

2011  
Volume I

\* **Arrests for Florida Workers Comp FRAUD...** (page 2)  
\* **15 Indicators of Workers Comp Fraud...** (page 2)

\* **The Safety Corner — Employers Urged to Adopt Policies  
Against Distracted Driving...** (page 2)

## FLORIDA SUMMER SIZZLE...PREVENT HEAT STRESS



Workers exposed to extreme heat may be at risk of heat stress. Extreme heat exposure can result in occupational injuries. Heat stroke is the most serious heat-related disorder.

When heat stroke occurs, the body temperature can rise to 106 degrees or higher within just 10 to 15 minutes. Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not given. For more information about Heat stress protection, go to <http://www.suncoastucc.com/articles.html>

## HEALTH CARE WORKERS...OH MY ACHING BACK!



Health care is the second-fastest-growing sector of the U.S. economy, employing over 12 million workers. According to studies, rates of occupational injury to healthcare workers have also risen to a rate more than seven times the national MSD average. By contrast, two of the most hazardous industries, agriculture and construction, are safer.

To that end, CDC & NIOSH have created a program entitled "Safe Lifting & Movement of Nursing Home residents", go to <http://www.suncoastucc.com/articles.html>

## WORKER'S COMP COSTS...

### SUNCOAST/EMPLOYERS TAKE CONTROL



Employers have a much better chance of controlling costs and reducing case length if they develop a partnership with a medical facility knowledgeable in the area of Worker's Comp. The medical record produced directly after injury occurrence can contain information helpful to the employer.

- Resist the "easy fix" temptation of sending employees to emergency rooms unless absolutely necessary....**WHY?..because** E.R. costs are much higher, reports tend to be less detailed and less specific and therefore less useful for workers' comp purposes.

**There is a reason Suncoast Urgent Care & Occupational Health has so quickly become the provider of choice for so many Employers, Municipalities, PEO's & Insurance Carriers.**

**OPEN 7-DAYS A WEEK**  
Suncoast Urgent Care & Occupational Health  
[www.suncoastucc.com](http://www.suncoastucc.com)  
Dudley Mays  
Occupational Medicine Consultant  
Office Ph: 727-372-3888 Office Ph: 352-684-3288  
317-201-0423 (Cell) [tucdmays@gmail.com](mailto:tucdmays@gmail.com)

SERVING  
Pasco, Hernando, NW Hillsborough, N. Pinellas and S. Citrus

**"It's choice -- not chance -- that determines your destiny"**

## DID YOU KNOW?

- OSHA** maintains a Spanish language web page at: [www.osha.gov/as/opa/spanish/index.html](http://www.osha.gov/as/opa/spanish/index.html) and a page with compliance assistance resources for employers with Hispanic employees at: [www.osha.gov/hispanic](http://www.osha.gov/hispanic).

In addition, Spanish-speaking operators are available at (800) 321-OSHA. Many OSHA publications, training materials, and videos are also available in Spanish.

- Pharmaceutical** giant Astra-Zeneca agreed to pay \$250,000 to settle sex discrimination lawsuit brought by US Labor Department. *...124 current and former female employees will share in settlement involving equal pay.* <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/ofccp/OFCCP20110829.htm>

- Illicit** drug users are five times more likely to file a workers' compensation claim.

## eScreen

*Drug Test Results Uploaded  
to Your Desktop In 15 Minutes*



**eScreen's  
eCCF is the  
original and  
most utilized**

**paperless drug testing solution  
in the industry.**

*eScreen's drug test technology is now available at  
Suncoast Urgent Care & Occupational Health*

*For more information Contact  
727-372-3888 or 317-201-0423 (Cell)*

## Arrests for Florida Workers Comp ...



**Workers Nabbed using stolen Social Security numbers**

A recent statewide crackdown on identity theft and workers' compensation fraud, resulted in the arrests of three Lake Worth men.

The men had apparently been using stolen social security numbers to fraudulently gain employment.

Investigations continue into the possible fraudulent use of the same social security numbers by other individuals across the state.

Detectives arrested the employees while at work at a Lake Worth Florida lawn service. Each is charged with workers' compensation fraud. The men were taken into custody without incident and booked into the Palm Beach County Jail. If convicted, they face up to five years in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

Other employees were also determined to be

using stolen social security numbers and warrants are being sought for their arrests.

