



Kentucky Labor Cabinet Department of Workers' Claims

DEPARTMENT OF WORKERS' CLAIMS POLICY REGARDING COURT REPORTERS AND REMOTE DEPOSITIONS

On March 6, 2020, Governor Beshear entered Executive Order 2020-215 and declared a State of Emergency in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) emergency in the Commonwealth.

For the same reason, on March 12, 2020, Chief Justice Minton issued Order 2020-08 and directed that, with exception for certain emergency matters, "all in-person appearances for civil and criminal dockets shall be cancelled," in the Commonwealth's justice centers.

In light of these actions, and to protect the health and safety of Department of Workers' Claims staff, Administrative Law Judges, court reporters, attorneys, and parties, all in-person Benefit Review Conferences and Hearings have been cancelled through April 20, 2020, with exceptions for emergency circumstances. Administrative Law Judges will temporarily use telephonic or video technology for necessary proceedings.

In order to further protect the health and safety of court reporters, attorneys, and parties, it is the express policy of the Department of Workers' Claims that during the period of the state

of emergency, application of 803 KAR 25:010, Section 17 (2) shall be suspended to the extent that court reporters may take depositions while not physically present with the deponent provided that the attorney for the deponent shall certify on the record the identity of the deponent. For depositions of individuals other than parties, the attorney taking the deposition shall certify on the record the identity of the deponent.

Questions may be directed to Commissioner Robert L. Swisher at 502.782.4535 or Chief ALJ Douglas W. Gott at 270.746.7178; to the assigned ALJ, whose contact email information is listed on the DWC website; or to a DWC specialist at 502.564.5550.

Additional information is available at <http://labor.ky.gov/comp> Department of Workers' Claims is located at The Mayo-Underwood Building, 500 Mero Street, Frankfort, KY 40601. Other questions concerning Department of Workers' Claims can be addressed by calling (502) 564-5550.

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