1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
7	STATE OF MICHIGAN
8	DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
9	WORKERS' DISABILITY COMPENSATION AGENCY
10	held at
11	Room L-150, 3026 W. Grand Boulevard, Cadillac Place
12	Detroit, Michigan
13	on
14	Wednesday, July 7, 2021
15	at
16	11:00 a.m.
17	conducted by
18	JACK A. NOLISH, DIRECTOR
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	



	Hearing 07/07/2021		Page 2
1	TABLE OF CONTENTS		
2	Page		
3	Introduction	3	
4	Workers' Compensation Health Care	5	
5	Services (HCS)		
6	Workers' Disability Compensation Appeals	7	
7	Commission General Rule Set (WDCAC)		
8	Workers' Disability Compensation Board	9	
9	Of Magistrates General Rule Set (BOM)		
10	Workers' Disability Compensation General	15	
11	Rule Set (WCA)		
12	Closing of Hearing	23	
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			



- 1 DIRECTOR NOLISH: Let the record reflect this
- 2 is a public hearing on proposed administrative rules
- 3 entitled Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity,
- 4 Workers' Disability Compensation Agency, Administrative
- 5 Rules for Workers' Compensation Healthcare Services.
- I will note that we are entertaining four
- 7 separate rules hearings today and the first will be the
- 8 Healthcare Services Rules. This is as they were dually
- 9 noticed in publications of general distribution.
- 10 This hearing is being conducted pursuant to
- 11 provisions of Section 205 and 315 of the Workers'
- 12 Disability Compensation Act of 1969, also known as 1969
- 13 PA 317 or MCL 418.205 and 418.315; Section 33 of the
- 14 Administrative Procedures Act of 1969 known as 1969
- 15 Public Act 306, MCL 24.233, and Executive Reorganization
- 16 Order Numbers 1982-2, 1986-3, 1990-1, 1996-2, 2003-1,
- 17 2011-4, 2019-13, MCL 18.24, 418.1, 418.2, 445.2001;
- 18 445.2011, 445.2030, and 125.1998.
- 19 This hearing is being called to order at
- 20 11:05 a.m. on July 7th, 2021, at Room L-150, Cadillac
- 21 Place, 3026 W. Grand Boulevard in Detroit, Michigan.
- 22 This hearing was published in three newspapers of
- 23 general circulation as well as the Michigan Register,
- 24 Issue Number 11-2021 published on July 1st, 2021.
- I am Jack Nolish. I am the Director of the



Workers Compensation Agency and I will be facilitating

1

25

2	the hearing today.
3	Please note that we are here today to receive
4	your comments on the proposed rules. If you wish to
5	speak please make sure you have signed in and indicating
6	your willingness to speak. We will call on speakers in
7	the order in which names are listed on the sign-in
8	sheet. When you come forward to speak, please identify
9	yourself with your name, the organization you represent
10	and both your mailing and email addresses so this
11	information can be transcribed into the hearing report.
12	There not being a large crowd at this hearing
13	I will not at this point impose any kind of time
14	restrictions on those that might wish to present on the
15	rule sets.
16	If you have any additional comments to submit
17	in writing you may leave them at the registration desk
18	here or submit them to our Department no later than the
19	close of business today.
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	



WORKERS' COMPENSATION HEALTHCARE SERVICES 1 DIRECTOR NOLISH: All right. Is anyone here 2. 3 interested in speaking for/against the Healthcare Services Rules. 4 5 (No response) Okay. We will wait a few minutes and then we 6 7 will close the record on the first part of the hearing so feel free to visit amongst yourself. 8 9 (A short recess was taken) DIRECTOR NOLISH: I need to also mention that 10 in the Healthcare Services Rule, Rule 418.1 -- I'm 11 12 sorry, Rule 107, which is Rule 418.10107, Source 13 Documents, there is an update in Paragraph H which is on page 3 of the ruleset. There is a cross-reference to 14 15 official UB-04 Data Specifications Manual. When these 16 rules were drafted we were relying on the 2021 edition. 17 That has now been outdated and by the time these rules are effective we will be relying on the 2022 version, 18 and, similarly, July 1st publication date of 2020 will 19 be updated to July 1st, 2021. And those changes will be 20 21 incorporated as part of the report to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules. 2.2 23 We're on hold for the time being, then. 2.4 (A short recess was taken) DIRECTOR NOLISH: It is now 11:20. 25