For more information go to <http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/crime/3-lake-worth-lawn-service-workers-nabbed-using-1488266.html>



*It's your money.*

## 15 Indicators of Workers Comp Fraud

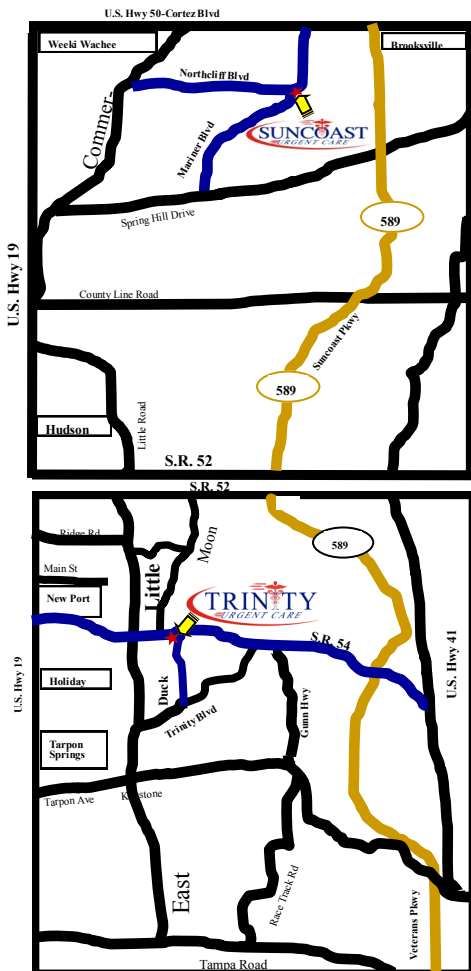
For more information, visit <http://www.suncoastucc.com/articles.html>

## THE SAFETY CORNER *Distracted Driving*

There are three different classifications of distracted driving:

- **Visual** — taking your eyes off the road
- **Manual** — taking your hands off the wheel
- **Cognitive** — taking your mind off what you're doing

*Distracted drivers take their eyes off the road for an average of 4.6 out of every six seconds. At 55 MPH, that means a texting driver travels the length of a football field, including the end zones, without looking at the road.*



### DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

The following services and programs are available to your Company or Organization

#### HEALTH & SAFETY

- WORKERS COMP
- INJURY TREATMENT
- EXPOSURE MONITORING
- OSHA SURVEILLANCE
- FIRST RESPONDER/CPR/ FIRST AID TRAINING

#### MEDICAL EVALUATIONS

- EMPLOYMENT/DOT EXAMS
- DRUG TESTING (DOT, FLDPW)
- BREATH ALCOHOL TESTING
- SURVEILLANCE EXAMS
- RESP CLEARANCE EXAMS
- AUDIO/VISION TESTING
- Ability To Work Exams
- PHYSICAL/OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY REFERRAL

## THE SAFETY CORNER (CONTINUED)

### Employers Urged to Adopt Policies Against Distracted Driving

Officials said that a distracted driving policy helps companies save lives, reduce time lost from work due to accidents and injuries, reduce insurance premiums, and save money.

"Distracted driving has become a deadly epidemic on America's roads," U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said. "We know

that educating people about the risk of distracted driving works."

To that end, the national website of the Better Business Bureau will soon feature a link to a free tool kit with a suggested distracted driving policy; a sample memo to employees on that policy, a sample company press release, and other materials.

We will let you know as soon as more information becomes available.

*Dudley Mays is a Consultant with Suncoast Urgent Care & Occupational Health*

**TRINITY**  
URGENT CARE  
&  
Occupational Health  
Pasco County  
727-372-3888  
[www.trinityurgentcare.com](http://www.trinityurgentcare.com)



**SUNCOAST**  
URGENT CARE  
&  
Occupational Health  
Hernando County  
352-684-3288  
[www.suncoastucc.com](http://www.suncoastucc.com)

**OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

PASCO, N. PINELLAS, N/W HILLSBOROUGH, HERNANDO AND S. CITRUS COUNTIES