

CHAPTER 235

RULES OF THE DIVISION OF WORKERS COMPENSATION

Authority

N.J.S.A. 34:1-20, 34:1A-3(e), 34:1A-12(b), (c) and 34:15-64.

Source and Effective Date

R.1996 d.184, effective March 11, 1996. See: 28 N.J.R. 790(a), 28 N.J.R. 1859(a).

Executive Order No. 66(1978) Expiration Date

Chapter 235, Rules of the Division of Workers Compensation, expires on March 11, 2001.

Chapter Historical Note

All provisions of Chapter 235 became effective prior to September 1, 1969.

1971 Revisions: Amendments became effective January 1, 1971 as R.1970 d.99. See: 2 N.J.R. 75(c).

1972 Revisions: Amendments became effective January 1, 1972 as R.1971 d.140. See: 3 N.J.R. 180(a).

1973 Revisions: Amendments became effective January 1, 1973 as R.1972 d.159. See: 4 N.J.R. 222(a).

1974 Revisions: Amendments became effective January 1, 1974 as R.1973 d.218. See: 5 N.J.R. 316(b).

1975 Revisions: Amendments became effective January 1, 1975 as R.1974 d.235. See: 6 N.J.R. 352(c). Further amendments became effective March 24, 1975 as R.1975 d.43. See: 7 N.J.R. 61(b), 7 N.J.R. 169(a).

1976 Revisions: Amendments became effective January 1, 1976 as R.1975 d.252. See: 7 N.J.R. 433(a).

1977 Revisions: Amendments became effective January 1, 1977 as R.1976 d.256. See: 8 N.J.R. 424(a). Further amendments became effective October 26, 1977 as R.1977 d.406. See: 9 N.J.R. 537(b).

1978 Revisions: Amendments became effective January 1, 1978 as R.1977 d.296. See: 9 N.J.R. 439(a).

1979 Revisions: Amendments became effective January 1, 1979 as R.1978 d.283. See: 10 N.J.R. 400(c).

1980 Revisions: Amendments became effective January 1, 1980 as R.1979 d.319. See: 11 N.J.R. 449(b).

1981 Revisions: Amendments became effective January 1, 1981 as R.1980 d.357. See: 12 N.J.R. 543(d).

1982 Revisions: Amendments became effective January 1, 1982 as R.1981 d.420. See: 13 N.J.R. 604(c), 13 N.J.R. 777(d). Further amendments became effective November 1, 1982 (operative January 1, 1983) as R.1982 d.380. See: 14 N.J.R. 970(b), 14 N.J.R. 1219(c).

1983 Revisions: Amendments became effective November 21, 1983 (operative January 1, 1984) as R.1983 d.520. See: 15 N.J.R. 1437(a), 15 N.J.R. 1945(a). Further amendments became effective November 21, 1983 (operative January 1, 1984) as R.1983 d.520. See: 15 N.J.R. 1437(a), 15 N.J.R. 1945(a).

1984 Revisions: Amendments became effective November 5, 1984 as R.1984 d.522. See: 16 N.J.R. 2346(a), 16 N.J.R. 3054(a).

1985 Revisions: Amendments became effective November 4, 1985 (operative January 1, 1986) as R.1985 d.541. See: 17 N.J.R. 2090(a), 17 N.J.R. 2668(b).

1986 Revisions: Chapter 235 was repealed and a new Chapter 235, Rules of the Division of Workers Compensation, was adopted effective May 5, 1986 as R.1986 d.144. See: 17 N.J.R. 2081(a), 18 N.J.R. 987(a). Amendments became effective November 17, 1986 as R.1986 d.455. See: 18 N.J.R. 1788(b), 18 N.J.R. 2331(d).

1987 Revisions: Amendments became effective November 16, 1987 as R.1987 d.472. See: 19 N.J.R. 1624(a), 19 N.J.R. 2197(a).

1988 Revisions: Subchapter 13, Surcharge Collection Procedures, was adopted as new rules by R.1988 d.586, effective December 19, 1988. See: 20 N.J.R. 2522(a), 20 N.J.R. 3139(a).

1989 Revisions: Sections 3.11 through 3.18 were repealed and new rules were adopted for sections 3.11 through 3.23, effective January 3, 1989 as R.1989 d.24. See: 20 N.J.R. 2442(c), 21 N.J.R. 23(a).

1990 Revisions: N.J.A.C. 12:235-3.11 through 3.23 were invalidated by the N.J. Superior Court, Appellate Division (see 23 N.J.R. 207(a)). Subchapter 14, Uninsured Employer's Fund, was adopted as new rules by R.1990 d.338, effective July 2, 1990. See: 22 N.J.R. 3852(a), 22 N.J.R. 2023(a).

1991 Revisions: Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 235 was readopted by R.1991 d.275, effective May 3, 1991. See: 23 N.J.R. 834(a), 23 N.J.R. 1819(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 235 was readopted as R.1996 d.184, effective March 11, 1996. See: Source and Effective Date.

CHAPTER TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 12:235-1.1 Purpose; scope
12:235-1.2 Construction
12:235-1.3 Certification in lieu of oath
12:235-1.4 through 12:235-1.5 (Reserved)
12:235-1.6 Maximum workers' compensation benefit rates
12:235-1.7 through 12:235-1.8 (Reserved)

SUBCHAPTER 2. DEFINITIONS

- 12:235-2.1 Definitions

SUBCHAPTER 3. CONDUCT OF JUDGES OF COMPENSATION

- 12:235-3.1 Promptness
12:235-3.2 Courtesy and civility
12:235-3.3 Conduct of attorneys
12:235-3.4 Conduct of witnesses and others having business before the court
12:235-3.5 Kinship or influence: disqualification
12:235-3.6 Conflict of interest
12:235-3.7 Partisan politics
12:235-3.8 Self-interest
12:235-3.9 Gifts and favors
12:235-3.10 Medical reports
12:235-3.11 Commission on Judicial Performance
12:235-3.12 Removal from office
12:235-3.13 Prosecution of removal proceedings
12:235-3.14 Suspension pending resolution of the proceeding
12:235-3.15 Right to counsel
12:235-3.16 Formal proceedings for removal, suspension or reprimand, public or private
12:235-3.17 Informal proceedings for minor discipline
12:235-3.18 Forms of discipline other than removal
12:235-3.19 Confidentiality

12:235-3.20 Judicial independence

SUBCHAPTER 4. ASSIGNMENT AND SUPERVISION OF JUDGES OF COMPENSATION

12:235-4.1 Assignment of judges
12:235-4.2 Assignment to supervisory positions
12:235-4.3 Personnel functions

SUBCHAPTER 5. FORMAL CLAIMS

12:235-5.1 Initial pleadings
12:235-5.2 Motions for temporary disability and/or medical benefits
12:235-5.3 Other motions
12:235-5.4 Third-party joinder by respondent
12:235-5.5 Conditions allowable for discovery
12:235-5.6 Discovery
12:235-5.7 Testimony of injured or ill petitioner by depositions
12:235-5.8 Certification of pre-existing conditions
12:235-5.9 Pre-trial conference
12:235-5.10 Conduct of formal hearings
12:235-5.11 Interpreters
12:235-5.12 Enforcement of orders

SUBCHAPTER 6. INFORMAL HEARINGS

12:235-6.1 Purpose of informal hearings
12:235-6.2 Filing of an application for an informal hearing
12:235-6.3 Contents of the application
12:235-6.4 Scheduling of informal hearings
12:235-6.5 Attendance at hearing
12:235-6.6 Representative of employer or carrier
12:235-6.7 Registration of representatives for employers or carriers
12:235-6.8 Representation of claimant
12:235-6.9 Solicitation of compensation claims
12:235-6.10 Procedure where employer has no insurance
12:235-6.11 Allowance of attorney fees
12:235-6.12 Commencement of informal hearings
12:235-6.13 Determination of issues
12:235-6.14 Acceptance of settlement recommendations and entry of informal award
12:235-6.15 Fee for service of physician
12:235-6.16 Denial of compensability or refusal to accept findings of informal hearings
12:235-6.17 Failure of employer or carrier to appear
12:235-6.18 Adjournment
12:235-6.19 (Reserved)

SUBCHAPTER 7. SECOND INJURY FUND CASES

12:235-7.1 General procedure
12:235-7.2 Hearing
12:235-7.3 Payment of benefits
12:235-7.4 Filing

SUBCHAPTER 8. COMMUTATION OF AWARD

12:235-8.1 Application for commutation
12:235-8.2 Application form for commutation
12:235-8.3 Approval or disapproval of application for commutation

SUBCHAPTER 9. DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS

12:235-9.1 Filing discrimination complaints
12:235-9.2 Contents of discrimination complaints
12:235-9.3 Attachments to discrimination complaints
12:235-9.4 Investigation of discrimination complaints; appeal procedures
12:235-9.5 (Reserved)

SUBCHAPTER 10. ACCIDENT REPORTS

12:235-10.1 Employer's first report of accidental injury or occupational disease
12:235-10.2 Employer's second report of accidental injury or occupational disease

12:235-10.3 Insurer's initial notice of accident
12:235-10.4 Insurer's final report of accident
12:235-10.5 Report of death
12:235-10.6 Compliance with N.J.S.A. 34:15-96 through N.J.S.A. 34:15-102

SUBCHAPTER 11. SURCHARGE COLLECTION PROCEDURES

12:235-11.1 Purpose and scope
12:235-11.2 Definitions
12:235-11.3 Reporting compensation paid
12:235-11.4 Calculation and notification of surcharge
12:235-11.5 Surcharge collection procedure
12:235-11.6 Verification and audit procedures
12:235-11.7 Earned premium notification
12:235-11.8 Forms
12:235-11.9 Penalties

SUBCHAPTER 12. UNINSURED EMPLOYER'S FUND

12:235-12.1 Purpose; scope
12:235-12.2 Filing notice of an uninsured claim; personal service; third-party joinder
12:235-12.3 Certification
12:235-12.4 Medical bills; physician's examination
12:235-12.5 Assignment of cases; schedules
12:235-12.6 Payments from the UEF
12:235-12.7 Attorney fees

SUBCHAPTER 13. ENFORCEMENT AND COLLECTION OF NON-INSURANCE PENALTIES

12:235-13.1 General
12:235-13.2 Notice and demand for proof of coverage
12:235-13.3 Acceptable proofs
12:235-13.4 Failure to respond
12:235-13.5 Hearings
12:235-13.6 Payments

SUBCHAPTER 14. STANDARD FORMS

12:235-14.1 Listing of forms
12:235-14.2 Sample forms

SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

12:235-1.1 Purpose; scope

(a) The purpose of this chapter is to establish rules to carry out the responsibilities of the Division of Workers' Compensation under the Act.

