

Worker's Compensation
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Worker's Compensation Insurance Letter

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| INS # | 507 |
| Date | February 12, 2016 |
| Program | Legal / Organizational Structure |
| Type | Process Change |
| Replaces | None |

To: Claims Handling Offices for Insurance Carriers and Self Insured Employers and Attorneys Representing Parties in WC Disputes
From: BJ Dernbach, Division Administrator
Subject: Transfer of Worker's Compensation Hearings to the Department of Administration

Purpose: To inform claim handling offices and attorneys representing parties in WC disputes that effective January 11, 2016, the duties of the administrative law judges for litigated cases have been transferred to the Division of Hearings and Appeals, Office of Worker's Compensation Hearings under the Department of Administration.

Background: 2015 Wis. Act 55 (2015-17 Budget Bill) contained significant reforms to the structure and operations of state government. These changes include the transfer of the litigated adjudicatory functions of the Worker's Compensation Division to the Department of Administration's Division of Hearings and Appeals.

Effective January 11, 2016, the mailing address for Hearing Applications (WKC-7) will continue to be the Worker's Compensation Division at the above address. The mailing address for all *other* litigated mail should be sent to the following address:

DIVISION OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS
OFFICE OF WORKER'S COMPENSATION HEARINGS
PO BOX 7922
MADISON WI 53707-7922

The website for the Division of Hearings and Appeals (DHA) is <http://dha.state.wi.us>. The fax number for litigated mail under DHA is (608) 266-0018. The main phone number for calls regarding litigated cases is (608) 266-1340 (same as the Worker's Compensation Division).

The contact phone and fax numbers for the Worker's Compensation Division remain the same. Non-litigated correspondence should continue to come to the Worker's Compensation Division.

The administrator of the Division of Hearings and Appeals is Brian Hayes. Hamdy Ezalarab is the Director of the Office of Worker's Compensation Hearings, and Sherman Mitchell is the supervisor of the Milwaukee and Appleton offices. The telephone numbers and email addresses of the ALJs will not change.

Action requested: This letter is informational and advisory.

Inquiries: For questions, contact Hamdy Ezalarab, (608) 267-2078.

Enclosures: None