



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION**

Administrative Law Judges
Stephen M. Morelli, Chairperson
Scott A. Barton
Peter C. Mlynarczyk
Jodi Murray Gregg
Daniel E. Dilzer
David W. Schoolcraft
Brenda D. Jannotta
Carolyn M. Colangelo
William J. Watson III
Maureen E. Driscoll
Pedro E. Segarra
Toni M. Fatone
Soline M. Oslena
Zachary M. Delaney
Shanique D. Fenlator
Benjamin Blake

Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Workers' Compensation Commission Advisory Board was held on June 3, 2024, in the Workers' Compensation Commission's CRB Hearing Room, 21 Oak Street, Hartford, Connecticut. The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. with the following Board Members present: Chairperson Michael Riley, presiding; Brooke Foley, Ross Hollander, Gregory B. Nokes, Robert Ziobrowski and Kyle Zimmer.

Present from the Workers' Compensation Commission were Chairperson Stephen Morelli, Marie Gallo-Hall, and Richard Eighme.

I. Opening Remarks

Chairperson Riley convened the meeting and welcomed everyone present.

II. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the March 4, 2024, advisory board meeting were reviewed and approved.

III. Commission Data Review

The Commission provided the Advisory Board annual data on the number of hearings held, first reports of injury received, claims created, and forms processed. Members discussed the data and importance of continuing to monitor trends in the workers' compensation system.

IV. WCC Chairperson's Update

• Form Updates

Chairperson Morelli discussed the following changes to WCC forms which would be effective June 14, 2024:

- Form 30C would be updated with "Check, if Firefighter Cancer Claim pursuant to C.G.S. Chapter 568" and "Check, if Firefighter Cancer Claim pursuant to C.G.S. Section 7-313p" to help WCC better track Firefighter Cancer claims pursuant to [Public Act No. 22-139](#). Language on Post Traumatic Stress Injuries would also be updated to reflect such injuries are pursuant to C.G.S. Section 31-294k.

- Form 30D would be updated with “Check, if Firefighter Cancer Claim pursuant to C.G.S. Chapter 568” and “Check, if Firefighter Cancer Claim pursuant to C.G.S. Section 7-313p” to help WCC better track Firefighter Cancer claims pursuant to [Public Act No. 22-139](#).
- Hearing Request Form would be updated to allow the option for an email address to be added under the Injured Worker section.
- Voluntary Agreement Form would be updated with “Check, if C.G.S. Sec. 5-142” to help WCC better identify wage calculations which are pursuant to C.G.S. [Sec. 5-142](#).
- WCR-1: Rehabilitation Request Form would be updated with options to either fax or email the form to Rehabilitation Services in addition to mailing or submitting the form in-person. An optional line would also be added for applicants to add their email address.

Chairperson Morelli announced that a new form would also be available effective June 14, 2024, titled Indemnity Only Stipulation and What it Means.

- **Upcoming Memorandums**

Chairperson Morelli discussed two memorandums being drafted regarding the inclusion of wage statements for Voluntary Agreements and the establishment of a maximum fee allowed for causation opinion or PPD Rating on a denied claim.

- **Personnel Matters**

Chairperson Morelli provided an update on the agency’s personnel including that Judge Segarra was appointed as a Judicial Judge and WCC would be hiring a paralegal for the New Haven Office.

- **Legislative Session**

Chairman Morelli announced that Judge Toni Fatone was reappointed during the 2024 Legislative Session. Agency Legal Director, Marie Gallo-Hall, and Brooke Foley discussed proposed legislation and two bills that passed during the session.

- **Information Technology and Modernization**

Chairperson Morelli, Marie Gallo-Hall, and Manager of Research and Planning, Rich Eighme, provided updates on information technology matters including:

- The development and deployment of an update which would allow for WCC’s claim management system to automatically link certain workers’ compensation claims.
- The success of the GovQA information request system which WCC has used to complete over 4,000 requests since September 15, 2023.
- WCC’s work on procuring a service to receive certain claim forms electronically.
- WCC’s work on a SharePoint site dedicated to providing WCC employees resources and information in one convenient location.

V. Other Business

- **Discussion on Public Hearing for 2025**

Chairperson Morelli announced that Judge Soline Oslena would be the only Administrative Law Judge up for reappointment in 2025 with Judge Scott Barton deciding to not seek another term. Members decided the Public Hearing on the Reappointment of Judge Soline Oslena would be held during the September 9, 2024, advisory board meeting.

VI. Adjournment

Members briefly discussed the need to fill the two vacancies of the board.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.