STATE OF NEW YORK - WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

CONFIDENTIAL LEGAL COMMUNICATION

This is a confidential communication of legal advice and/or evaluation which is not to be disclosed outside of the Workers' Compensation Board

To: Chair, Vice Chair and Board Members

From: Heather MacMaster, General Counsel

Date: August 1, 2023

Subject: Office of General Counsel Report for August 2023 Board Meeting

Below is a statistical analysis for July 2023 of the workflow of the three divisions of the Office of Issue Resolution, within the Office of General Counsel, responsible for deciding cases. This report summarizes the number of hearings held in the Adjudication Division, the number of reviews handled by the Administrative Review Division, and the number of applications for Full Board Review processed by the Legal Affairs Division.

ADJUDICATION DIVISION

Hearings Held: 14,977 (Attachment A)

Cases Resolved at Hearing: 9.636
Continued w/Findings: 4,904
Continued w/o Findings: 122
Reserve Decisions: 312

Pre-Hearing Conferences: 1,440 (Attachment B)

Controverted Cases Established/

Resolved at PHC: 667

Waiver Agreements Finalized 1,835 (Attachment C)

By Hearing 1,774 By PD-32 61

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW DIVISION

ARD Applications Received: 1,011 (Attachment D)

ARD Applications Processed: 779 ARD Applications Pending: 5,822

Note: In July, ARD processed less cases than it received. The inventory increased from 5,590 to 5,822 cases. As of August 1, 2023, 87% of review applications were processed within six months of the application date (Attachment E). The most common issue presented for review in July was ANCR/ODNCR (156 cases). See Attachment F for a summary of review outcomes by primary issue.

LEGAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

FBR Applications Received: 82 FBR Applications Processed: 122 FBR Case Inventory: 194

Note: The Legal Affairs Division processed more applications than it received this past month. The 234 case inventory pending at the end of June is up from the 194 case inventory pending at the end of July.