(b) This chapter shall apply to all persons subject to Workers' Compensation Law, N.J.S.A. 34:15-7 et seq.

Amended by R.1991 d.466, effective September 3, 1991.
See: 23 N.J.R. 1759(a), 23 N.J.R. 2642(a).

Title and citation repealed; purpose recodified from 1.3; scope recodified from 1.4.

Amended by R.1997 d.110, effective March 3, 1997.

See: 28 N.J.R. 4067(a), 29 N.J.R. 799(a).

In (a), amended N.J.S.A. reference.

Case Notes

Workers' Compensation Court lacked jurisdiction to act on cases where petitioners were covered under Longshore and Harbor Workers' Act. *Morin v. Universal Maritime*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 46.

Employee's continuing psychiatric treatment for pre-existing mental condition aggravated by work-related injury. *Flaherty v. Monmouth Sailing Center, Inc.*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 166.

Lumbosacral strain and left lumbar radiculopathy resulting from compensable accident equaled 40% of permanent partial disability, and claimant suffered from anxiety reaction to extent of 10% of permanent partial disability. *Wielgosz v. Ortho Diagnostics*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 163.

Mechanic was employee of owner of repair shop. *Breeden v. Dawson Automotive, Inc.*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 156.

Cancer and death were caused by exposure to carcinogens during the course of employment. *Rodriguez v. Sherwin Williams Paint Co.*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 153.

Receptionist/bookkeeper was entitled to psychiatric treatment, temporary disability benefits, and permanent disability as result of derisive and abusive language and behavior by owners. *Erhard v. Dee Rose Furniture of Brick Town Inc.*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 146.

Drywall finisher was employee rather than an independent contractor and accident arose out of and in course of employment. *Lopez v. P & B Partitions*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 143.

Temporarily disabled employee could not receive both unemployment benefits and disability compensation at the same time. *Khalil v. Revlon, Incorporated*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 135.

12:235-1.2 Construction

The rules contained in this chapter shall be construed to secure a just determination, simplicity in procedure, fairness in administration and the elimination of unjustifiable expense and delay. Unless otherwise stated, any rule may be relaxed or dispensed with if strict adherence would cause an injustice.

Amended by R.1991 d.466, effective September 3, 1991.
See: 23 N.J.R. 1759(a), 23 N.J.R. 2642(a).

Authority deleted; construction recodified from 1.5.

Case Notes

Penalty for late filing of unemployment compensation returns was warranted on basis of postmark found on envelope. *Star Crest v. Department of Labor*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (LBR) 17.

12:235-1.3 Certification in lieu of oath

Claim petitions and answers shall be notarized and filed under oath as set forth in N.J.S.A. 34:15-51 and 34:15-52. Certifications in lieu of oath as provided in the Rules of Court may be used for motions and any other supporting documents filed with the Court.

New Rule, R.1997 d.110, effective March 3, 1997.
See: 28 N.J.R. 4067(a), 29 N.J.R. 799(a).

12:235-1.4 through 12:235-1.5 (Reserved)

12:235-1.6 Maximum workers' compensation benefit rates

(a) In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 34:15-12(a), the maximum workers' compensation benefit rate for temporary disability, permanent total disability, permanent partial disability, and dependency is hereby promulgated as being \$539.00 per week.

(b) The maximum compensation shall be effective as to injuries occurring in the calendar year 1999.

Amended by R.1986 d.455, effective November 17, 1986.
See: 18 N.J.R. 1788(b), 18 N.J.R. 2331(d).

Benefit rates raised.

Amended by R.1987 d.472, effective November 16, 1987.
See: 19 N.J.R. 1624(a), 19 N.J.R. 2197(a).

Benefit rate raised from \$302.00 to \$320.00.

Amended by R.1988 d.536, effective November 7, 1988.
See: 20 N.J.R. 2188(a), 20 N.J.R. 2786(b).

Benefit rate raised from \$320.00 to \$342.00.

Amended by R.1989 d.563, effective November 6, 1989.
See: 21 N.J.R. 2700(a), 21 N.J.R. 3535(a).

Weekly benefit rates increased to \$370.00 for the 1990 calendar year.

Amended by R.1990 d.596, effective December 3, 1990.
See: 22 N.J.R. 2886(a), 22 N.J.R. 3628(a).

Weekly benefit rates increased to \$385.00 for the 1991 calendar year.

Repealed by R.1991 d.466, effective September 3, 1991.
See: 23 N.J.R. 1759(a), 23 N.J.R. 2642(a).

Section was "Workers' compensation benefits rates".

New Rule, R.1991 d.574, effective December 16, 1991.
See: 23 N.J.R. 2612(a), 23 N.J.R. 3818(a).

Amended by R.1992 d.467, effective November 16, 1992.
See: 24 N.J.R. 3015(a), 24 N.J.R. 4270(a).

Revised text.

Amended by R.1993 d.591, effective November 15, 1993.
See: 25 N.J.R. 3925(a), 25 N.J.R. 5352(b).

Amended by R.1994 d.553, effective November 7, 1994.
See: 26 N.J.R. 3594(b), 26 N.J.R. 4410(b).

Amended by R.1995 d.627, effective December 4, 1995.
See: 27 N.J.R. 3762(a), 27 N.J.R. 4898(b).

Amended by R.1996 d.516, effective November 4, 1996.
See: 28 N.J.R. 4077(a), 28 N.J.R. 4794(a).

Amended by R.1997 d.469, effective November 3, 1997.
See: 29 N.J.R. 3770(a), 29 N.J.R. 4704(a).

In (a), changed the benefit rate; and in (b), substituted "1998" for "1997".

Amended by R.1998 d.549, effective November 16, 1998.
See: 30 N.J.R. 3154(a), 30 N.J.R. 4054(a).

In (a), raised benefit rate for temporary disability from \$516.00 to \$539.00 per week; and in (b), changed calendar year to 1999.

12:235-1.7 through 12:235-1.8 (Reserved)

SUBCHAPTER 2. DEFINITIONS

12:235-2.1 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

"Act" means Workers' Compensation Law, N.J.S.A. 34:15-7 et seq.

"Chief Judge" means the Director/Chief Judge of the Division.

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Labor or his or her designee.

"Director" means Director/Chief Judge of the division.

“Division” means the Division of Workers’ Compensation, PO Box 381, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0381.

“Judge” means Judge of Compensation.

“N.J.A.C.” means New Jersey Administrative Code.

“N.J.S.A.” means New Jersey Statutes Annotated.

“Office of Safety Compliance” means the Office of Safety Compliance, in the Division of Workplace Standards, New Jersey Department of Labor, PO Box 386, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0386.

“Respondent,” “employer” or “insurance carrier” are used interchangeably.

Amended by R.1991 d.466, effective September 3, 1991.
See: 23 N.J.R. 1759(a), 23 N.J.R. 2642(a).

Definition of Chief Judge added; definition of “shall” deleted.
Amended by R.1997 d.110, effective March 3, 1997.

See: 28 N.J.R. 4067(a), 29 N.J.R. 799(a).

Added “Judge” and amended “Act”, “Chief Judge”, and “Director”.

SUBCHAPTER 3. CONDUCT OF JUDGES OF COMPENSATION

12:235-3.1 Promptness

(a) Judges of Compensation shall be prompt in the performance of all duties, including, but not limited to:

1. Convening hearings at the time and in the manner established by the Director.
2. Completing final disposition of cases; and
3. Completing and forwarding to the Director at regular intervals performance records and other data relating to judicial performance in a manner established by the Director.

Amended by R.1991 d.466, effective September 3, 1991.
See: 23 N.J.R. 1759(a), 23 N.J.R. 2642(a).

Manner of hearing and submission of data to be specified by the Director.

12:235-3.2 Courtesy and civility

(a) Judges of Compensation shall be impartial and courteous to parties, counsel, and all others appearing or concerned with the administration of justice in the court.

(b) Judges of Compensation shall require, so far as their power extends, that those individuals assisting the Judge in the administration of the function of the court extend the same civility and courtesy to counsel and all others having business in the court.

(c) The conduct of a Judge of Compensation shall be free from impropriety and the appearance of impropriety. Their personal demeanor, not only on the bench and in the performance of their judicial duties, but also in their everyday life, shall be beyond reproach. Judges shall be temperate, attentive, patient, and impartial.

Amended by R.1991 d.466, effective September 3, 1991.
See: 23 N.J.R. 1759(a), 23 N.J.R. 2642(a).
Stylistic changes.

12:235-3.3 Conduct of attorneys

(a) Attorneys shall conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times, as defined by the Rules of Professional Conduct.

(b) Judges of Compensation shall report to the Supervising Judge and Director all instances of attorney conduct in contravention of the Rules of Professional Conduct.

Amended by R.1991 d.466, effective September 3, 1991.
See: 23 N.J.R. 1759(a), 23 N.J.R. 2642(a).
Reference to Rules of Professional Conduct added.

12:235-3.4 Conduct of witnesses and others having business before the court

(a) Witnesses and others having business before the court shall conduct themselves in a proper manner.

(b) Judges of Compensation shall report to the Supervising Judge and Director all instances of improper, unethical or illegal practices by any expert witness, interpreter, court reporter, or party before the Judge.

