

CONTACT: Sarah Bascom PHONE: 850.294.6636 EMAIL: sarah@bascomllc.com

For Immediate Release Tuesday, August 18, 2015

Contact Sarah Bascom, <u>sarah@bascomllc.com</u>, 850.294.6636 Kristen Bridges, <u>kristen@bascomllc.com</u>, 850.545.1917

AIF Strategically Aligns with Florida's Leading Workers' Compensation Legal Team

Tallahassee, Fla. – <u>Associated Industries of Florida</u> (AIF) today announced its engagement of the law firm of <u>McConnaughhay, Duffy, Coonrod, Pope, Weaver, Stern & Thomas P.A.</u> to enhance the workers' compensation legal and industry expertise available to its members.

AIF has long been Florida's leading voice of the business community on workers' compensation in the halls of the Capitol, primarily through its Florida Workers' Compensation Coalition. Although premiums have been drastically lowered and the market has stabilized since 2003, recent threats to the system's success have materialized in the past several months leading many Florida employers to fear that skyrocketing medical costs and recent court challenges could spark the need for legislative changes in the foreseeable future.

"I am excited that our AIF members now undoubtedly have the best team to bridge an education gap between the workers' compensation industry and Florida's policymakers," said AIF President & CEO Tom Feeney. "If harmful court decisions or unbridled rate spikes necessitate future legislative reform, AIF's credibility and expertise in our advocacy efforts will be second to none with the decades of expertise and insight the leaders of the McConnaughhay firm bring."

"We are honored to partner with the AIF family and are excited to share our knowledge and experience with the Florida workers' compensation industry to our state's leaders," said James McConnaughhay, partner of the law firm of McConnaughhay, Duffy, Coonrod, Pope, Weaver, Stern & Thomas P.A. "Florida's employers and industry leaders have been our clients for decades, and we are thrilled that our alliance with AIF will now permit us to serve them as public advocates on many of the same issues we battle in the courtroom."

For more information on AIF's Florida Workers' Compensation Coalition, please contact AIF General Counsel Tammy Perdue at 850.224.7173 | <u>tperdue@aif.com</u> or visit <u>http://bit.ly/1HS4Dy8</u>. For more information on McConnaughhay, Duffy, Coonrod, Pope, Weaver, Stern & Thomas P.A., please visit <u>McConnaughhay.com</u>.

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