

# LESSONS LEARNED FROM LOSSES

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

### FEBRUARY 2018

# OFFICE SAFETY



- Safety in the office environment should not be automatic. It can be easy to feel relaxed in the comfortable, well-lit, air-conditioned and carpeted office.
- Some of the worst injuries we see occur indoors in a controlled environment.
- Slip, trip and fall accidents and their subsequent injuries are the most common and costly accidents seen amongst office workers. Common hazards of slip, trip and fall accidents include open drawers, boxes, purses and electrical and computer cords.
- The ergonomics of the office worker must also be considered to prevent discomfort and improve productivity.
- Talk to staff frequently about your expectations for maintaining a safe workplace.
- Inspect areas for problems, fix them or report them and document these efforts.

**Example:** An employee was waiting on a customer at an indoor customer service window. When she turned around to go to the copier, her feet got tangled in a computer's power cord and other cables and she fell forward onto her hands and knees. The employee has several fractures, a number of sprains and strains and a rotator cuff injury. The total incurred on this claim is almost \$225,000.