



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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# **Press Release**

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## **Mayor Partnering with Local State Delegation to Keep Middletown Workers' Compensation Office Open**

**Middletown**----Mayor Sebastian N. Giuliano continues to collaborate with the City's State Delegation to keep the State's Workers' Compensation office located on Court Street open for local residents, employers and employees. "Middletown is centrally located and the greater Middletown and Middlesex County areas are home of numerous employers and their workers that need to reach this office. To close it makes no sense." said Giuliano.

Giuliano is leading the fight to save the office in the face of State budget cuts and legislative proposals to consolidate the Workers' Compensation office system. Giuliano has written to Governor Jodi M. Rell on the issue and plans to press Middletown's state delegation to do all they can to preserve the office. "If you sustain a workers' compensation injury, the last thing you want to do is travel a long distance to go to a hearing. In addition, you don't want to wait six months to get a hearing. The Middletown office puts this important state service within reach of those it is supposed to serve. Closing the office will only make life more difficult for employers and workers." said Giuliano.

The Mayor also added, "Sometimes the state acts to save dollars but in the long run the move makes little sense and may prove to be more costly. I think that is the case here. Any short term savings will get eaten up by long term burdens created on everyone involved in a claim. Ultimately, I think you'll hear a clamor to reinstate the Middletown Office if it does, in fact, close. So in the end you'll spend twice the money. The best fiscal plan is to leave things as they are with an office in Middletown."