

**FLORIDA HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
LEGAL EXPENSE INSURANCE, INC.**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Insurance Company Receives Approval to Offer Group Product and Premium Financing Option

Jacksonville, Fla., November 17, 2004 – Florida Health Professionals Legal Expense Insurance, Inc. (FHPLEI), a Jacksonville-based legal expense insurance company, recently received approval from the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR) to begin offering its medical malpractice legal defense insurance product to group practices.

“Doctors aren’t the only ones getting sued,” says Charles S. O’Lessker, President of FHPLEI. “Plaintiffs are looking for every available dollar and as a result, will name the staff and the corporation itself in a lawsuit. This is especially true in light of the recent passage of Amendments 3, 7 and 8.”

According to O’Lessker, the group product is tailored to the specific needs of the practice. “The group will determine how much coverage they feel is necessary for their specialty and previous claims history.” They will be able to have a “bucket” of money available for the legal fees and expenses associated with representation of their licensed and/or certified employees/staff in malpractice cases.

The OIR also approved FHPLEI’s interest-free premium financing option. FHPLEI now offers four payment options: annually; semi-annually; quarterly or 30% down, 35% in 60 days and 35% within 90 days. “We want to make our products as affordable as possible,” says O’Lessker. “We certainly understand that doctors are being squeezed tighter everyday with increasing business expenses and decreasing insurance reimbursement. Coupled with our retroactive coverage benefit, there is absolutely no reason why doctors should not avail themselves of the best protection possible.”

FHPLEI offers its policyholders individual medical malpractice legal expense insurance coverage limits up to \$100,000 per year. The policy covers legal-related fees and expenses to include attorney fees, expert witnesses, legal staff fees, deposition charges, and other legal-related expenses. The policy also includes \$10,000 of “broad-form” legal expense insurance coverage for professional licensure investigations, Medicare and Medicaid post payment audits and civil investigations, HIPAA investigations or OSHA citations.

About Florida Health Professionals Legal Expense Insurance, Inc.

Jacksonville-based FHPLEI, formed in 2002, provides legal expense insurance to all Florida licensed healthcare professionals. The privately held company began offering its first legal expense policy in early 2003. Offering coverage limits up to \$50,000 for legal-related expenses, this policy provides healthcare professionals’ coverage for licensure investigations, Medicare or Medicaid post-payment audits and civil investigations, HIPAA investigations and OSHA citations. FHPLEI’s second product provides coverage to group practices and individuals for legal-related fees and expenses for medical malpractice. FHPLEI’s vision is “To be the predominant provider of prepaid legal expense insurance products and services to protect those health professionals who are dedicated to human care, life, and well-being.” FHPLEI is licensed by the Florida Department of Financial Services, Office of Insurance Regulation (#75041).

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