Amended by R.1991 d.466, effective September 3, 1991.
See: 23 N.J.R. 1759(a), 23 N.J.R. 2642(a).
Conduct of witnesses and others specified.

12:235-3.5 Kinship or influence: disqualification

(a) Judges of Compensation shall not act upon or hear a controversy, or a portion thereof where a relative of the Judge or the Judge’s spouse within the third degree of relationship to either is a party before the Judge.

(b) If a relative of the Judge or the Judge’s spouse within the third degree of relationship to either, former partner, business associate, or personal friend is scheduled to appear before a Judge of Compensation, the Judge shall disqualify himself or herself from hearing the matter and promptly notify the Supervising Judge and the Director for rescheduling of the matter.

(c) Judges of Compensation shall disqualify themselves from all other matters in which they are unable to conduct a fair and unbiased hearing.

Amended by R.1991 d.466, effective September 3, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 1759(a), 23 N.J.R. 2642(a).
Stylistic changes.

12:235-3.6 Conflict of interest

(a) Judges of Compensation shall not:

1. Engage in any activity which requires the performance of duties inconsistent with their position of authority; or
2. Incur any obligation, pecuniary or otherwise, which would in any way interfere or appear to interfere with their duty to effectuate the proper administration of their official functions.

8. Vague or evasive pleadings may be stricken or a claim petition dismissed without prejudice on motion brought by a party or the Judge of Compensation on notice. Claim petitions which merely describe the injury or illness by generic definition, such as orthopedic, internal, neuropsychiatric or similar terms without description of the particular injury shall be considered vague or evasive.

(b) Answers to a claim petition shall be subject to the following:

1. The answer of the respondent to a claim petition shall be on a form prescribed by the Division and shall, if known, contain the following:

- i. The name and address of the respondent's attorney;
- ii. The name and address of the carrier;
- iii. The carrier's claim number;
- iv. The employer's State registration number;
- v. An admission or denial of employment;
- vi. An admission or denial if accident or illness arose out of and in the course of employment;
- vii. Gross weekly wage;
- viii. Benefit rates;
- ix. Medical providers;
- x. Temporary disability paid, if any; and
- xi. An admission or denial of jurisdiction.

2. The answer shall be filed with the office to which the claim is assigned within 30 days of the date of service of the petition except for good cause shown. A copy of the answer shall be served on the petitioner's attorney simultaneously. The filing and service of the answer may be made by first class mail, or its equivalent. The answer may be prepared by the attorney for the respondent based upon knowledge, information or belief and shall be regarded as his or her certification of its contents without the necessity of an affidavit.

3. If the answer is not filed as specified in (b)1 and 2 above, the Judge of Compensation to whom the case is assigned may, on motion, either suppress the defenses and permit the petitioner to prove his or her case, or permit the filing of the answer on such terms as may be fixed in the discretion of the Judge of Compensation.

4. If the respondent knowingly files an incomplete or inaccurate answer or unnecessarily delays filing an answer, such circumstances shall be considered in the apportionment of any counsel fee awarded.

5. Answers which put petitioner to proofs without conforming with (b)1 and 2 above may be stricken and subject to the penalties pursuant to N.J.A.C. 12:235-5.12.

Amended by R.1991 d.466, effective September 3, 1991.

See: 23 N.J.R. 1759(a), 23 N.J.R. 2642(a).

Fee reduction provision at (a)2 allows \$200 or 15%.

Amended by R.1997 d.110, effective March 3, 1997.

See: 28 N.J.R. 4067(a), 29 N.J.R. 799(a).

In (a)1, inserted first sentence; made former (a)2 into the last sentence of (a)1; added (a)2 through (a)8; recodified portion of (b) as (b)2 and in (b) added "and shall if known, contain the following:"; inserted (b)1i through (b)1xi; recodified former (b)2 and (b)3 as (b)3 and (b)4; in (b)2, deleted reference to filing with the assignment clerk, and inserted "except for good cause shown"; in (b)3, inserted reference to (b)2; and added (b)5.

Case Notes

Former N.J.A.C. 12:235-4.2 required a complaint to contain a complete, accurate description of each and every injury alleged; multiple, separate injuries arising out of the same accident were to be compensated cumulatively under a revised schedule of payments that increased weekly awards as the percentage of disability increased. *Poswiatowski v. Standard Chlorine Chemical Co.*, 96 N.J. 321, 475 A.2d 1257 (1984).

Lack of proper certification did not preclude acceptance of employee's claim petition when employer acted thereon with notice. *Michaels v. Vernon Board*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 1.

12:235-5.2 Motions for temporary disability and/or medical benefits

(a) In all motions by the petitioner for temporary disability or medical benefits, the original notice of motion shall be filed with the district office to which the case is assigned and a copy of the notice of motion and claim petition served by certified mail or personal service on the attorneys of record. If the attorney of record is unknown, then service shall be made by certified mail on the respondent(s) and its carrier(s). If it is a new claim petition, then the notice of motion shall also be filed with the central office.

(b) The notice of motion for temporary disability or medical benefits shall be on a form prescribed by the Division and shall contain:

1. A detailed account of compensable lost time claimed by the petitioner, indicating any period paid by the respondent;

2. Affidavits or certifications made in personal knowledge by the petitioner, petitioner's attorney and report(s) of a physician(s) stating the medical diagnosis and the specific type of treatment being sought, and, if available, an itemized bill and report of the treating physicians or institutions or both for which services past, present and future, petitioner is seeking payment and such other evidence as shall relate to the petitioner's claim for temporary disability and/or medical treatment; and

3. If the petitioner, having received treatment, cannot secure a report of the medical provider authorized by the respondent, it shall be set forth in the affidavit in lieu of the physician's report.

(c) If an attorney for the petitioner knowingly files an incomplete, inaccurate or misleading notice of motion for temporary disability and/or medical benefits, or an attorney for the respondent files an untimely, incomplete, inaccurate

or misleading answer, the attorney may be assessed a penalty in accordance with N.J.A.C. 12:235-5.12.

(d) Except for good cause shown, respondent(s) shall file an answer within 21 days of service of the motion or within 30 days after service of claim petition whichever is later.

(e) When the Division has received a notice of motion for temporary disability and/or medical benefits filed in accordance with (a), (b) and (c) above, it shall list the motion for a hearing before a Judge of Compensation peremptorily within 30 days of the filing of the motion. Motions for medical and/or temporary benefits shall commence and continue in a timely manner subject to the scheduling constraints of the Division. Said scheduling may be accelerated as ordered by the Director, the Supervising Judge of the vicinage, or the Judge of Compensation to whom the case is assigned.

(f) Affidavits, certifications and medical reports submitted in accordance with (b) above in support of the motion may constitute a prima facie case and may be sufficient basis for the issuance of an order compelling the respondent to provide the relief sought unless respondent files supporting affidavits or certifications to oppose said motion on a legal or factual basis, or files medical reports if there is a medical basis to oppose said motion. No order shall be issued until 30 days after service of the claim petition.

(g) Examination, if required by respondent, shall be completed within 30 days of receipt of the motion and the report issued in not more than 35 days from receipt of the motion and shall not delay the start of the hearing of the motion except for good cause shown.

(h) On conclusion of the hearing on the motion for temporary and/or medical benefits, the Judge of Compensation shall, within 15 days, render a final decision on the motion and notify the respective counsel of the decision. In computing the 15 days' time, the 15 days shall be from the last day of hearing or from the date of filing of briefs as ordered by the Judge, whichever is later. Under no circumstances shall briefs be filed later than 15 days after the hearing.

Amended by R.1991 d.466, effective September 3, 1991.
See: 23 N.J.R. 1759(a), 23 N.J.R. 2642(a).

Penalty assessment increased from \$50 to \$200; Physician's reports allowed; scheduling requirements added at (d).

Amended by R.1997 d.110, effective March 3, 1997.
See: 28 N.J.R. 4067(a), 29 N.J.R. 799(a).

In (a), provided that service of notice and be made to the attorneys of record rather than on parties and be made by certified mail or personal service; inserted (b)3; in (c), inserted reference to filing of untimely, incomplete, inaccurate or misleading answer and amended the penalty reference; inserted new (d) and (f); deleted (e) and recodified former (d), (f), and (g) as (e), (g), and (h); and in (g), provided for issuance of report and inserted "except for good cause shown".

Case Notes

Proceeding before Division of Workers' Compensation, rather than before Law Division, was injured worker's exclusive remedy. *Cortes v. Interboro Mut. Indem. Ins. Co.*, 232 N.J.Super. 519, 557 A.2d 1019 (A.D.1988), affirmed 115 N.J. 190, 557 A.2d 1001.

Documents supporting motion for continued temporary disability and medical benefits are "rebutted" by employer's contradictory or opposing documents. *Hogan v. Garden State Sausage Co.*, 223 N.J.Super. 364, 538 A.2d 1254 (A.D.1988).

Workers' compensation claimant's motion for temporary disability or medical benefits accompanied by supporting documentation can prevail without plenary hearing only if opposing documents are facially insufficient to fairly meet, contradict, or oppose material allegations of supporting documents. *Hogan v. Garden State Sausage Co.*, 223 N.J.Super. 364, 538 A.2d 1254 (A.D.1988).

12:235-5.3 Other motions

(a) All other motions shall be in the form of a notice of motion, the original of which shall be filed with the district office to which the case is assigned with copies served on petitioner(s), respondent(s), carrier(s), or attorney(s). Every notice of motion shall include the factual and legal basis for the relief requested and a proposed form of order in triplicate.

(b) If the notice of motion or responsive pleading relies on facts not of record, it shall be supported by affidavit made on personal knowledge setting forth facts which are admissible in evidence to which the affiant is competent to testify. The notice of motion shall be considered uncontested unless responsive papers are filed and served within 14 days of the service of the notice of motion.

(c) Motions to dismiss for lack of prosecution pursuant to N.J.S.A. 34:15-54 shall be listed for hearing. All other motions shall be disposed of on the papers, unless a Judge of Compensation directs oral argument or further proceedings, in which event a hearing shall be scheduled within 30 days from the filing of the last papers contemplated by this section. At the conclusion of any such hearing the Judge of Compensation shall render a decision and enter an appropriate order within 30 days.