- 1 checked the sign-in list. No cards have been submitted.
- 2 No one has signed in to testify regarding the Healthcare
- 3 Rules. Therefore, that portion of our hearing today is
- 4 now closed. We will reconvene at 11:30 to do the Rules
- 5 for the Board of Magistrate.
- I will note, however, that there was an error
- 7 in one of the published notices that appeared in the Ann
- 8 Arbor newspaper and it listed all the rules to be heard
- 9 at 12:30. So if someone might have some interest in the
- 10 Healthcare Rules that shows up here at 12:30 I will
- 11 entertain discussion at that time. I don't know if
- 12 anybody is interested in monitoring all of that, but
- 13 that's how we're going to proceed. That will also apply
- 14 to the other rulesets that will be called before the
- 15 General Agency set at that time.
- So having said that, we are now in recess
- 17 until 11:30.

18

19

20

21

2.2

23

24

25



- 1 WORKERS' DISABILITY COMPENSATION APPEALS COMMISSION
- 2 DIRECTOR NOLISH: Good morning. I'm Jack
- 3 Nolish, Director of the Workers' Compensation Agency.
- 4 The record is now open in the public hearing on the
- 5 proposed Administrative Rules entitled Department of
- 6 Labor and Economic Opportunity, Workers' Disability
- 7 Compensation Appeals Commission General Ruleset (WDCAC).
- 8 This hearing is being conducted pursuant to provisions
- 9 of Section 274 of 1969 PA 317, MCL 418.274, and
- 10 Executive Reorganization Order Numbers 1996-2, 1993 --
- 11 excuse me, 1999-3, 2002-1, 2003-1 and 2019-13, MCL
- 12 445.2001, 418.3, 445.2004, 445.2011 and 125.1998.
- This hearing is being called to order at
- 14 11:30 a.m. on July 7th in Room L-150, Cadillac Place,
- 15 3026 W. Grand Boulevard, Detroit. This hearing was
- 16 published in three newspapers of general circulation, as
- 17 well as the Michigan Register, Issue Number 11-2021,
- 18 published on July 1st, 2021.
- 19 At this point I'm calling for any public
- 20 comment relative to the ruleset for the Appeals
- 21 Commission. I do not have any cards signed in nor has
- 22 anybody signed in expressing a desire to speak, but if
- there is someone that wishes to do so please come
- 24 forward.
- 25 And, again, as before, we will hold the record



1	open. And at this point you're free to wander around
2	for a few minutes.
3	(A short recess was taken)
4	DIRECTOR NOLISH: Recalling the matter of the
5	Workers Compensation Appeals Commission Rules. Anybody
6	interested in speaking or making any presentations?
7	Having checked the sign-in list and there's no
8	name appearing there, we will consider the record closed
9	on this matter.
10	We will reconvene at 12:00 o'clock to do the
11	magistrate's rules, and we are in recess.
12	(A short recess was taken)
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	



- WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD OF MAGISTRATES
- 2 DIRECTOR NOLISH: This is a public hearing on
- 3 proposed Administrative Rules entitled Department of
- 4 Labor and Economic Opportunity, Workers' Disability
- 5 Compensation, Workers' Board of Magistrates General
- 6 Ruleset, also referred to as BOM.
- 7 This hearing is being conducted pursuant to
- 8 the provisions of Section 205 and 213 of the Workers'
- 9 Disability Compensation Act of 1969, 1969 Public Act
- 10 317, and MCL 418.205 and 418.213, as well as Section 33
- of the Administrative Procedures Act of 1969 being 1969
- 12 Public Act 306, MCL 24.233, and Executive Reorganization
- 13 Order Numbers 1996-2, 1999-3, 2002-1, 2003-1 and 2019-3
- 14 also known as MCL 445.2001, 418.3445 -- excuse me,
- 15 418.3, 445.2004, 445.2011 and 125.1998.
- This hearing is being called to order at
- 17 12:00 p.m. on July 7th held at Room L-150, Cadillac
- 18 Place, 3026 W. Grand Boulevard, Detroit. This hearing
- 19 was published in three newspapers of general circulation
- 20 as well as the Michigan Register, Issue 11-2021
- 21 published on July 1st, 2021.
- 22 As I indicated at the prior hearing we will
- 23 also entertain discussions or comments on this ruleset
- 24 starting with the 12:30 hearing as well.
- I have at this point two cards expressing an



- 1 interest in speaking and in the order that they were
- 2 submitted to me, first is Jayson Chizick indicated as
- 3 speaking in support.
- 4 MR. CHIZICK: Thank you very much, Mr. Nolish.
- 5 I appreciate the opportunity to speak.
- I am the Acting Section Chair for the Workers'
- 7 Compensation Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan.
- 8 Our former chairperson and three council members were
- 9 invited to participate in assisting with the drafting of
- 10 these rules and were reporting back over a period of
- 11 many months in support of the rule foundation process as
- 12 well as the proposals that we ended up with here today.
- Council was involved in commentary, fortunate
- 14 to have the director consult, and update the progress
- 15 during the drafting process. The council has in a
- 16 bipartisan fashion endorsed the rules. We believe that
- 17 they are critical to the streamlining of the exchange of
- 18 information, evidence and practice management. The
- 19 result of these rules I believe and I believe speaking
- 20 on behalf of the Workers' Compensation Law Section
- 21 Council will increase efficiency, reduce costs for
- 22 business and injured workers and their counsel.
- 23 In the circumstance where the State Bar is
- 24 consulted and involved in putting together the rules we
- 25 are fortunate to be able to say that we have been heard



- 1 and, therefore, we do endorse the rules.
- I would also note on a personal note that I
- 3 I've reviewed the changes that were proposed by the MAJ
- 4 and the self-insured representatives, and, again, on a
- 5 personal note believe that these compromises represent
- 6 the reasonable effort to deal with certain matters in
- 7 the proposed rules.
- 8 And thank you for the consideration.
- 9 DIRECTOR NOLISH: Mr. Chizick, you indicated
- 10 that you wish to also speak to the general rules? Do
- 11 you want this to be considered a comment on those as
- well or do you want to address them separately?
- 13 MR. CHIZICK: Director Nolish, I would be
- 14 happy if my comments were echoed in all respects for the
- 15 second set of rules.
- 16 DIRECTOR NOLISH: So noted.
- 17 Miss Drobnich.
- 18 MS. DROBNICH: Good morning. Dawn Drobnich on
- 19 behalf of the Michigan Self-Insured Association.
- 20 MR. MacDONALD: Good morning. Robert
- 21 MacDonald, past president for the Michigan Association
- 22 for Justice.
- MR. WARSH: Good morning. Richard Warsh on
- 24 behalf of Michigan Association of Justice.
- MS. DROBNICH: Director Nolish, we'd like to



