



# Department of Justice

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May 20, 2009			PHONE: (813) 274-6136	
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## **VERO BEACH MAN SENTENCED FOR ROLE IN NATIONWIDE WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE FRAUD SCHEME**

Jacksonville, Florida - U.S. Attorney A. Brian Albritton announces that U.S. District Judge Virginia Hernandez Covington yesterday sentenced Steven J. Landin (age 59, of Vero Beach) to 52 months in federal prison for conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud. The court also entered a personal money judgement against Landin for \$1 million and ordered him to pay \$1,455,920.63 in restitution to 9 injured workers who were victims of Landin's conspiracy to defraud companies into paying for fraudulent, illegal, and non-existent workers' compensation insurance. Landin had pleaded guilty in August 2007.

According to court documents, from January 2001 through June 2002 Landin participated in a nationwide scheme to provide illegal and sham workers' compensation insurance to client companies of Professional Employee Organizations (PEOs).

In early 2001, Landin brokered a contract between a sham insurance company (Regency Insurance of the West Indies, LTD, "Regency") and T.T.C. Illinois (TTC), a PEO located in Kankakee, Illinois, that operated in approximately forty states, including in Tampa, Florida. When Landin brokered the policy with TTC, he knew that it was an agreement to provide illegal and sham workers' compensation insurance to TTC's client companies.

In June 2001, Landin brokered a contract between Regency and Pyramid Employer Services, Inc. (Pyramid), a PEO located in Pinellas Park, Florida; Landin again knew that the insurance was illegal and fraudulent.

As a result of the conspiracy, conspirators collected millions of dollars in premium payments for the illegal and fraudulent workers' compensation insurance. During the scheme, hundreds of workers across the country who were injured in connection with their employment were left without workers' compensation insurance benefits.

Landin is the fourteenth defendant prosecuted in this fraudulent scheme. One conspirator, Jerry M. Brewer, remains a fugitive.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the State of Florida Department of Financial Services, Division of Insurance Fraud. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mark B. Devereaux.

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