Amended by R.1991 d.466, effective September 3, 1991.
See: 23 N.J.R. 1759(a), 23 N.J.R. 2642(a).

Checklist requirement deleted at (b).

Amended by R.1997 d.110, effective March 3, 1997.
See: 28 N.J.R. 4067(a), 29 N.J.R. 799(a).

In (a), substituted "on petitioner(s), respondent(s), carrier(s), or attorney(s)" for "on all parties" and added text "in triplicate".

Case Notes

Settlement discussions did not estop insurer from seeking to dismiss workers' compensation claim. *Booker v. Booker & Booker Exterminators*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 136.

12:235-5.4 Third-party joinder by respondent

(a) A respondent who alleges that another employer or insurance carrier may be liable for all or part of the benefits claimed by the petitioner may move to join such employer or insurance carrier as a responding party to the original claim petition by notice of motion which shall be supported by a definitive statement setting forth the factual and legal basis for the relief sought.

There was no waiver of cross-examination of petitioner's medical witness by failure of request in pre-trial memorandum (citing former N.J.A.C. 12:235-4.16, 5.55, 5.56 and 5.62). *Indelicato v. Town of West New York*, 170 N.J.Super. 563, 407 A.2d 837 (App.Div.1979).

12:235-5.10 Conduct of formal hearings

(a) Attorneys representing both petitioners and respondents shall provide sufficient personnel to handle all lists expeditiously.

(b) Only an attorney at law licensed to practice in the State of New Jersey shall act as attorney of record, or appear and prosecute or defend any action in any formal hearing.

(c) Hearings shall be scheduled by the Director or a designated representative of the Director.

(d) The Judge of Compensation shall, at the commencement of the day, call the list of cases in open court. No adjournment shall be granted unless there is found to be good cause. No adjournment shall be granted for medical examination unless the name of the examining physician and date of examination are supplied.

(e) Trials shall commence and continue in a timely manner subject to scheduling constraints of the Division. Said scheduling may be accelerated as ordered by the Director, the Supervising Judge of the vicinage or the Judge of Compensation to whom the case has been assigned.

(f) All formal hearings or applications shall be conducted in open court, except when the Supervising Judge of the district deems the matter to be so delicate that the hearing of a party or witness in camera is warranted. When this occurs, a stenographic record shall be made.

1. Bifurcation of any trial may be permitted by the Judge of Compensation. The order of proof shall be determined by the Judge of Compensation to whom the case is assigned.

(g) All formal hearings including motions where a record is required shall be recorded stenographically by a certified shorthand reporter subject to such limitation as may be provided by statute.

1. Upon a determination reached at the conclusion of all hearings, including motions, the cost for the attendance of the certified shorthand reporter shall be assessed by the Judge of Compensation. Transcripts of the testimony may be obtained from the certified shorthand reporter at the official scheduled rates.

(h) When there are pending in the Division two or more formal proceedings involving a common question of law or fact arising out of employment by the same employer or different employers, or out of the same accident or series of accidents, or out of the same exposure or series of exposures, to causes of occupational disease, the Judge of Compensation or the Director may, on motion, or on the Judge's own initiative, order a joint hearing of any or all matters in issue. The Director or the Judge of Compensation may order all such proceedings consolidated, and have such orders concerning proceedings designed to avoid unnecessary costs or delay. The order shall state the county in which the consolidated proceedings are to be heard.

(i) Upon the commencement of a formal hearing, counsel may make opening statements on behalf of their respective

clients. All matters agreed upon shall be stipulated upon the record. However, this shall not bar the parties from making further stipulations as the trial proceeds, until the close of the formal hearing.

(j) Counsel may make closing statements or file post-trial briefs. Post-trial briefs, if ordered or volunteered, shall be submitted within 15 days after the conclusion of the hearing. Each party thereafter may have seven days to file a reply brief, if so desired or ordered.

(k) Prior to the testimony of an expert witness, the producing party shall provide the Judge of Compensation and opposing counsel with a written curriculum vitae of the witness.

(l) Questions calling for the opinion of an expert witness need not be hypothetical in form, unless the Judge of Compensation in the Judge's discretion so requires. If the hypothetical question is submitted in written form, counsel shall provide sufficient copies for the Judge of Compensation, opposing counsel, the witness and the stenographer, and the hypothetical question may be marked as an exhibit in the proceedings in lieu of reading it to the witness.

(m) All medical experts for both parties who regularly examine petitioners to determine the nature and extent of their disability shall adhere to the vacation schedules established annually by the Director. If such medical expert is not available to testify because of an unexcused absence at any other time, the Judge of Compensation may require the party for whom such medical witness is to appear, to arrange for an examination and appearance at trial by another medical expert.

1. A medical expert who regularly examines petitioners means a medical expert who performs a minimum of 25 workers' compensation examinations per year.

(n) All exhibits shall be marked with an identifying number, the date of submission and initials of the court reporter.

1. An exhibit list shall be prepared by the Judge to be retained in the file and forwarded to the Division for microfilming and storage.

2. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Judge shall determine which exhibits are to be retained in the file and forwarded to the Division for microfilming and storage.

3. All other exhibits shall be returned to respective counsel for retention until the expiration of time for appeal or 20 years as determined by the Judge.

(o) When a deposition has been taken to preserve the testimony of an injured or ill petitioner the introduction into evidence of such deposition shall be limited to those cases where the deponent cannot appear because of medical inability to appear or death or where all parties consent to the introduction of the deposition into evidence.

(p) Judges of Compensation may refer the petitioner to the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation when warranted.

(q) Prior to testifying, a witness shall be administered an oath by the Judge of Compensation or by a certified shorthand reporter qualified to administer oaths. Because of religious beliefs, a witness may affirm in place of an oath.

(r) Forms of subpoena, bearing the seal of the Department, shall be made available at all district offices. An attorney-at-law of New Jersey may prepare a subpoena and authorize its service, in accordance with the Rules of Civil Practice of New Jersey, in the name of the Judge of Compensation assigned to the case, to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of books and papers and such other items as shall be subject to production.

(s) When a party has unreasonably failed to present its case in a timely fashion, the Judge of Compensation may, upon 21 days notice, close the proofs as to that party.

(t) All reserved decisions shall be rendered by the Judge of Compensation within 30 days from completion of the last day of hearing, or within 30 days from the date of filing of briefs. Additional time to render reserved decision may be allowed only on approval of a written application to the Director.

(u) The Judge of Compensation shall notify all parties by letter of the decision, detailing its terms and the name of: the reporter and the certified shorthand reporting firm to which it has been dictated; centralized word processing center; or other method by which the opinion is produced.

(v) A judgment or an order shall be deemed entered as of the date the judgment or order is signed by the Judge.

(w) (Reserved)

(x) A party proposing the form of judgment or order may forward the original thereof to the Judge who heard the matter and shall serve a copy thereof on every other party together with a notice advising said party that unless they notify the Judge and the proponent of the judgment or order in writing of their specific objection thereto within 10 days after such service, the judgment or order may be signed in the Judge's discretion. If no such objection is timely made, the Judge may forthwith sign the judgment or order. If objection is made, the matter may be listed for hearing in the discretion of the Court.

Amended by R.1991 d.466, effective September 3, 1991.
See: 23 N.J.R. 1759(a), 23 N.J.R. 2642(a).

Moral turpitude removed as standard at (b); bifurcation of trials, accelerated scheduling allowed; post-trial brief form required; medical expert and exhibit retention requirements added; decision schedule changed.

Amended by R.1997 d.110, effective March 3, 1997.
See: 28 N.J.R. 4067(a), 29 N.J.R. 799(a).

In (h), inserted reference to the Judge of Compensation; inserted new (s); recodified former (s) through (u) as (t) through (v); in (v), inserted references to an order and deleted reference that judgment be final; and added (x).

Case Notes

Trial judge's opinion followed by finding that claimant was totally disabled, was insufficient to allow meaningful review. *Lister v. J.B. Eurell Co.*, 234 N.J.Super. 64, 560 A.2d 89 (A.D.1989).

Compensation judge clearly abused his discretion by refusing to continue hearing on claimant's motion when counsel received copy of employer's medical expert's report moments before hearing. *Waters v. Island Transp. Corp.*, 229 N.J.Super. 541, 552 A.2d 205 (A.D.1989).

Workers' compensation judge must respect and ensure due process and fundamental rights of litigants. *Waters v. Island Transp. Corp.*, 229 N.J.Super. 541, 552 A.2d 205 (A.D.1989).

There was no waiver of cross-examination of petitioner's medical witness by failure of request in pre-trial memorandum (citing former N.J.A.C. 12:235-4.16, 5.55, 5.56 and 5.62). *Indelicato v. Town of West New York*, 170 N.J.Super. 563, 407 A.2d 837 (App.Div.1979).

Under former N.J.A.C. 12:235-5.62, an employee may not, by waiving cross-examination of employer's medical expert, require the employer to present only the medical expert's report and preclude the employer from calling the expert as a witness. *Vaughn v. State (Div. of Motor Vehicles)*, 151 N.J.Super. 251, 376 A.2d 976 (App.Div.1977).

Video tape evidence of disabled employee's activities was inadmissible in employee's reopener workers' compensation case where tape was deemed surprise evidence and not relevant to limited issue of whether employee had incurred further measure of permanent disability with respect to his original injury. *Taylor v. North American Energy*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 224.

Employee failed to prove that she sustained pulmonary injury due to exposure to noxious fumes and odors in the workplace. *Chesek v. Amboy Generator Service, Inc.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 222.

Employee who suffered stroke during surgery to repair work-related leg injury was entitled to compensation from employer for additional medical disabilities caused by stroke. *Whitman v. Madison Building Services*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 219.

Workers' compensation liability would not be apportioned between earlier and successor employers where employee provided no evidence of later traumatic event affecting injury. *Perry v. Anchor Glass*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 216.

