

**Fairfield County Board of County Commissioners  
Lancaster, Ohio  
Press Release, for immediate release, Wednesday, March 26, 2014**

*Fairfield County Board of Commissioners  
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**County Efforts Lead to Workers Comp Cost Savings**

Lancaster, Ohio- Hard work and diligence have paid off for Fairfield County. Fairfield County has been notified that it will receive a \$153,290 rebate from the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation based upon the county's performance in a group program to promote safety.

In 2010 Fairfield County joined the County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) Group Retrospective Rating Program, a premium rating program made available by the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation (OBWC) and coordinated by Comp Management, Inc. This program provides a financial benefit for counties who promote a safe workplace and actively manage their workers' comp claims.

"Better outcomes for injured workers and for the county's bottom line is what participating in this CCAO workers' compensation program is all about," stated the Fairfield County Board of Commissioners President, Mike Kiger. "Joining the program came with some risk, as it could have led to an assessment if outcomes were not good. However, we believed in our management staff, our employees, and our consulting partners, and that has paid off," Kiger concluded.

Development of the employee driven Safety Committee is a major part of the success. The Safety Committee is composed of departmental representatives who maintain day-to-day safety and lead annual facility inspections. Implementation of a post injury, "return to work" program has also dramatically reduced the amount of work days missed due to accident or injury.

Overall, a heightened awareness of workplace safety by every County employee has improved safety and saved money. Workers' compensation savings to the county for the five years it has participated in this program is \$351,996.

For more information, contact Aundrea Cordle, Fairfield County Human Resources Director, at (740) 652-7890.

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