



March 27, 2020

The Honorable Jimmy Patronis
Chief Financial Officer
Department of Financial Services
Plaza Level 11, The Capitol
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0301

Dear Chief Financial Officer Patronis:

The Florida League of Cities, Inc. ("FLC") serves as the administrator for the Florida Municipal Insurance Trust ("FMIT"). The FMIT provides workers' compensation ("WC") coverage for local government entities throughout Florida. As administrator, the FLC is responsible for the proper operation of the FMIT and the proper provision of WC benefits to covered employees. The FMIT is beginning to receive notice of first responders (law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians or paramedics) who have been exposed to the novel coronavirus, which have or may develop into the COVID-19 disease.

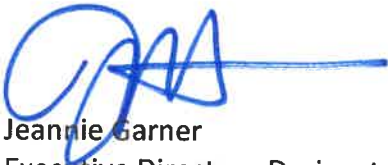
First responders have a duty under the state's emergency management laws to enforce or fulfill the orders or rules issued by the Governor pursuant to such laws in response to the novel coronavirus (Sections 252.36 and 252.47, Florida Statutes, Executive Orders 20-52, 20-71). First responders also have a duty under other Florida Statutes to enforce or fulfill isolation or quarantine orders in response to the novel coronavirus (Section 381.0012(5), Florida Statutes, Executive Orders 20-80, 20-83). First responders further have a duty to respond to calls for emergency services, enforce or fulfill all other state or local laws for the general protection of citizens, and enforce or fulfill local declarations of emergency in response to the novel coronavirus. As such, first responders have a substantially higher risk of being exposed to the novel coronavirus than the general public through their various work activities as being first responders.

Based on the circumstances described above, and while the novel coronavirus remains a declared pandemic outbreak and citizens generally remain subject to isolation and social distancing practices to maintain health and safety, the FLC believes a first responder with a positive test for COVID-19 has suffered a compensable disease under section 112.1815, Florida Statutes, unless by reasonable evidence, it is determined the disease was not contracted in the line of duty. The FMIT has also taken this position regarding the provision of WC coverage.

Page Two
Letter to The Honorable Jimmy Patronis
March 27, 2020

The FLC and FMIT will maintain this position unless your office or the state offers further guidance. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Jeannie Garner
Executive Director - Designate

cc: Ron DeSantis, Governor
State of Florida



FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

Post Office Box 1757

Tallahassee, Florida

32302-1757

HAND DELIVERED

RECEIVED
MAR 27 2020

OFFICE OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

The Honorable Jimmy Patronis

Chief Financial Officer

Department of Financial Services

Plaza Level 11, The Capitol

400 South Monroe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0301

LOCAL
VOICES
MAKING
LOCAL
CHOICES