Employee who failed to provide medical evidence that minor injuries sustained in industrial accident rose to level of disability was not entitled to compensation award. *Ventura v. Holland Manufacturing*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 212.

Injuries sustained by employee during physical altercation with co-worker at workplace was compensable where employees' assaultive conduct did not arise from personal vengeance stemming from contact between them outside of workplace. *Spiewack v. Stone Valley Dairies*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 211.

Employer was not liable to employee's widow for dependency benefits where widow failed to show that employee died while working during out-of-area assignment. *Provost v. Electronic Data Systems, Inc.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 203.

School district employee who alleged that she suffered from psychiatric disability due to repeated exposure to a mentally stressful work environment was not entitled to award of workers' compensation benefits, absent evidence that her working conditions were objectively stressful and peculiar to her particular place of work. *Lattiere v. Lenape Regional High School*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 197.

Construction worker who sustained injuries in fall while intoxicated on the job was entitled to workers' compensation benefits where intoxication was not proximate cause of his injuries. *Stednick v. La Russo*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 193.

Store manager who sustained back injury while unloading truck was entitled to residual permanent partial disability benefits where medical evidence indicated that injury permanently limited her range of motion and her ability to continue her regular work. *Young v. Rite Aid Discount Pharmacy*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 189.

Employee who suffered elbow fracture when he fainted on his way to personal errand during lunch break was not entitled to award of workers' compensation benefits; despite his claim that he fainted due to lack of air conditioning at his work station, employee presented no evidence of causal relationship between workplace and his injuries. *Fodge v. S.S. Adams*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 187.

Employer was responsible for employee's hip replacement surgery where industrial fall exacerbated pre-accident, disease-related deterioration of hip and necessitated surgery. *Tabel v. Ship Inn*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 183.

Disabled public employee would receive continuing temporary disability benefits where injuries sustained in assault by co-worker continued to block meaningful employment ability. *Dolan v. City of East Orange*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 179.

Employee was not entitled to her examining physician's recommendation of higher orthopedic award where recommendation was based upon employee's exaggerated complaints rather than on objective medical evidence. *Nobilio v. Carriage House Manor*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 173.

Construction manager who suffered stroke two months after he sustained numerous compensable injuries in fall through floor at job site would be required to supply objective medical evidence proving causal relationship between fall and stroke in order to receive compensation for stroke. *La Rochelle v. Rank Ahnert, Inc.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 166.

Employer was liable for medical fees and temporary total disability benefits for cashier who suffered work-related back injury which caused her to be temporarily and totally disabled. *Regan v. Home Depot*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 162.

Employee was not entitled to permanent disability benefits for heart attack where he failed to show that heart attack was result of excessive work-related stress and strain. *Vesey v. East Coast Warehouse & Distribution, et al.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 159.

Stevadore's long exposure to airborne irritants and chemicals supported his claim for permanent partial disability benefits. *DiBari v. Sea-Land Services et al.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 142.

Counselor who suffered back injury when patient struck him with chair as he attempted to break up fight was entitled to award of permanent partial disability benefits where medical evidence indicated that injury materially impaired and restricted counselor's everyday activities both in and out of workplace. *Cronin v. New Brunswick Counseling Center*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 139.

Employee's heart attacks were compensable work-related injuries where employee demonstrated that work effort and strain were substantially in excess of her normal daily living, and in reasonable medical probability caused cardiovascular injury. *Vanderveer v. Personal Products*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 122.

Employee's work-related loss of leg between knee and ankle was compensable as loss of "foot." *Hartten v. Stilo Paving Co.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 124.

Summer work program participant who slipped and fell at job site was not entitled to workers' compensation benefits; worker offered no evidence to support her apparently frivolous claim. *Paige v. County of Essex*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 119.

School crossing guard who sustained severe injuries when she was struck by automobile was entitled to permanent and total disability benefits. *Dailey v. Edison Township*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 113.

Farm worker injured in attempted robbery of residence he occupied on farm owner's property was entitled to disability benefits if owner and worker derived mutual benefit from living arrangement. *Silva-Escobedo v. Columbia Fruit Farms*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 112.

Supervisor who injured his knee while slap-boxing and attempting to hold employee in headlock was not entitled to workers' compensation benefits where supervisor instigated "horseplay." *Adams v. Bally's Park Place*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 109.

Worker who was not rendered unemployable in his field of work was not totally disabled. *Carpenter v. Sears Roebuck & Company*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 99.

Workers' compensation carrier was not entitled to reimbursement of attorney fees and expert witness fees from third party award. *Kuhnel v. CNA Insurance Companies*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 94.

Employer did not establish that worker's cigarette smoking contributed to pulmonary disease caused by occupational exposure to asbestos and other irritants. *Mareenchick v. Shell Oil Co.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 88.

Statutory notice requirement was met where employer was timely notified of worker's accident and authorized medical provider was notified of additional injury within 90 days. *Gonzalez v. Raritan Periodic Sales*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 85.

Surgery was not authorized where basic thesis of physician's unique diagnostic process and surgical technique for post-traumatic perilymph fistula lacked solid scientific basis. *Ries v. Langer Transportation Corp.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 80.

Worker's cigarette smoking was major factor that contributed 50 percent to his total permanent occupational pulmonary disability. *Rhodes v. Elk Transportation & Warehouse*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 76.

Petitioner's ownership and operation of small pizzeria did not disprove permanent partial disability from back injuries. *Ciambrano v. Amerada Hess*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 72.

Percentage of permanent disability increased beyond that assessed following first employment-related accident to right knee after second accident involving same knee. *Roberts v. Cosmair, Inc.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 68.

Evidence was insufficient to support workers' compensation claim of groundskeeper based on contraction of Lyme disease from tick bite where no specific time or date of bite was presented. *Shepperd v. R & M Hanson*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 63.

Occupational exposure to dust and dirt at sewage treatment plant, rather than cigarette smoking, was material cause of worker's pulmonary disability. *Tutt v. Passaic Valley Sewage Commission*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 55.

Truck driver was permanently totally disabled by shoulder and wrist injuries and by depression resulting from two work-related accidents which occurred on same day. *Stephens v. Windsor Management*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 50.

Occupational exposure to dust and fumes materially contributed to permanent partial disability due to sinusitis condition. *LaPointe v. Automatic Switch Company*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 48.

Seven percent pre-existing disability credit was applied for tear in worker's anterior cruciate ligament that predated work-related meniscus damage. *Piepszak v. City of Trenton*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 42.

Exertion at work was not material contributing cause of worker's fatal heart attack where autopsy revealed that worked suffered from severe coronary artery disease. *Jones v. New Jersey Turnpike Authority*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 38.

Injuries sustained by house painter in fall were not covered by workers' compensation portion of homeowner's policy, as painter was

independent contractor and not home owner's employee. *Kain v. Shivers*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 35.

Partial permanent disability award denied where employee failed to show disability restricted body movement. *Johnson v. United Parcel Service*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 33.

Additional back surgery not warranted absent sufficient evidence that less drastic treatment methods may be appropriate. *Gero v. Olsen and Lawson, Inc.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 29.

Evidence of physical and psychological injuries arising from compensable back injury supported employee's claim for total permanent disability benefits. *Mays v. Garlock Bearings, Inc.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 26.

Unbroken chain of causation supports employee's temporary disability benefits claim after second fall while out of work. *Isaak v. Perimeter Insulation, Inc.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 24.

Dependents' failure to show that cash advances made to them by decedent were more than gifts precludes dependency claim. *Scheurman v. Jersey Shore Medical Center*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 22.

Union officer not employee of union for workers' compensation purposes. *Sines v. E. I. DuPont*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 20.

Security guard entitled to award of partial disability benefits for psychiatric disability caused by harassment on the job. *Curcio v. Continental Corp.*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 18.

Workers' compensation claim denied when claimant's cardiac problems not proven to be result of work-related conditions. *Reynolds v. Home Depot*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 17.

Workers' compensation benefits increased where landscaper's work-related leg and right side injuries worsened. *Runge v. New Jersey Highway Authority*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 10.

Bookstore worker granted only 20 percent permanent disability when complaints of pain radiating into right foot not supported by medical evidence. *Gigliotti v. Barnes & Noble*, 96 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 7.

Self-insured employer was required to reimburse PIP insurance carrier for benefits paid bloodmobile worker injured in automobile accident while traveling between job sites. *Brown v. American Red Cross*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 181.

Exposure to ticks while inspecting building during course of employment did not warrant disability rating for Lyme's disease. *Smart v. Asbersite*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 179.

Contusion of right kneecap in fall during course of employment as patient trainee was too minor to warrant disability rating. *Carpenter v. Yockey Enterprises*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 177.

Injuries to back and right arm in fall over stool during course of employment warranted 12 ½ percent partial/total permanent orthopedic disability. *Gathers v. PVC Container Corp.*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 173.

Lumbar injury in slip and fall while responding to emergency as hotel maintenance man warranted permanent partial disability. *Saleh v. Inn America Hospitality*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 169.

Burns received by waitress while attempting to burn off soiled thread from restaurant uniform arose out of and in course of employment. *Somma v. Crab's Claw Inn*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 167.

Injuries from slip and fall in employer's parking lot at work warranted 15 percent partial/total neurological and psychiatric disability. *Nobilio v. Carriage House*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 163.

Orthopedic and psychiatric conditions resulted from chest trauma to corrections officer during jail fight and warranted permanent total disability rating. *Paylor v. County of Hudson*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 160.

Injury to back while bending supported award for temporary disability and medical treatment, but did not support award for disc-related surgery. *Ciccoello v. Pathmark Supermarkets*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 155.

Back injury during course of employment was cause of overlapping orthopedic and neurological impairments warranting permanent partial disability. *Blanco v. Urethane Roofers*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 151.

Chiropractic treatment was not an intervening cause that broke chain of causation between work of police officer and surgically treated back injury. *Alston v. East Orange*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 146.

Alleged injury sustained in altercation with police officer while engaged in groundskeeping duties were not work related and were not compensable. *McClain v. City of Newark*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 144.

