

COMMISSIONER OF SECURITIES & INSURANCE

MONICA J. LINDEEN
COMMISSIONER



OFFICE OF THE MONTANA
STATE AUDITOR

ADVISORY MEMORANDUM

To: Property and Casualty Insurance Carriers
From: Office of the Commissioner of Securities and Insurance,
Montana State Auditor (CSI)
Date: December 23, 2016

**RE: PREVAILING COMPETITIVE RATES FOR AUTOMOBILE BODY REPAIR
BUSINESSES IN LEWIS & CLARK COUNTY**

Pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. 33-19-222(1), "market price" means the:

- (a) Price agreed upon between the insurer and the business; or
- (b) Prevailing competitive rate that is reasonable and necessary in the local area where the repairs are to be performed.

The office of the Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, Montana State Auditor (CSI), recently conducted a survey of automobile body repair businesses located in Lewis and Clark County. For purposes of Mont. Code Ann. 33-19-222(1)(b), Lewis and Clark County is the local area.

Based on the survey, the following are the prevailing competitive hourly rates the CSI deems are reasonable and necessary in Lewis and Clark County as of the date of this advisory memorandum:

Body Labor	72	Aluminum Structural	111
Paint Labor	72	Mechanical Labor	83
Frame Labor	85	Glass Labor	78
Structural Labor	83	Paint and Materials	46
Aluminum Labor	99		

The CSI notes that these rates are set by the automobile body repair businesses and not the CSI. Therefore, they may be subject to change based on future surveys conducted by the CSI. For any questions, please contact the CSI Legal Bureau at (406) 444-2040.