

**OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN**  
Workers' Compensation Commission  
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**Commissioners**  
Stephen M. Morelli, Chairman  
Charles F. Senich  
Michelle D. Truglia  
Scott A. Barton  
Peter C. Mlynarczyk  
Randy L. Cohen  
Jodi Murray Gregg  
Daniel E. Dilzer  
David W. Schoolcraft  
Thomas J. Mullins  
Brenda D. Jannotta  
Carolyn M. Colangelo  
William J. Watson III  
Maureen A. Driscoll  
Pedro E. Segarra  
Toni M. Fatone

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION**

**Commissioners' Meeting Minutes**

Friday, March 1, 2019

9:30 AM – Office of the Chairman

The following Commissioners were in attendance:

Stephen M. Morelli, Chairman, Charles F. Senich, Michelle D. Truglia, Scott A. Barton, Peter C. Mlynarczyk, Daniel E. Dilzer, David W. Schoolcraft, Brenda D. Jannotta, , William J. Watson III, Maureen A. Driscoll and Toni M. Fatone.

The following Workers' Compensation Commission staff was in attendance:

Nancy Bonuomo, Madeleine Lemieux, Terri Miro and Richard Eighme.

Also present was Caroline Benoint of Thomson Reuters.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Stephen M. Morelli at 9:34 AM.

**I. Introductions**

Chairman Morelli welcomed everyone present.

**II. Items for Review:**

**1. Westlaw Training**

Caroline Benoint of Thomson Reuters provided a presentation to the Commissioners on the services that are available through Westlaw.

**2. Stipulation Language**

Chairman Morelli announced that MSA language in stipulations had been discussed with Legal Advisory Panel on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Commissioners discussed the different options available with the language. Chairman Morelli explained that there was a previous committee that had met to discuss the language. The committee will be reconvening and the Chairman will keep the Commissioners updated and informed.

### **3. Worker Status**

Chairman Morelli explained that in the circumstances of an undocumented worker and/ or the illegal use of social security number a Commissioner may report the instance to the Chairman who would forward it to the Office of the State Attorney.

### **4. List of Psychiatrists/Psychologists**

Chairman Morelli stated that Terri Miro is making good progress on putting together a list of Psychiatrists and Psychologists who will treat workers' compensation patients. The list should be completed soon.

### **5. Pain Consortium/ RetainCT**

Chairman Morelli discussed a meeting with the Pain Consortium that had taken place two days earlier and identified what the goals of the group would be in relation to the treatment of pain. The Chairman also talked about the RetainCT initiative, which is led by the DOL and focuses on quickly and effectively returning injured employees to work.

### **6. Medical Marijuana**

Chairman Morelli discussed the use of medical marijuana for the treatment of chronic pain in workers' compensation claims, and the conflict of Connecticut's law with Federal law.

### **7. Computer System Update**

Chairman Morelli provided an update on the computer system upgrade and discussed whether Commissioners would prefer a desktop or laptop as the Commission receives new equipment.

### **8. Staff Changes**

Chairman Morelli discussed upcoming retirements and new hires. He discussed the two positions the Commission is currently seeking to fill.

### **9. Budget/Legislative Update**

Chairman Morelli announced that Commissioners Fatone and Segarra were renominated by the Governor and had hearings before the Judiciary Committee. He shared that the Governor's Budget did not propose closing any District Offices and shared a copy of HB 7241, AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR AND TECHNICAL CHANGES TO THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT. HB 7241 contains the Commission's 4 legislative proposals and will have a public hearing on Tuesday March 5<sup>th</sup>.

## **III. Other Business and Adjournment**

Chairman Morelli announced that the next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on June 7, 2019 at 9:30 AM in the Office of the Chairman.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 AM.