NOTICE TO EMPLC YEES CONCERNING WORKERS' COMPENSATION IN TEXAS

work-related injury or occupational disease. This coverage is effective from [effective date of workers' compensation insurance policy] <u>1/30/2019</u>. Any injuries or occupational diseases which occur on or after that date will be handled by [name of commercial insurance company] <u>CHURCH MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY</u>

______. An employee or a person acting on the employee's behalf, must notify the employer of an injury or occupational disease not later than the 30th day after the date on which the injury occurs or the date the employee knew or should have known of an occupational disease, unless the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (Division) determines that good cause existed for failure to provide timely notice. Your employer is required to provide you with coverage information, in writing, when you are hired or whenever the employer becomes, or ceases to be, covered by workers' compensation insurance.

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE: The Division provides free information about how to file a workers' compensation claim. Division staff will answer any questions you may have about workers' compensation and process any requests for dispute resolution of a claim. You can obtain this assistance by contacting your local Division field office or by calling 1-800-252-7031. The Office of Injured Employee Counsel (OIEC) also provides free assistance to injured employees and will explain your rights and responsibilities under the Workers' Compensation Act. You can obtain OIEC's assistance by contacting an OIEC customer service representative in your local Division field office or by calling 1-866-EZE-OIEC (1-866-393-6432).

SAFETY VIOLATIONS HOTLINE: The Division has a 24 hour toll-free telephone number for reporting unsafe conditions in the workplace that may violate occupational health and safety laws. Employers are prohibited by law from suspending, terminating, or discriminating against any employee because he or she in good faith reports an alleged occupational health or safety violation. Contact the Division at 1-800-452-9595.

Independent Contractor or Employee?

ATTENTION ALL EMPLOYEES, EMPLOYERS, INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS AND SUBCONTRACTORS:

The law says that you are an employee unless:

- You are free from direction and control in performing your job, **AND**
- You perform work that is not part of the usual work done by the business that hired you **OR** is not performed on the business's premises, **AND**
- You are customarily engaged in an independently established trade, occupation, profession or business.

Your employer cannot consider you to be an independent contractor unless all three of these facts apply to your work.

IT IS AGAINST THE LAW FOR AN EMPLOYER TO MISCLASSIFY EMPLOYEES AS INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS OR PAY EMPLOYEES OFF THE BOOKS.

Employee Rights:

If you are an employee, you are entitled to:

- Unemployment benefits, if unemployed through no fault of your own, able to work, and meet other eligibility requirements
- Workers' Compensation benefits for on-the-job injuries.

It is a violation of this law for employers to retaliate against anyone who asserts their rights under the law. Retaliation subjects an employer to civil penalties, a lawsuit or both. If you have questions about whether you are an employee or independent contractor, or you want to file a complaint, call the Louisiana Workforce Commission Fraud Hotline at 1-(800)-201-3362.

Independent Contractors:

If you are an independent contractor, you must pay all taxes required by Louisiana and Federal Law.

Employer Consequences:

Pursuant to Louisiana Employment Security Law R.S. 23:1711 (G): Penalties for misclassifying a worker as an independent contractor include:

- Fines of up to \$500 per worker per instance
- Imprisonment for up to 90 days
- Prohibited from contracting with any state agency or political subdivision of the state for three years.

This notice must be posted in a conspicuous place, setting forth information to effectuate this purpose.

R.S. 23:1711

September 2012

