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Arapahoe County receives high marks in recent safety review ***Risk Management programs save nearly \$2 million in lost wages and medical benefits***

MARCH 2004- Arapahoe County's Risk Management program outperformed other local governments and saved nearly \$2 million in lost wages and medical benefits, according to a recent safety report by Midwest Employers Casualty Company, the County's excess worker's compensation insurance carrier.

Midwest Employers Casualty Company analyzed Arapahoe County's performance between Jan. 1, 1999 and Dec. 31, 2003. According to the report, the County performed 42 percent better than its peers by having fewer and less expensive claims. Specifically, Arapahoe County is expected to incur \$2.16 million less in lost wages and medical benefits as compared to other local government during the same period of time. Arapahoe County is self-insured for the first \$400,000 of each claim and purchases insurance to cover any loss above \$400,000.

Risk Management provides ongoing safety training to Arapahoe County employees. The number of Arapahoe County employees attending safety training dramatically increased from 570 in 2000 to more than 2,900 in 2003. The classes cover a wide variety of topics, including Diabetes Awareness and Prevention, Stress Management, Health and Nutrition, Safe Driving, Ergonomics and West Nile Virus prevention, among others.

For more information about Arapahoe County's Risk Management program, contact Pat Skahill, Risk Manager, at 303-795-4573.
