

IN THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

WCC No. 2001-0300

FILED

CASSANDRA SCHMILL

JAN 3 2006

Petitioner

OFFICE OF
WORKER'S COMPENSATION JUDGE
HELENA, MONTANA

vs.

LIBERTY NORTHWEST INSURANCE CORPORATION

Respondent/Insurer

MONTANA STATE FUND

Intervenor.

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
County of ALAMANCE) : ss.

¶1 I, CHARLES S. WHIFFEN (NAME), being first duly sworn upon oath, depose and say:

¶2 I, CHARLES S. WHIFFEN (NAME), am the ASSISTANT SECRETARY (POSITION) of FIRST FINANCIAL INS. CO. (NAME OF INSURER OR SELF-INSURER).

¶3 In my capacity as ASSISTANT SECRETARY (POSITION) of FIRST FINANCIAL INS. CO. (NAME OF INSURER OR SELF-INSURER), I am authorized to make the statements set forth in this affidavit on behalf of FIRST FINANCIAL INS. CO. (NAME OF INSURER OR SELF-INSURER) and to bind FIRST FINANCIAL INS. CO. (NAME OF INSURER OR SELF-INSURER) by these statements.

¶4 After a review of our records, I swear under oath that FIRST FINANCIAL INS. CO. (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):

DOCKET ITEM NO. 125

- FIRST FINANCIAL INS. CO. (NAME OF INSURER OR SELF-INSURER) has never written workers' compensation insurance in the state of Montana;
- FIRST FINANCIAL INS. CO. (NAME OF INSURER OR SELF-INSURER) does not have any Montana claims;
- FIRST FINANCIAL INS. CO. (NAME OF INSURER OR SELF-INSURER) has no claimants meeting the Court's criteria in this matter as set forth in the summons;
- _____ (NAME OF INSURER OR SELF-INSURER) was or is in liquidation during the period in question set forth in the amended summons served upon me.

¶5 I understand that the Montana Workers' Compensation Court may allow a period of up to 90 days from the date of filing this affidavit within which Petitioner's counsel may conduct discovery and investigation for the limited purpose of proving or disproving the foregoing statement(s) made by me on behalf of FIRST FINANCIAL INS. CO. (NAME OF INSURER OR SELF-INSURER). After such 90 days, if no objection is lodged by the Petitioner's counsel, the Court will dismiss the insurer/self-insurer from this action based on the sworn statements made by me in this affidavit.

¶6 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is correct.

DATED this 22ND day of DECEMBER, 2005.

Charles Hoffen

 (Name)
Account Secretary

 (Title)

Signed and sworn to before me this 22 day of December, 2005

Patrice M. Wade

 Notary Public for the State of NC
 Residing at: Alamance
 My Commission Expires: Sept. 28, 2010

(SEAL)