CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY ALLMERICA FINANCIAL ALLIANCE INS CO

ALLSTATE INSURANCE CO AMCO INSURANCE COMPANY AMERICAN ALTERNATIVE INS CORP AMERICAN AMBASSADOR CASUALTY CO AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE INS CO AMERICAN CASUALTY CO OF READING AMERICAN CENTENNIAL INSURANCE CO AMERICAN CENTRAL INS CO AMERICAN COMMERCE INS CO AMERICAN CONTINENTAL INSURANCE COMPANY AMERICAN ECONOMY INS CO AMERICAN EMPLOYERS INSURANCE CO AMERICAN FIRE & CASUALTY COMPANY AMERICAN FUJI FIRE & MARINE INS CO AMERICAN GUARANTEE & LIABILITY INS AMERICAN HARDWARE MUTUAL INS CO AMERICAN HOME ASSURANCE CO AMERICAN INS CO

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BECID DEC 13 500 DOCKET ITEM NO.

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC INS CO AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SPECIALTY LINES INSURANCE AMERICAN INTERSTATE INS CO AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS MUTUAL AMERICAN MOTORISTS INSURANCE CO AMERICAN MUTUAL INS CO OF BOSTON AMERICAN MUTUAL LIABILITY INS CO AMERICAN PROTECTION INSURANCE CO AMERICAN REINSURANCE COMPANY AMERICAN SAFETY CASUALTY INS CO AMERICAN STATES INS CO AMERICAN STATES PREFERRED AMERICAN SUMMIT INS CO AMERICAN WEST INSURANCE CO AMERICAN ZURICH INS CO AMERICAS INSURANCE COMPANY AMERISURE MUTUAL INS CO AMFAC INC ANR FREIGHT SYSTEMS INC ARCH INSURANCE COMPANY ARCH REINSURANCE COMPANY **ARGONAUT INS CO** ARGONAUT MIDWEST INS CO ARGONAUT NORTHWEST INS CO ARMED FORCES INSURANCE EXCHANGE **ASH GROVE CEMENT CO** ASSOCIATED INDEMNITY CORP ASSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA ATHENA ASSURANCE CO ATLANTA INTERNATIONAL INS CO ATLANTA SPECIALTY INS CO ATLANTIC INSURANCE COMPANY ATLANTIC MUTUAL INSURANCE CO ATLANTIC RICHFIELD CO ATLANTIC SPECIALTY INSURANCE **COMPANY** ATLAS ASSURANCE CO OF AMERICA AUDUBON INSURANCE COMPANY **AUTOMOBILE INS CO OF HARTFORD** AVOMARK INS CO AXA CORPORATE SOLUTIONS **INSURANCE CO AXA RE AMERICA INS CO**

AXIS REINSURANCE COMPANY **BANCINSURE INC** BANKERS MULTIPLE LINE INS CO BANKERS STANDARD FIRE & MARINE BANKERS STANDARD INS CO BEATRICE COMPANIES INC BENCHMARK INS CO BENEFIS HEALTH CARE BERKLEY REGIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY BIRMINGHAM FIRE INS CO OF PA BITUMINOUS CASUALTY CORP BITUMINOUS FIRE & MARINE INS CO **BORDEN CHEMICAL INC BOSTON OLD COLONY INS CO** BRISTOL WEST INSURANCE COMPANY BROTHERHOOD MUTUAL INS CO **BROWNING FERRIS INDUSTRIES INC** CALIFORNIA COMPENSATION INS CO CALIFORNIA INDEMNITY INS CO CALIFORNIA INSURANCE COMPANY CAMDEN FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCATION CATERPILLAR INSURANCE COMPANY CENTENNIAL INS CO CENTRAL NATIONAL INS CO OF OMAHA CENTRE INSURANCE COMPANY CENTURION CASUALTY COMPANY **CENTURY INDEMNITY CO** CHAMPION INTERNATIONAL CORP CHARTER OAK FIRE INS CO CHARTWELL REINSURANCE COMPANY CHEVRON CORP CHS INC CHUBB INDEMNITY INS CO CHUBB NATIONAL INS CO CHURCH MUTUAL INSURANCE CO CIM INSURANCE CORPORATION CIMARRON INSURANCE CO CINCINNATI INS CO CINCINNATI CASUALTY COMPANY CINCINNATI INDEMNITY COMPANY CIRCLE K CORPORATION CITY INSURANCE CO **CLARENDON NATIONAL INS CO** CLASSIC FIRE & MARINE COMPANY **CLEARWATER INSURANCE COMPANY ECO** DEC 13 2004 **COLONIAL AMERICAN CASUALTY &** SURETY

