# Citizens Advisor

ns**Advisor** 



# Citizens approves consolidation move to downtown Jacksonville

JACKSONVILLE, FL – Citizens Property Insurance Corporation's Board of Governors on Friday approved a contract to consolidate the company's information technology and other functions at the EverBank Center in downtown Jacksonville.

The move, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year, is expected to improve efficiencies and communication by bringing most Citizens employees together at a single site while reducing costs by up to \$13.4 million over the 10-year lease.

The plan calls for transferring approximately 130 positions from Tallahassee and 18 from Tampa to the EverBank Center. In addition, nearly 890 employees at four existing Jacksonville offices will be transitioned to the downtown site, where Citizens will occupy about 232,000 square feet.

The EverBank proposal was chosen over a handful of other bids, which were reviewed by a selection committee that made its recommendations in November. The lease cost is expected to be \$41.7 million over 10 years. The Department of Management Services has given pre-approval to Citizens for the lease.

"This move will allow us to bring our key people closer together while reducing operational costs incurred from being spread out across the state," said Citizens President, CEO and Executive Director Barry Gilway. "Our already dedicated employees will be in an even better position to serve the people of the state."

Once the move is completed, Citizens will continue to maintain one location each in Jacksonville, Tallahassee and Tampa.

February 10, 2015

**Events** 

March 18 @ 9 a.m. Board of Governors Meeting

#### Spotlight



Christine Ashburn Vice President— Communications, Legislative & External Affairs

<u>Bio</u>

#### **Policies in Force**

631, 930

as of January 30, 2015.

## **Citizens smallest it's been since 2003**

TALLAHASSEE, FL – Fair weather, successful depopulation efforts and a continually strengthening private market have combined to push Citizens Property Insurance Corporation's policy count to its lowest level in more than a decade.

As of January 31, Citizens' policy count sat at 631,930, its lowest level since February 2003. Citizens' exposure has also dropped significantly, from a high of nearly \$515 billion in November 2011 to \$197.2 billion at the end of January.

Citizens President, CEO and Executive Director Barry Gilway told lawmakers in January that the state's insurer of last resort has benefited from nine years without a major hurricane, a global appetite for affordable reinsurance and legislative changes that clarified coverage parameters, especially in the sinkhole arena.

As a result, Gilway said he expects Citizens to enter the 2015 hurricane season with enough surplus and reinsurance coverage to pay claims in the event of a 1-100 year storm without having to levy assessments on Florida policyholders as directed by state statute.

### Do You Know...

# **How Sinkholes Form**

Natural sinkholes occur from rainfall seeping through soil, absorbing carbon dioxide and creating acidic water that, over time, dissolves subsurface limestone, creating a network of underground cavities. Sinkholes form when the ground above these cavities collapse.

Man-made sinkholes can result from over withdrawal of groundwater, drilling new water wells, artificially creating ponds of surface water and the washing away of subsurface soil as a result of things such as water main breaks.

Source: St. Johns River Water Management District (www.floridaswater.com/watersupply/howsinkholesform.html)



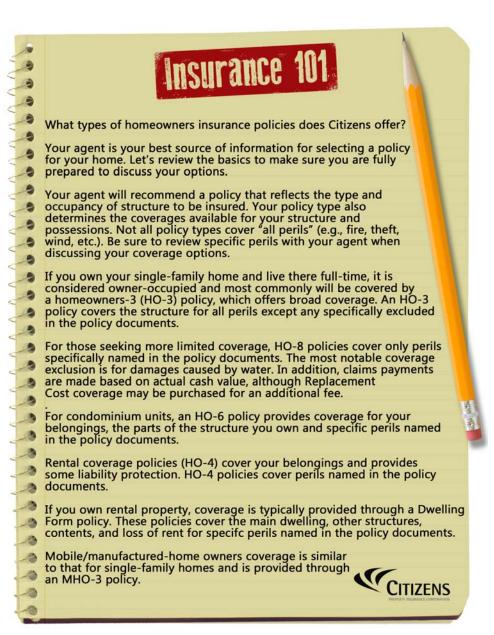
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