



## **The Town of Portland is honored by CIRMA for its Risk Management program**

*Portland reduces Workers' Compensation, property, and liability losses through cultural change, commitment, and consistent efforts.*

**New Haven, May 16, 2014.** The Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA) presented a 2014 Risk Management Achievement Award to the Town of Portland for its adoption of an enterprise Risk Management program that enabled them to achieve a wide spread reduction in losses, including an 83% reduction in Workers' Compensation claims.

First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield addressed the gathering of almost 100 municipal and school officials to describe the efforts that led to the award. Their implementation of capital improvement plans, in which the Finance Director played a key part, and a new employee training program helped assure that the facilities were safer and that employees were properly trained. The commitment of the Town's Safety and Health Committee in tracking issues and following up to assure corrective action took place was crucial for the success of the program. First Selectwoman Bransfield credited, too, the taxpayers of Portland for their willingness to fund initiatives that ultimately will reduce losses. The Town's efforts have resulted in an 83% reduction in Workers' Compensation costs since 2012-13.

David Demchak, Vice President of CIRMA, addressed the gathering of almost 100 municipal officials saying, "Our members' positive results extend beyond reduced losses; they help create risk-aware organizations that have a culture of accountability and sound decision-making processes. Their efforts create more efficient operations and ensure the delivery of vital public services."

CIRMA is a member-owned and governed organization that is the state's leading municipal insurer. CIRMA's mission is to reduce losses and their costs by improving its members' understanding of risk and the ways to control and manage it. CIRMA's Risk Management Achievement Awards program was begun in 1981 to recognize the risk management and safety initiatives that prevent accidents and make positive improvements in Connecticut communities. The program has expanded over the years, recognizing achievements in such areas as property management and sustained results. The program provides CIRMA members a forum in which they can share ideas and learn new methods to reduce losses.

*For more information about CIRMA's Risk Management Achievement Award Program, please contact George Tammaro, CIRMA Risk Management Supervisor at [gtammaro@ccm-ct.org](mailto:gtammaro@ccm-ct.org), or visit our website at [CIRMA.org](http://CIRMA.org).*

*About CIRMA: CIRMA, owned and governed by its members, operates two risk-sharing pools: the Workers' Compensation Pool and the Liability-Automobile-Property Pool. It also provides risk management services to self-insured municipalities and local public agencies. Today, CIRMA's membership includes over 85% of the state's municipalities and has premiums of \$80 million and assets under management of over \$300 million.*

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