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EMPLOYERS FIRST INSURANCE COMPANY EMPLOYERS INS COMPANY OF WAUSAU **EMPLOYERS MUTUAL CASUALTY CO** EMPLOYERS REINSURANCE CORP ENTECH INC **ERNST HOME CENTERS EULER AMERICAN CREDIT INDEMNITY COMPANY EVANSTON INSURANCE COMPANY EVEREST NATIONAL INS CO EVERGREEN NATIONAL INDEMNITY** EXECUTIVE RISK INDEMNITY INC **EXPLORER INS COMPANY** F H STOLTZE LAND & LUMBER CO FACTORY MUTUAL INS CO FAIRFIELD INS CO **FAIRMONT INSURANCE CO** FAIRMONT PREMIER INSURANCE COMPANY FAIRMONT SPECIALTY INSURANCE COMPANY FARMERS INS EXCHANGE FARMINGTON CASUALTY CO FARMLAND MUTUAL INS CO FEDERAL EXPRESS CORP FEDERAL INS CO FEDERATED MUTUAL INSURANCE CO FEDERATED SERVICE INSURANCE CO FIDELITY & CASUALTY CO OF NEW YORK FIDELITY & DEPOSIT CO OF MARYLAND FIDELITY & GUARANTY INS CO FIDELITY & GUARANTY INS **UNDERWRITERS** FIREMANS FUND INS CO FIREMANS FUND INS CO OF OHIO FIREMANS FUND INS CO OF WISCONSIN FIREMENS INS CO OF NEWARK NJ FIRST FINANCIAL INSURANCE COMPANY FIRST LIBERTY INSURANCE **CORPORATION** FIRST NATIONAL INS CO OF AMERICA FIRST PROFESSIONALS INSURANCE COMPANY INCORPORATE FIRST SOUTHERN INSURANCE CO NECLO DEC 135003 FLORISTS MUTUAL INS CO **FLYING J INC**

BOTHE &LAURIDSON

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REGENT INSURANCE CO

ST PAUL GUARDIAN INS CO ST PAUL MEDICAL LIABILITY INS CO ST PAUL MERCURY INS CO ST PAUL PROTECTIVE INSURANCE COMPANY ST THOMAS CHILD & FAMILY CNTR STAN WATKINS TRUCKING INC STANDARD FIRE INS CO STAR INS CO STARNET INSURANCE COMPANY STATE FARM FIRE & CASUALTY CO STATE FARM GENERAL INS CO STATE FARM MUTUAL AUTOMOBILE INS STILLWATER MINING CO STOLTZE CONNER LUMBER CO STONEBRIDGE CASUALTY INSURANCE **COMPANY** STONEWALL INSURANCE COMPANY STONINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY SUPERIOR NATIONAL INS CO SWISS REINSURANCE AMERICA CORP TARGET CORP TECHNOLOGY INS CO INC TECK COMINCO AMERICAN INC TEXAS EMPLOYERS INDEMNITY CO TEXAS GENERAL INDEMNITY CO TIG INSURANCE CO TNUS INSURANCE COMPANY TOKIO MARINE & NICHIDO FIRE **INSURANCE CO LTD** TOWN PUMP INC TRADERS & GENERAL INS CO TRANS PACIFIC INSURANCE COMPANY TRANSCONTINENTAL INS CO TRANSPORT INSURANCE CO TRANSPORTATION INS CO TRAVELERS CAS & SURETY CO OF AMER TRAVELERS CASUALTY & SURETY CO TRAVELERS CASUALTY CO OF CONN TRAVELERS CASUALTY INS CO OF **AMERICA** TRAVELERS COMMERCIAL CASUALTY **COMPANY** TRAVELERS COMMERCIAL INS CO TRAVELERS IND CO OF AMERICA TRAVELERS INDEMNITY CO TRAVELERS INDEMNITY CO OF CT

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WESTERN ENERGY CO
WESTERN FRUIT EXPRESS CO
WESTERN GUARANTY ASSOCIATION
WESTPORT INS CORP
WILLIAMSBURG NATIONAL INS CO
XL INS CO OF NEW YORK INC
XL INSURANCE AMERICA INC
XL REINSURANCE AMERICA
XL SPECIALTY INS COMPANY
YORK INSURANCE COMPANY
YOSEMITE INSURANCE COMPANY
ZENITH INS CO
ZURICH AMERICAN INS CO
ZURICH AMERICAN INS CO OF ILLINOIS

