



APPENDIX M:

FIRST RESPONDER'S PAID LIFETIME WORK COMP BENEFITS

Policy Statement:

This policy outlines the provisions for workers' compensation benefits for first responders who sustain serious bodily injuries while performing their duties. It specifies the entitlement to lifetime income benefits for those permanently rendered unemployable due to such injuries.

Policy Provisions:

- Eligibility for Lifetime Income Benefits:**
Any first responder who sustains a serious bodily injury in the course and scope of their employment or volunteer services as a first responder, which renders them permanently unemployable, is entitled to receive lifetime income benefits for the injury.
- Definition of Serious Bodily Injury:**
A "serious bodily injury" is defined as an injury that significantly impairs the individual's ability to perform gainful employment and is a direct result of their duties as a first responder.
- Duration of Lifetime Income Benefits:**
Lifetime income benefits shall be paid to the injured first responder until their death, provided that the injury meets the criteria for permanent unemployability.
- Calculation of Benefits:**
The calculation of lifetime income benefits shall be based on a predetermined formula that takes into account the severity of the injury, the individual's earnings before the injury, and other relevant factors.
- Medical Evaluation and Certification:**
The determination of permanent unemployability and eligibility for lifetime income benefits shall be made through a comprehensive medical evaluation and certification process conducted by a qualified medical professional.

Effective Date:

This policy shall be effective as of September 1, 2023, in compliance with the relevant legislation.

Implementation:

This policy shall be implemented and administered by the appropriate authorities within the organization, agency, or jurisdiction responsible for providing workers' compensation benefits to first responders.

Review and Updates:

This policy shall be subject to periodic review and updates as necessary to ensure its continued effectiveness in providing support to permanently unemployable first responders.

Compliance:

Failure to comply with this policy may result in disciplinary action, as determined by the governing authority of the employing agency or organization.