Teacher's head injury when struck by falling object in classroom caused disabling sleep disorder for which total and permanent disability was warranted. *Ferrara v. Manchester Regional High*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 137.

Injury while picking up a ledger at work caused persistent and debilitating back problems and warranted permanent and total disability. *Warrelmann v. Boveri*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 133.

Proceedings in bankruptcy against employer did not stay administrative proceedings against state uninsured fund for workers' compensation benefits. *Zentz v. St. Konstantinos, Inc.*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 132.

Stroke suffered by employee was not a basis for obtaining an occupational disability when no medical evidence established employment as causative factor. *Bowe v. Pettit*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 130.

Expert testimony was insufficient to warrant occupational disability award when employee voluntarily removed himself from work place, received a work pension, age-related social security benefits and gave every appearance of being in good health. *Hutchinson v. United Airlines*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 128.

Injury to clerk in family store was a compensable occupational injury notwithstanding earning of wages. *Loveatz v. Hilltop*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 127.

Injuries sustained by bartender when stabbed by patron arose out of personal animosity and were not compensable. *Horace v. Stokes*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 125.

More credible testimony of employer's expert precluded employee's compensable disability claim arising from work accident. *Thames v. Laid Law Transit*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 122.

Wage reconstruction was not required absent proof that employee would have been promoted, with a pay raise, and worked overtime but for injury. *Patton v. Holiday Skating*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 118.

Exposure to asbestos and other irritants during employment as machinist and dyemaker materially contributed to development of obstructive and restrictive pulmonary disease. *Drozdz v. Harris Corporation*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 112.

Agreement by employee to forego workers' compensation payment while continuing to receive state disability payments was in accordance with state law and was not prejudicial. *Mahoney v. Marlboro Township*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 109.

Second accident net substantially, but only temporarily, aggravated disability from first accident was not a basis for obtaining additional benefits until original disability returned. *Caldwell v. Millville Hospital*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 100.

Severe burns to right foot from splash and spill of molten aluminum while operating smelting furnace warranted a 35 percent permanent partial total disability of foot for orthopedic residuals. *Batie v. Shiel-dallo*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 95.

Exposure to dust and mist while grinding quartz in manufacture of eyeglasses was not a basis for obtaining occupational pulmonary disability benefits absent causative proof. *Schultz v. Esco Products*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 93.

Employer was entitled to a reduction in workers' compensation benefits on basis of employee's receipt of Social Security disability benefits for herself and her auxiliary. *Smith v. La Roche*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 89.

Nurse's physical complaints subsequent to disability award for herniated disk were purely subjective and, absent supporting objective medical testimony, were insufficient to establish an increase in disability. *Husar v. Riverview Medical*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 87.

Right of control made injured passenger in pick-up truck employee of landscaping service for workers' compensation purposes. *Royal Insurance v. Pohlman*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 83.

Injury sustained by cook when he fell in parking lot outside restaurant while bringing dirty clothes to car were sustained in course of employment. *Zucker v. Marty's Famous*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 79.

Exposures to chemical cleansers and glue during employment worsened preexisting pulmonary disability and warranted a 50 percent partial total disability. *Monroe v. ISS Building Services*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 77.

Conditions encountered by insurance manager at work were of an orthopedic, pulmonary, cardiovascular, and psychiatric nature and warranted total disability award. *Casey v. Blue Cross*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 71.

Employer at time of traumatic back injury was solely responsible for permanent disability and need for medical treatment. *Reyes v. Rudco*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 67.

Stab wounds received by bartender while acting on behalf of her employer to prevent injury to business invitee were compensable. *Schurer v. Library II*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 65.

Treatment at hospital for foot was not for a work-related injury, but was for a nonwork diabetic condition and was not compensable. *Guastaferrero v. Owens Brockway*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 62.

Employee exposed to fumes and dust in work as a millwright was not entitled to an award for partial total pulmonary disability, but was entitled to a 5 percent disability award for vertigo. *Pinto v. Englehard Metals*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 57.

Medical reports so diminished employee's credibility as to preclude award of disability benefits for slip and fall in course of employment. *Kelly v. Johnson & Johnson*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 54.

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, being at least a significant condition contributing to employee's death, was a proper basis on which to award dependency benefits to employee's wife and child. *Remboske v. Homasote*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 48.

Increase in payments for foot disability that was recurring because of walking and standing was not warranted. *Grahl v. Kaiser*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 46.

Causal relationship between welding work and alleged pulmonary disabilities from chemicals was not established. *Martin v. DK Tool & Die*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 41.

Carpenter with his own tools, equipment, and vehicles was nevertheless an employee of contractor for unemployment and temporary disability purposes. *Anthill Construction v. Department of Labor*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (LBR) 36.

Rheumatoid arthritis and psychiatric sequelae arising from work related trauma were sufficient to cause total disability. *Bobo v. Paterson Board*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 34.

Injury due to work-related accident was not compensable absent evidence as to its occurrence. *Averos v. GJ Chemical*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 33.

Lifting by baggage handler did not aggravate prior disability for lumbosacral strain. *Owen v. Continental*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 30.

Individuals soliciting mortgages from mortgage banker were not independent contractors, but employees of banker for unemployment and temporary disability purposes during period in question. *Galaxy Mortgage v. Department of Labor*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (LBR) 27.

Work-related injury to teacher when struck by falling door warranted partial/total disability award. *Wilson v. Plainfield Board*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 27.

Claim of permanent disability with respect to injuries to hand and back in incidents at work was not established. *Thomas v. Magic Rental*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 25.

Right of estate to proceed to proof hearing upon claimant's death for reasons unrelated to disability. *Montrose v. Columbus Hospital*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 24.

Disk injury was compensable notwithstanding three years between work accident and surgeries. *Quinn v. Coca Cola*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 21.

Previous foot fracture did not preclude disability for subsequent amputation of foot. *Rice v. Modern Disposal*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 18.

Truck driver serving interests of employer at time of disability was employee entitled to compensation. *Fulling v. Crown*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 14.

Individual was not an independent contractor, but was an employee for unemployment compensation purposes when no indicia of an independent business was present. *LBK Computer v. Department of Labor*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (LBR) 13.

Exposure to Bromine during course of employment warranted partial total disability for anxiety stress disorder. *Wegrzynek v. Exxon Chemical*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 12.

Transcriptionists retained by medical transcription service to transcribe and type information from recording tapes in their homes were not independent contractors, but employees of transcription service for unemployment insurance purposes. *Transcriptions Ltd. v. Department of Labor*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (LBR) 9.

Sheetrockers and tapers performing drywall services were employees of subcontractor for unemployment insurance purposes. *Wayne Construction v. Department of Labor*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (LBR) 7.

First employer's insurer remained liable absent aggravation of work-related injury in subsequent employment. *Heathcote v. Cape May*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 6.

Subsequent employers not liable for incapacity due to injury and prior employment. *Cook v. Imperial*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 2.

Failure to rehire employee after returning from vacation was not retaliatory as due to filing workers' compensation claim against employer. *Milleman v. Mid-Atlantic Mechanical*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (LBR) 1.

No retaliatory discharge of employee who filed workers' compensation claim. *Milleman v. Mid-Atlantic Mechanical, Inc.*, 95 N.J.A.R.2d (LBR) 1.

Employee injured in employer's parking lot entitled to recovery; keys failed to open office. *D'Ambra v. Avco Financial Services*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 249.

Flight attendant assaulted by co-employee; disability benefits. *Pelchat v. Continental Airlines*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 244.

Serious back condition; permanent partial disability. *Neves v. Cleve-Tenn Industries, Inc.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 237.

Mentally handicapped employee; totally disabled; accident during employment. *Williams v. Accurate Bushing Co.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 231.

Any on-the-job injury or disability; proof. *Awkward v. State of New Jersey*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 228.

Permanent partial disability; psychiatric and dermatological disability experienced during employment. *Gass v. Avalon Plumbing & Appliance*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 224.

Part-time employee; proof of partial permanent disability. *Edge v. United Parcel Services*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 221.

Employee exposed to asbestos; partial permanent disability. *Tiger v. Manville Sales Corp.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 219.

Psychological disability; not result of employment. *Zubow v. Dean Witter Trust Co.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 214.

Psychiatric injury; not result of employment. *Halpin v. Commerce Life Insurance*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 212.

Partial disability; exposure to asbestos during employment. *Behm v. Jersey Central Power and Light*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 209.

"Home friend" failed to show that she suffered from a disability permanent in quality and partial in character, and failed to establish the basis for awarding temporary disability benefits. *Mathis, Eula v. New Community Corporation*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 204.

Part-time clerk who tripped over construction material on the public sidewalk in front of a college-owned parking building which was controlled by a Ground Lease tenant was denied her claim against the college. *Burgos v. Essex County College*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 202.

Warehouse employee suffered post traumatic stress disorder and was entitled to temporary disability and partial total disability benefits. *Yaviliak v. Twin County Grocers*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 197.

Widow and minor children were entitled to dependency benefits when officer died from AIDS. *Laugherty v. City of Jersey City*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 194.

Failure to establish that there was an employer/employee relationship between the parties at the time of the accident. *Scillath v. Jed Scott Auto Parts*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 193.

Sewerage plant laboratory technician failed to prove that her employment was a material cause of her pulmonary disability. *Raines v. Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 191.

Senior citizen toll collector who became disabled was entitled to have his wages reconstructed at the rate of hours worked by people doing the same type of work on a full time basis. *Sheridan v. New Jersey Highway Authority*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 187.

Plumber sustained a compensable partial permanent orthopedic disability and a psychiatric disability. *Abrantes v. Achieve Plumbing & Heating*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 185.

Employee's application for modification of prior award of benefits and claim for new injury were appropriately denied. *MacGillis v. Papa Sarris T/A La Mirage & Conair*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 182.

Award of benefits for partial/total disability was appropriate. *Vieira v. Arena Construction*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 180.

Worker's compensation benefits awarded to decedent's grandson. *Mangielle v. Lenox, Inc.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 178.

