

The following document is offered to PBI faculty as a sample of good written materials.

We are proud of the reputation of our “yellow books.” They are often the starting point in tackling a novel issue.

From Workers’ Compensation Practice & Procedure 2012

PBI Course #7013

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NOTE: An annotated list of Internet resources is much more useful than reprints of materials that are readily available.

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Internet Resources for Pennsylvania Workers' Compensation Practitioners¹

Pennsylvania Workers' Compensation Links

Pennsylvania Appellate Opinions

(published daily by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts)

<http://www.pacourts.us/Opinions/Default.htm>

Bureau, Department of Adjudication, and SWIF Home Pages

Go to the Department of Labor and Industry website: <http://www.dli.state.pa.us>.

Click on the "Workers' Compensation" button near the bottom of the page. This will take you to the Bureau of Workers' Compensation home page, with links to the Office of Adjudication and the State Workers' Insurance Fund (SWIF).

Bureau Home Page

Follow the procedure above. The links in the left-hand column of the Bureau home page will take you to many helpful items, including:

- Average weekly wage schedules (under "Claims Information")
- A location where claim petitions can be filed electronically (under "Claims Information")
- Downloadable forms (under "Forms"; also see appendix 8 in this book)
- Bureau codes (under "Workers' Compensation Insurance")
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Here is a direct link to aid users in identifying workers' compensation insurance information for Pennsylvania employers:

<http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=552709&mode=2>

Office of Adjudication Website (including the Judge Book and the Act)

Go to the Department of Labor and Industry website: <http://www.dli.state.pa.us> and click on the link for Workers' Compensation Office of Adjudication in the left-hand column. There is also a link from the top of the Bureau home page.

The Office of Adjudication home page links offer many useful resources, including:

- E-mail resource accounts for e-mails and routine correspondence to a WCJ's office. See the link for what may (and may not) be sent, and the proper format.
- Judges' Procedural Requirements, commonly called The Judgebook, in the left-hand column under "Judge Information"
- The entire text of the Workers' Compensation Act (361 pages, in searchable, printable format), under the "Related Links" at the bottom of the page
- Forms, including Compromise and Release form, under "Forms" toward the bottom of the page
- Links for Electronic Petition Filing, toward the bottom of the page
- Office of Adjudication "WCOA Quick Links" to other home pages and related websites, under the "Related Links" at the bottom of the page

1. Know of a resource not listed here? E-mail sswope@pbi.org to suggest items for the next edition.

Workers' Compensation Appeal Board

Go to the Department of Labor and Industry website, at <http://www.dli.state.pa.us>. Click the "Individuals" link on the left. A page will display entitled "Services and Information for Individuals." Follow the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board link on this page. Here you will find:

- A list of the members of the Board
- Forms and instructions for the appeal process
- A list of upcoming hearing dates
- Frequently asked questions (FAQs), with answers

Pennsylvania Code Online

<http://www.pacode.com>

Board Rules

<http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/034/chapter111/chap111toc.html>

Bureau Rules, Regulations, and Statements of Policy

<http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/034/partVIIItoc.html>

Judges' Rules

<http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/034/chapter131/chap131toc.html>

Qualifications for Vocational Experts Approved by the Department

<http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/034/chapter123/subchapCtoc.html>

Other State Agencies

Department of Labor and Industry

<http://www.dli.state.pa.us>

Department of Health

<http://www.dsf.health.state.pa.us/health/site/default.asp>

Department of State

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/department_of_state/12405

To file complaints against health-care providers:

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/file_a_complaint/12406

To obtain information on provider licensure:

<http://www.licensepa.state.pa.us/>

Insurance Department

(for a list of workers' compensation insurers)

<http://www.insurance.pa.gov/>

Click on "Services for Consumers," on the left, then click on "Find an Insurance Professional"; click the link on the page for "Find an Insurance Company," choose Workers' Compensation from the options at the bottom of the page, and click the search button.

Pennsylvania Child Support Website

<https://www.humanservices.state.pa.us/cs/ws/index.aspx>

Federal Links

Code of Federal Regulations

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/browse/collectionCfr.action?collectionCode=CFR>

Food & Drug Administration

<http://www.fda.gov/>

OSHA

<http://www.osha.gov/>

Social Security Administration

<http://www.ssa.gov>

Current Rules and Regulations:

<http://www.ssa.gov/regulations/index.htm>

Also see separate heading for Medicare resources

Medicare Resources

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/default.asp?>

Medicare Part B Reference Manual

<https://www.highmarkmedicare.com/partb/index.html>

National Center for Health Statistics

(for life expectancies)

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products.htm>

Medical Websites

Jenkins Law Library's Medical Links

<http://jenkinslaw.libguides.com.proxy.jenkinslaw.org/content.php?pid=128606&sid=1103577>

American Board of Medical Specialists

(for information on board certification of physicians)

<http://www.abms.org>

American Medical Association

(for general information on physicians)

<http://www.ama-assn.org>

American Osteopathic Association

(for information on board certification of physicians)

<http://www.osteopathic.org/Pages/default.aspx>

The Doe Report

(comprehensive source of online medical demonstrative evidence)

<http://www.doereport.com/>

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/>

Medscape

("robust and integrated medical information and education tools")

<http://www.medscape.com/>

National Institutes of Health

<http://www.nih.gov/>

National Library of Medicine

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/>

New England Journal of Medicine

<http://content.nejm.org/>

Medline Plus

(from the National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health)

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/>

Including PubMed at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/>, a service of the National Library of Medicine, includes over 14 million citations for biomedical articles back to the 1950s. These citations are from MEDLINE and additional life science journals. PubMed includes links to many sites providing full text articles and other related resources.

Bar Association Resources

Pennsylvania Bar Institute

(including catalog of workers' compensation courses and books, plus 24-7 online courses)

<http://www.pbi.org>

Pennsylvania Bar Association Workers' Compensation Law Section Newsletter

(downloadable from the members-only section of PBA website)

<http://www.pabar.org/>

PBA InCite

<http://www.pabar.org/>

Click on the PBA InCite link.

A Lexis service free to Pennsylvania Bar Association members.

Especially helpful when you simply need Atlantic Second cite.

Pennsylvania Association for Justice

(formerly Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers' Association —PaTLA)

<http://www.pajjustice.org/>

Its Workers' Comp Section hosts a "listserv" (e-mail discussion list for claimants' attorneys).

Industry and Watchdog Groups

Pennsylvania Compensation Rating Bureau

(the licensed rating organizations for Pennsylvania workers' compensation insurance)

http://www.pcrb.com/shared/p_contents.htm

National Correct Coding Initiative

<http://www.ntis.gov/products/cci.aspx>

OSHA

(to report unsafe working environments)

<http://www.osha.gov>

Insurance Fraud Prevention Authority

<http://www.helpstopfraud.org>

Miscellaneous Resources

Science Resources from Thomson Reuters (formerly the Institute for Scientific Information)

<http://science.thomsonreuters.com/index.html>

*Some of this information first appeared in the materials published by the Workers' Compensation Bureau for its 2003 conference, and more recently as front matter in the copy of the Workers' Compensation Act available on the Bureau website. Many thanks to the Bureau for allowing us to use it here.