January 8, 2014

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 2231

To All Members and Subscribers of the WCRIBMA:

NOTICE OF HEARING

On December 27, 2013 the Workers’ Compensation Rating and Inspection Bureau of Massachusetts, on behalf of its members, made a Rate Filing recommending a 7.7% increase in average rates. Attached is a Notice of Hearing from the Commissioner of Insurance, The Honorable Joseph G. Murphy, advising that a Hearing on the Rate Filing will be held at 10:00 A.M., on Thursday, January 30, 2014 at the Division of Insurance, 1000 Washington Street, Boston, MA.

Robert McCarthy
Senior Vice President and Actuary

Claudia Cunniff
Assistant Vice President and Actuary
In accordance with the authority granted to the Commissioner of Insurance (“Commissioner”) under M. G. L. c. 152, §53A, a hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m. on January 30, 2014, at the Division of Insurance (“Division”), 1000 Washington Street, Boston, Massachusetts, to consider the request of the Workers’ Compensation Rating and Inspection Bureau of Massachusetts (“WCRIB”), an unincorporated association licensed as a rating organization pursuant to M.G. L. c. 152 §52C, for a general revision of workers’ compensation insurance risks and premiums. The WCRIB is requesting a statewide average rate increase of 7.7 percent and an effective date of January 1, 2014.

The purpose of the hearing is to afford all interested persons an opportunity to provide evidence and testimony relating to the proposed workers’ compensation classifications, risks and rates so that the Commissioner can determine whether the proposed classifications and rates are excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory for the risks to which they apply and whether they fall within a range of reasonableness. The proposed rates and supporting documentation that the WCRIB filed on December 27, 2013 may be inspected in the Division’s offices during normal business hours.

Any person who wishes to participate as an interested party in this hearing must comply with the procedures set forth in 211 CMR 110.05 (3). Persons who wish to present unworn oral or written statements at the January 30, 2014 hearing are asked to submit a notice of intent to comment no later than January 28, 2014. All other persons who wish to speak will be heard after those who notify the Division in advance. Any person who intends to introduce data at the hearing is urged to file such data with the Division no later than January 17, 2014.

All notices and submissions must be sent to the Docket Clerk, Hearings and Appeals, Division of Insurance, and must refer to Docket No. R2013-02.

January 7, 2014

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Joseph G. Murphy
Commissioner of Insurance