Denial of additional worker's compensation benefits for an alleged additional injury was appropriate. *Drost v. Manville Foodtown Store # 2811*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 174.

Sanction imposed against employer; refusing injured employee disability and medical treatment benefits. *Rush v. Ocean Township Board of Education*, 94 N.J.A.R. 2d (WCC) 171.

Award appropriate; asthma exacerbated by exposure to cigarette smoke and fumes. *Nardone v. Georgia-Pacific Company*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 165.

Denial of additional worker's compensation benefits. *Sayres v. J. Spinelli & Sons Excavating*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 163.

Permanent partial disability; Lyme disease. *Salender v. Jersey Central Power and Light Company*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 157.

Denial of worker's compensation benefits to intoxicated volunteer member of first aid squad was appropriate. *Cuba v. Kearny Volunteer Rescue Squad, Inc.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 153.

Award of worker's compensation benefits to live-in domestic employee was appropriate. *Wint v. Malien*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 149.

Denial of worker's compensation benefits; injury occurred during commute to work. *Flanagan v. Avis Rent-A-Car Systems*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 146.

Total permanent disability and medical benefits appropriate; employee unlikely to work in the future. *Fisher v. Hygrade Furniture*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 138.

Dismissal of claim for increased disability was appropriate. *Lanno v. Jersey Shore Medical Center and Monmouth Dental Center*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 129.

Award for partial/total disability; objective/demonstrable medical evidence test. *Dalfonzo v. Keansburg Ice & Fuel Co., Inc.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 126.

Award to employee suffering from lung disease was appropriate. *Neiber v. Ingersoll-Rand Company*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 121.

Award for partial/total disability; orthopedic and neurological injuries. *Kane v. PMC Specialty Group*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 117.

Employee was entitled to worker's compensation benefits while engaged in a weight loss program. *Jaronko v. Bishop-Sanzari, Inc. & R. A. Hamilton*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 115.

No partial/permanent disability; injury did not interfere substantially with employee's life. *Intelli v. The Hose Shop*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 113.

Award of temporary disability payments and medical benefits was appropriate. *Keratt v. New Jersey Turnpike Authority*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 111.

Award made to employee with prior heart disorder who suffered partial/total disability was appropriate. *Doyle v. Highlands Borough*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 106.

Additional worker's compensation award to employee for the same injury was appropriate. *Landry v. Auto Life Management*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 104.

Award of worker's compensation benefits and finding of partial/total disability was appropriate. *Feliciano v. Wheelock Signals, Inc.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 101.

Treatment and medical expenses were not compensable or reimbursable under the worker's compensation statute. *Gorin v. Kullman Industries*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 98.

Award for partial/total permanent disability was appropriate. *Alli-good v. Sears, Roebuck & Co.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 97.

No objective medical evidence of disability. *Austin v. Fluets Corporation*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 94.

There was a failure to offer objective medical evidence of neuropsychological disability. *Kavanagh v. Hunterdon Developmental Center*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 91.

Failure to meet burden of proving permanent disability. *Ladezma v. Rebtex, Incorporated*, 94 N.J.A.R. (WCC) 90.

Cigarette-smoking asbestos worker; failure to prove that asbestos exposure contributed in material degree to lung cancer. *Gauntlett v. Johns-Manville*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (UCC) 85.

Police officer failed to prove any ophthalmologic or orthopedic disability. *Rodriguez v. City of Newark*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 83.

Defendant's claim was barred when employee had accepted lump sum settlement. *Slinger v. Okonite Co., Inc.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 82.

Employment accident; compensation for orthopedic injuries but not for high blood pressure. *Taylor v. Fell Corporation*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 78.

Multiple sclerosis; evidence established that work-related accidents aggravated dormant condition. *Toye v. Scholes Co. and S & M Electric Co.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 74.

Employee did not meet his burden of proof; no objective medical evidence. *Kramer v. Level Line, Inc.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 71.

Employment exposure to asbestos contributed in a material way to the development of employee's cancer. *Rustay v. Ingersoll-Rand Company*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 68.

Psychiatric condition allegedly due to work stress; not entitled to worker's compensation. *Bieyle v. V.R.H. Construction Co.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 61.

Failure to prove that layoff was retaliation; filing workers' compensation claim. *Cosimano v. Gardner Merchant Food Services, Inc.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (LBR) 59.

Cough allegedly due to exposure to dust and paint fumes; not permanently disabled. *Chew v. Excell Wood Products*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 57.

Discharged employee injured in a car accident during the course of his employment; temporary disability and medical benefits. *Fouler v. Altenheim*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 52.

Travelling for business; worker's compensation. *Novis v. Rosenbluth Travel*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 51.

Inhalation of chlorine gas caused serious pulmonary impairment. *Eccles v. town of Kearny*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 45.

Award of disability benefits and payment of medical treatment by employer was proper. *Moytzoirellhs v. Greenbrook Nursing Home*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 41.

Employee's work-related injury was minor and did not affect his working ability. *Calvopina v. Menlo Building Maintenance Co.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 40.

Failure to sustain burden of proof of occupational pulmonary disease and of work-related heart attack. *Yuzuik v. Union Carbide Corporation*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 36.

Employee failed to sustain burden of proving her condition substantially worsened. *Giordano v. Visiting Homemakers of Ocean County*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 31.

Dismissal; failure to appear and complete case. *McCoy v. Witco*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 30.

Sales consultant failed to demonstrate a compensable partial permanent disability. *Branch v. Macy's* 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 26.

Award in excess of award offered by employer was proper failure to demonstrate a preexisting percentage of disability. *Traberman v. Brio Sanditoy Corp.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 24.

Temporary disability benefits; abdominal pain from morbid obesity. *Oliver v. Vineland Developmental Center*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 22.

Dependency benefits properly awarded to children of deceased firefighter; lung cancer. *LeFurge v. City of Plainfield*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 20.

Employee suffering from multiple sclerosis proved aggravation by work-related injury. *Cooney v. Terminex*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 16.

Worker sustained burden of proof in demonstrating a causal link. *Vaccarelle v. Exxon U.S.A.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 11.

Dispatcher failed to sustain his burden of proof demonstrating a causal link between exposure to chemicals and lymphoma/leukemia. *Trucke v. Coastal Industries*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 9.

Auto worker; compensable partial permanent disability. *Blain v. Premier auto Body, Inc.*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 7.

Failure to sustain burden of proof of permanent partial disability. *Velez v. Difeo Auto Mart*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 3.

Landlord failed to prove that tenant was a causal employee. *Martin v. Pollard*, 94 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 1.

Claimant with orthopedic and pulmonary disabilities failed to show occupational disease. *White v. E.R. Squibb*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 158.

Claimant was not entitled to modification of award. *DeGennaro v. Greater New York Box Co.*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 150.

No entitlement to benefits where subjective evidence was supported only by minimal physical evidence. *Daly v. Owens-Brockway Glass Containers*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 141.

Machine operator failed to show partial permanent disability. *Merant v. Superwear Corporation*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 139.

Claimant failed to establish necessity or authorization for medical treatment or change in circumstances. *Jackson v. Clara Maas Memorial Hospital*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 138.

Modification of partial permanent rating not justified in absence of medical evidence demonstrating an increased disability. *Williams v. AT & T Technologies*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 130.

Separate back injuries while lifting bundles of newspapers at work justified partial permanent disability rating. *Smith v. Greater Media*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 128.

Physical pain and depression as a result of slip and fall at work justified total and permanent disability rating. *Ferrante v. CIT Group*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 117.

Homeowners were not liable for disability claim absent evidence of an employment relationship with injured carpenter. *Moore v. Hetrick*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 113.

Inability to operate foot pedal machinery justified permanent partial disability rating following ankle fracture in work-related accident. *Stopa v. Chanel*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 112.

Shoulder pain preventing employee from doing previous work justified permanent disability rating. *Juliano v. United Parcel*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 109.

Refining and reclaiming precious metals lead to permanent disability from asbestosis as a result of job. *Caggiano v. Engelhard*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 106.

Scars resulting from work-related burns justified partial permanent disability rating. *Holzheimer v. Bayonne*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 103.

Increased disability to back over and above accumulative prior awards was not shown. *Slappy v. Newark*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 100.

Objective medical evidence established a compensable partial permanent disability equivocal to three work accidents. *Mintz v. Busch*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 98.

Firemen earned no more than a 7.5 percent disability for chronic bronchitis. *Toomey v. Hoboken*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 94.

Employee failed to sustain burden of proof on issue of causation with respect to cut on forehead at work. *Levine v. Mueller*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 93.

Results of range-of-motion tests and functional restrictions established partial total permanent disability. *Laird v. Sambol*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 88.

Preexisting personality disorder precluded claim for psychiatric disability arising from incident at work. *Allen v. Children's Home Society*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 85.

Idiopathic event causing back injury was not connected to employment. *Field v. Clayton*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 84.

Worker's chronic back pain entitled him to permanent partial disability benefits. *Baptista v. Witco Corporation*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 78.

Worker was not entitled to increase in permanent partial disability benefits. *Napolitano v. Molecu Wire Corporation*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 76.

Worker's increased disability did not merit increase in compensation award. *Stefanick v. Johns-Manville Products Corp.*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 75.

Worker was entitled to award of permanent total disability benefits. *Shaw v. Long Branch Board of Education*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 72.

Worker injured off employer's premises was not entitled to award of compensation benefits. *Geres v. St. Peter's Medical Center*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 70.

Former employer was responsible for costs of worker's medical treatment. *Metros v. General Motors Corp., Hyatt Bearings Division*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 68.

Injury on coffee break in adjacent trucking company's yard did not arise out of employment. *Berkery v. Freightways*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 60.

Poor state of health entitled wife separated from worker at time of death to dependency benefits. *Woolcott v. Roma Food*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 58.

Fall by visiting home health nurse rated a 22 percent partial disability. *Backof v. Medical Center*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 56.

Surgeries performed following multiple head and facial injuries were a reasonable, medical necessity. *Byrd v. Off The Road Tire*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 54.

