

RECEIVED AUG 12 2019

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF WORKERS' COMP PROGRAMS
PO BOX 8300 DISTRICT 6 JAC
LONDON, KY 40742-8300
Phone: (904) 366-0100

August 07, 2019

Date of Injury:
Employee:

Dear

Under the schedule award provisions of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA) at 5 U.S.C. 8107, the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs makes the following:

AWARD OF COMPENSATION

1. Degree and Nature of Permanent Impairment: An additional 3% of the Right Arm - (prior award of 3% to the Right Arm issued on 10/02/2013). Your total percentage of impairment is currently 6%.
2. Date of Maximum Medical Improvement: 02/06/2019
3. Period of Award: 02/06/2019 to 04/12/2019
4. Number of Weeks of Compensation: 9.36
5. Weekly Pay: \$1076.01 X Compensation Rate: 75 % = \$807.00
6. Effective Date of Pay Rate: 11/07/2016
7. After Cost-of-Living Adjustments, Your Weekly Compensation is: \$839.50
8. Your Payment and the Period Covered: \$7809.25 from 02/06/2019 to 04/12/2019.

Payment of your award ends when you have been paid for the last day shown in item 3 above.

Section 8107 of the FECA and its implementing regulations set forth the number of weeks of compensation to be paid for the permanent loss or loss of use of specified members, functions and organs of the body known as permanent impairment. 20 C.F.R. 10.404; see also 20 C.F.R. Part 10. The commencement period of the schedule award is usually the date of maximum medical improvement, the date that the physical condition of the injured member has stabilized and is not expected to improve further.

The FECA, however, does not in most instances specify the manner by which the percentage loss of a member, function or organ shall be determined. To ensure consistent results and equal justice under the law, good administrative practice requires the use of uniform standards applicable to all claimants. The implementing regulations have adopted the American Medical Association, *Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment*, as the appropriate standard for evaluating schedule losses. Currently, schedule awards are calculated using the Sixth Edition of the AMA *Guides*.

If you have a disability and are in need of communication assistance (such as alternate formats or sign language interpretation), accommodation(s) and/or modification(s), please contact OWCP.

File Number:
CA-181-D-S

The percentage of permanent impairment noted above was based on the medical findings and report of Dr. _____ dated _____ and the report of the District Medical Advisor (DMA) dated _____. Copies of these reports are provided for your reference.

Dr. _____ advised on _____ that your impairment of 6% was in addition to the 3% previously paid; however, our District Medical Advisor (DMA) disagreed in his opinion of 07/06/2017 stating the impairment rating had only increased by 1%. Due to this medical conflict of opinions your case was sent for a second opinion evaluation with Dr. _____. The DMA reviewed Dr. _____ report and advised that his calculation were in accordance with the AMA Guides 6th Edition. Thus allowing an additional 3% of the previously awarded 3% for the Right Arm.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please read the following information carefully. Keep this award letter so you can refer to it when necessary. If you have questions concerning this award, write to the address shown in the letterhead.

1. **HOW COMPENSATION IS PAID** - Direct deposit is the fastest and most secure way to receive your award payments. We strongly encourage you to submit a **Standard Form 1199A**, which will enable us to direct deposit your payment(s) into your bank. Your first payment will be issued within 30 days. If further payments are due, they will be made every four weeks until the expiration of the award.
2. **LUMP SUM PAYMENTS** - If you are currently working, or if you are receiving retirement benefits from the Office of Personnel Management, you may be entitled to a "lump-sum" payment of your schedule award. Please contact the District Office at the address listed on the first page of this letter and specifically request information concerning this option.
3. **CHANGE OF ADDRESS** - Notify this office immediately of any change of address either for correspondence or for direct deposit. Notification must be in writing, signed by you, to the address shown on the first page of this letter. Include your file number, your old address, and your new address.
4. **CHANGE IN STATUS OF DEPENDENTS** - If your award is paid at the augmented rate of 3/4 because you have one or more dependents, you are required to provide written notification immediately of any change in status of your dependents, to the address on the first page of this letter. The notice must be signed by you and include your file number, the name of the dependent whose status changed, the effective date of the change, and the nature of the change in status. If you originally claimed only one dependent, and there is a change in the status of your sole dependent, do not cash any checks you receive after the change in status of that dependent. Return the checks promptly for adjustment by this Office.
5. **RETURN TO WORK** - You may work or receive retirement benefits from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) during the period of this award without any effect on your schedule award payments.
6. **SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS** - Please contact your local Social Security Office regarding this award if you are receiving or have filed for Social Security Disability Benefits.
7. **VA BENEFITS** - You are required to notify this office if you have received, or are receiving any VA benefits for the same part of the body.

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8. EXPIRATION OF AWARD – After the ending date of this award noted in item 3, your entitlement to compensation will be based solely on disability for work resulting from the accepted injury. You may claim continuing compensation by submitting evidence showing that the accepted injury prevents you from performing the kind of work you were doing when injured and from earning comparable wages. Please note that compensation for disability cannot be paid for any period during which you receive retirement benefits from OPM.

9. ATTORNEY AND REPRESENTATIVE FEES – Please be mindful of the following regarding fees for representative services:

- In each case where a representative's fee is desired, an application for approval of the fee must be submitted to OWCP.
- Fees collected prior to OWCP approval may constitute a misdemeanor under 18 U.S.C. § 292.
- Contingency fees are not allowed in any form. See 20 C.F.R. § 10.702 (a). Further, a fee will not be approved merely on the basis of a percentage of the amount of compensation awarded. All fees claimed for services rendered must be calculated on an hourly basis.
- The ultimate collection of the fee is a matter between the representative and the claimant.

If you disagree with this decision, you should carefully review the attached appeal rights, and pursue whichever avenue is appropriate to your situation.

Sincerely,

Theresa B.
Claims Examiner
Division of Federal Employees' Compensation

Enclosures: Appeal Rights

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