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Bulletin 11-2

TO: Workers' Compensation Carriers and Interested Parties
FROM: Merle Scheiber, Director
DATE: March 16, 2011
RE: Volunteer Firefighters – Workers' Compensation Rating Rules

Effective July 1, 2007, Item B-1397 revised the basic manual classifications and rules. The Director has determined that this rating rule as it applies to volunteer firefighters is unfairly discriminatory pursuant to [SDCL 58-24-5](#).

Prior to July 1, 2007 the rating rule as it applied to volunteer firefighters provided that the rate was computed by using actual payroll of volunteer firefighters but that the premium shall not be less than \$300. Under Item B-1397, the number of hours a volunteer firefighter worked is multiplied not by the actual payroll but an amount based upon paid firefighters. This creates an unfairly discriminatory rate with respect to volunteer firefighters.

Effective July 1, 2011, Item B-1397 is disapproved as it applies to volunteer firefighters and the rating rules in effect for volunteer firefighters prior to July 1, 2007 will apply.

The decision of the Director as made by this bulletin is pursuant to [SDCL 58-24-64](#) and accordingly a hearing may be requested within thirty days by any insurer or rating organization which may be aggrieved by this decision.