Back injury at work was directly related to next day's hospitalization for ruptured disk. *Hersh v. Hersh & Sherman*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 51.

Permanent partial disability was not established without objective medical evidence showing more than only some degenerative changes to back. *Morris v. K-Mart*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 48.

Causal relationship between colon cancer and long asbestos exposure warranted partial total disability award. *Rosamilia v. Essex*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 42.

Significant injuries to face, neck and back in employee parking lot warranted permanent disability award. *Zablocki v. Maas*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 38.

Expenses of psychiatric treatment following suicide attempt resulting from workplace injury were compensable. *Ellison v. Concurrent Computers*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 34.

Temporary disability payments were appropriate for school psychologist injured when bookcase hit head. *Sweet v. Jackson Board of Education*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 27.

Permanent disfigurement and neurosensory changes warranted partial permanent disability award. *Goode v. Herculite*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 25.

Back injury sustained by security officer warranted permanent, though limited disability award. *Currey v. Ocean County*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 22.

Stroke which commenced while mechanic was exerting extraordinary physical activity warranted total disability award. *Manning v. Engineering*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 18.

Long-term occupational exposure to asbestos warranted a partial, total award for pulmonary disability. *Stelzie v. Salvesen*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 15.

Control test established that carpenter working on house was not independent contractor, but was employee of homeowner. *Henry v. Parks*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 12.

Permanent partial disability resulted from occupational exposure to asbestos. *Russomanno v. Otis Elevator*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 9.

Gunshot wound to head at work resulted in total and permanent disability for which special adjustment benefits was due. *Lugo v. Franklin*, 93 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 2.

Worker suffered permanent partial disability as result of on-the-job accident. *Van Amburgh v. Rohil Estates*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 188.

Employer was not entitled to credit or offset for worker's pre-existing illness. *Woolsey v. New Jersey Bell Telephone Company*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 180.

Worker's widow was not entitled to dependency benefits. *Petit-Clair v. New Jersey Transit*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 176.

Worker was "employee" entitled to worker's compensation benefits. *Ojibe v. Thomas J. Reale, Inc.*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 173.

Worker was entitled to 25 percent permanent partial disability benefits for pulmonary injury. *Sutera v. City of Hoboken*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 170.

Employer failed to prove that termination of worker's benefits was warranted. *Kincade v. City of Wildwood*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 161.

Worker's unemployment was not compensable. *Cairns v. City of East Orange*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 155.

Worker's injury was causally related to employment. *Paduch v. Stony Brook Construction*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 152.

Mechanic was entitled to permanent partial disability benefits. *Landon v. Town & Country Motors*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 150.

Worker was entitled to slight increase in pulmonary disability benefits. *White v. Johns-Manville Sales Corporation*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 147.

Worker's settlement of his claim extinguished subsequent dependency claim. *Szikszai v. Simmons Precision*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 145.

Collision resulted in worker's permanent partial disability. *Reynolds v. Strober New Jersey Building Supply, Inc.*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 144.

Worker failed to prove that his injury occurred on the job. *McDuffie v. New Jersey Bell Telephone Company*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 142.

Worker was entitled to modification of previously settled claim. *Rolstad v. Tri-County Asphalt*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 138.

Independent contractor was not entitled to workers' compensation benefits. *Bozzolasco v. J.T. Ski Construction Co.*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 136.

Accidental fall rendered worker permanently and totally disabled. *Rivera v. Frank's Tree Service, Inc.*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 134.

Worker was entitled to increased benefits for psychiatric disability. *Woods v. CPC International, Inc./Best Foods*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 132.

Worker was entitled to modification of prior compensation award. *Cook v. Dollar Rent-A-Car*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 129.

Worker's deception did not disqualify him from receiving benefits. *Gomes v. Jose Natoli Construction Co.*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 127.

Worker was entitled to 17 ½ percent temporary partial disability benefits. *Yar v. Springfield Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc.*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 125.

Worker's disabilities were unrelated to occupational exposure. *Shannon v. State of New Jersey*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 120.

Worker suffered disability in trip and fall accident. *Wydner v. Caldor's*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 116.

Worker was entitled to have disabilities from single accident "stacked". *Kim v. Wolf*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 112.

Worker suffered disability due to knee injury. *Markle v. Newark Board of Education*, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 110.

Worker's carpal tunnel syndrome was work related. Mackenzie v. New Jersey Bell Telephone Co., 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 107.

Worker's preexisting condition was aggravated by workplace accident. Gronikowski v. K-Mart Corporation, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 102.

Asbestos exposure caused worker's cancer. Zematis v. Exxon Company, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 98.

Chemical worker's liver damage was work-related. Dean v. Powell-Duffryn, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 97.

Chimney worker's permanent total disability was job-related. Lackey v. Custodis-Ecodyne, Inc., 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 92.

Worker injured in a fall suffered permanent partial disability. Smith v. Borough of Stone Harbor, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 87.

Workers's disability was caused by three separate accidents. Genovese v. McGraw-Hill, Inc., 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 83.

On-the-job exposure to chemical fumes caused workers's disability. Ostendorf v. Acme Markets, Inc., 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 81.

Bus driver was entitled to 30 percent permanent partial disability benefits. Nordaby v. Cape May County Holiday Tours, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 76.

Worker failed to timely notify her employer of on-the-job accident. Michelotti v. CVI Services Group, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 73.

Insurer would be assessed penalties for negligent denial of disability claim. Gianotti v. Teledyne Farris Engineering, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 70.

Construction worker suffered permanent partial disability as result of accident. Beam v. Gianetti Excavating Co., Inc., 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 67.

Worker suffered permanent total disability due to repetitive injuries. Peterson v. Hermann Forwarding Co. 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 60.

Evidence offered by worker was insufficient to prove permanent partial disability. Crean v. Somerville Lumber Co. 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 57.

Worker's job-related chemical exposure was cause of fatal lung cancer. Lee v. Engelhard Industries. 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 56.

Worker failed to prove that he suffered from work-related asbestosis. Gile v. Jersey Central Power & Light Co. 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 53.

Worker's chronic illness was job related. Daye v. Ciba Geigy. 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 46.

Worker's lower back injury was permanently and totally disabling. Martinez v. Esselte Pendaflex. 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 42.

Worker failed to prove entitlement partial permanent disability benefits. Blackwell v. N.J. Transit Bus Operations, Inc. 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 41.

Worker suffered no pulmonary function disability. Weston v. Excelled Sheepskin & Leather Coat Corporation, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 39.

Motor vehicle collision occurred in the course of "special mission". Martin v. Jersey Central Power & Light Company, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 34.

Worker's employment aggravated underlying circulatory deficiency. Felix v. Elegant Lingerie, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 32.

Workplace exposure to chemicals was material cause of worker's death. Corio v. American Cyanamid Company, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 29.

Worker would be awarded permanent partial disability benefits. Magill v. C & K Construction Company, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 25.

Worker would be awarded partial total disability benefits. Hobbs v. General Motors Corporation, 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 20.

Claimant failed to prove her entitlement to dependency benefits. Toms v. Dee Rose Furniture, Inc., 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 18.

Worker suffered no permanent disability as result of asbestos exposure. Boszczuk v. Johns-Manville. 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 17.

Worker's widow met burden of proving entitlement to benefits. Slack v. Johns-Manville Products Corporation. 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 13.

Worker suffered total disability as result of work place accident. Johnson v. Blue Crest Farms. 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 9.

Permanent injury to worker's leg would be offset by credit for prior condition. Flancer v. Dell Chrysler. 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 7.

Worker's compensable permanent disability had significantly worsened. Wilson v. South Jersey Port Corporation. 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 3.

Worker's psychiatric disability was not caused by work place accident. Ramon Rivera v. Egg Harbor Boat Company. 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 2.

Worker's gunshot wound did not "arise out of" his employment. Riley v. Potter-Hillman Ford. 92 N.J.A.R.2d (WCC) 1.

12:235-5.11 Interpreters

In any proceeding for which the services of an interpreter are required, a professional interpreter shall be utilized unless the Judge of Compensation, with the consent of the parties, determines otherwise. An interpreter shall be sworn or make affirmation or declaration to interpret accurately.

New Rule, R.1997 d.110, effective March 3, 1997.
See: 28 N.J.R. 4067(a), 29 N.J.R. 799(a).

12:235-5.12 Enforcement of orders

(a) For unreasonable failure to comply with any written order of a Judge of Compensation or with any requirements of this subchapter, a Judge of Compensation may:

1. Dismiss or grant the motion or application for enforcement of order;
2. Suppress a defense or claim;
3. Exclude evidence;
4. Order costs or reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees, to be paid to the Second Injury Fund of the State of New Jersey or an aggrieved representative or party; or
5. Take other appropriate case-related action.

(b) Before taking any action under N.J.A.C. 12:235-5.12(a) above, the Judge of Compensation shall hold a hearing on the appropriateness of the action and the reasonableness of any compensatory levy or sanction.

(c) Unless a stay is obtained from the appropriate appellate court or the Judge of Compensation, the failure to obey an order of the Judge of Compensation shall constitute grounds for compensatory sanctions against the attorney, the parties, or both. Filing of an appeal does not constitute an automatic stay of the judgment or order being appealed.

New Rule, R.1997 d.110, effective March 3, 1997.
See: 28 N.J.R. 4067(a), 29 N.J.R. 799(a).

SUBCHAPTER 6. INFORMAL HEARINGS

12:235-6.1 Purpose of informal hearings

(a) The informal hearing process is a service provided by the Division to effectuate the amicable adjustment of controversies between injured workers and their employers involving their respective rights under the Act.

(b) The informal hearing procedure is not expressly contained within the provisions of the Act.

(c) The filing of an application for an informal hearing will not toll the time limitation periods for the filing of a formal claim petition or a dependency claim petition as provided by the Act.

Amended by R.1991 d.466, effective September 3, 1991.
See: 23 N.J.R. 1759(a), 23 N.J.R. 2642(a).
Stylistic changes.