- ¶1 On April 10, 2003, the Montana Supreme Court held that it was a violation of the equal protection clauses of the Montana and United States constitutions to allow for apportionment deductions for non-occupational factors in the Occupational Disease Act, but not in the Workers' Compensation Act and thus the Court struck section 39-72-706, MCA, as unconstitutional. *Schmill v. Liberty Northwest Ins. Corp.*, 2003 MT 80, 315 Mont. 51, 67 P.3d 290.
- Following that decision, the petitioner's attorney filed a notice of attorney fee lien, a copy of which is attached. In that lien notice, the petitioner's attorney claims an attorney fee lien upon the common fund of occupational disease cases in which an apportionment was taken prior to and including June 22, 2001, for dates of occupational disease occurring on or after July 1, 1987. The claimed lien extends to all Montana insurers and self-insurers. The lien is for 25% of the additional benefits due.
- ¶3 Until further order of this Court, each insurer and self-insurer named in this amended summons is authorized to withhold 25% of additional benefits paid on account of the *Schmill* decision to claimants who were injured on or after July 1, 1987, and had benefits reduced as a result of an apportionment taken prior to and including June 22, 2001.
- Further, each of you is made a respondent to the petitioner's common fund claim and summoned to answer the petitioner's request for enforcement of her attorney's lien. Your written answer must be received at the Workers' Compensation Court at P.O. Box 537, Helena, Montana 59624-0537, or delivered to its offices at 1625 11th Avenue, Helena, Montana, on or before January 23, 2006. A copy of your answer must also be served on the petitioner's attorney, Ms. Laurie Wallace at Bothe & Lauridsen, P.C., P.O. Box 2020, Columbia Falls, Montana 59912.

- ¶5 Accompanying this amended summons is a form affidavit. If any insurer, self-insurer, or guaranty association believes it should be dismissed from this matter, you are directed to complete the affidavit and return it to the Workers' Compensation Court. If none of the enumerated reasons apply, you must prepare a separate affidavit for the Court's review.
- The failure of any insurer, self-insurer, or guaranty association to timely appear will constitute a waiver of that entity's right to participate in the proceedings, including the briefing process. Since the Supreme Court in Schmill v. Liberty Northwest Ins. Corp., 2005 MT 144, ¶25, 327 Mont. 293, 114 P.3d 204, found a common fund to have been created in this case, the future proceedings will be to enforce common fund entitlements and the petitioner's attorney fee lien. Resolution of these legal issues, and any attendant issues, will govern this case and apply to each of you.
- ¶7 Copies of minutes of conferences and hearings, as well as of briefs, motions, orders, and other documents filed in this case, will be posted in the "common fund" section on this Court's Website, www.wcc.dli.mt.gov.

DATED in Helena, Montana, this _____ day of December, 2005.



JUDGE

Attachments: Notice of Attorney Fee Lien Affidavit

ETO DEC 13 2003

LAURIE WALLACE Bothe & Lauridsen, P.C. P.O. Box 2020 Columbia Falls, MT 59912 Telephone: (406) 892-2193

"Attorneys for Petitioner"

IN THE WORKERS COMPENSATION COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA IN AND FOR THE AREA OF KALISPELL BEFORE THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION JUDGE

CASSANDRA SCHMILL,)) WCC NO. 2001-0300
Petitioner,)
vs.) NOTICE OF ATTORNEY FEE LIEN
LIBERTY NW INS. CORP.,)
Respondent.))
	,

COMES NOW the undersigned, and herewith gives notice to Liberty NW Ins. Corp. and its counsel of record, and all other insurers who have apportioned occupational disease benefits, of the undersigned's attorney fee lien upon the common fund created and to be created in the above-entitled matter. The undersigned's attorney fee lien is being asserted against all occupational disease cases in which an apportionment was taken prior to and including June 22, 2001, for dates of occupational disease occurring on or after July 1, 1987. The lien is asserted against all insurers providing workers' compensation benefits to Montana workers for occupational diseases occurring from July 1, 1987 through June 22, 2001. The amount of the lien is 25% of all benefits not paid pursuant to an apportionment calculation and subsequent reduction.



DATED this // day of July, 2003.

ATTORNEYS FOR PETITIONER

BOTHE & LAURIDSEN, P.C. P.O. Box 2020 Columbia Falls, MT 59912 Telephone: (406) 892-2193

By: LAURIE WALLACE

Certificate of Mailing

I, Robin Stephens, do hereby certify that on the // day of July, 2003, I served a true and accurate copy of the NOTICE OF ATTORNEY FEE LIEN by U.S. mail, first class, postage prepaid to the following:

Mr. Larry Jones Liberty NW Ins. Corp. 700 SW Higgins, Ste. 108 Missoula, Montana 59803-1489

Robin Stephens

ECO DEC 13 2005