- 1 -- we have submitted a 5-page letter that is in support
- 2 of changes to the proposed Board of Administrative
- 3 Rules. We are in support of the agency rules with these
- 4 proposed changes outlined in the letter that has been
- 5 provided to the Agency.
- 6 DIRECTOR NOLISH: And would you like those
- 7 made as part of the record?
- 8 MS. DROBNICH: Yes, please.
- 9 DIRECTOR NOLISH: Mr. MacDonald?
- 10 MR. MacDONALD: Thank you, your Honor.
- 11 DIRECTOR NOLISH: Do you concur?
- MR. MacDONALD: We concur, yes.
- 13 DIRECTOR NOLISH: Mr. Warsh?
- 14 MR. WARSH: Yes. I would want to say that
- 15 these changes are supported by both sides of the Bar,
- 16 were done thoughtfully, and we are happy to announce
- 17 that we have all signed off on them.
- DIRECTOR NOLISH: Thank you. I appreciate all
- 19 the effort that's gone into that. And do you wish these
- 20 remarks to be considered for both the Board of
- 21 Magistrates and the Agency Rules?
- 22 MS. DROBNICH: Yes, I do. This is Dawn
- 23 Drobnich on behalf of Michigan Self-Insured. Also note
- 24 the letters in support of those rules with the changes
- 25 as suggested in a 4-page letter, it's a different



07/07/2021 Page 13

- 1 document.
- DIRECTOR NOLISH: So there are two documents? 2.
- 3 MS. DROBNICH: Yes, there is. The first one
- is the Board of Magistrates document. It's 5 pages 4
- signed by four parties. Dan Cannon also signed it. 5
- He's a defense attorney, and also an associate member of 6
- the Michigan Self-Insured Association, could not be here 7
- today. He signed off also on this as well. So the 8
- Board of Magistrate letter is 5 pages and the General 9
- Agency Rules is a 4-page document. 10
- 11 DIRECTOR NOLISH: So noted. We will make
- 12 those part of the record.
- 13 Mr. MacDonald? Do you want to add anything?
- MR. MacDONALD: I concur with what Dawn said. 14
- 15 Thank you.
- 16 DIRECTOR NOLISH: Mr. Warsh?
- 17 MR. WARSH: I concur as well.
- DIRECTOR NOLISH: Any additional comments that 18
- 19 I might not have cards for?
- Thank you for your comments. They are so 20
- We will now leave the record open for a period 21
- 2.2 of time and we are in temporary recess.
- 23 (A short recess was taken)
- 2.4 DIRECTOR NOLISH: Recall the matter of the
- Workers' Compensation Appeals Commission Board of 25



1	Magistrate Rules. There being no additional public
2	comment requested the record is closed.
3	Okay. We will be recessed at 12:30 at which
4	time we'll take up the Agency Rules.
5	Thank you.
6	(A short recess was taken)
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

- 1 WORKERS' DISABILITY COMPENSATION AGENCY GENERAL RULES
- 2 DIRECTOR NOLISH: Good morning. This is the
- 3 public hearing on proposed Administrative Rules entitled
- 4 Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, Workers'
- 5 Disability Compensation General Ruleset also referred to
- 6 as WCA.
- 7 I am Jack Nolish, the Director of the Workers'
- 8 Compensation Agency and I am the one conducting this
- 9 hearing. This hearing is being conducted pursuant to
- 10 the provisions of Section 205 of the Workers' Disability
- 11 Compensation Act of 1969, also known as the 1969 Public
- 12 Act 317 and MCL 418.205 and Executive Reorganization
- 13 Order Number 1996-2, 1999-3, 2002-1, 2003-1 and 2019-3,
- 14 MCL 445.2001, 418.3, MCL 445.2001, 4.813, 445.2004,
- 15 445.2011 and 125.998.
- This hearing is being called to order at
- 17 12:30 p.m. on July 7th, 2021 at Room L-150, Cadillac
- 18 Place, 3026 W. Grand Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan. This
- 19 hearing was published in three newspapers in general
- 20 circulation as well as the Michigan Register, Issue
- 21 Number 11-2021 published on July 1st, 2021.
- We will be taking comments on the General
- 23 Ruleset and also due to an error in the publication in
- the Ann Arbor paper we will also take comments on all
- 25 four of the rulesets, that being the Healthcare Services



- 1 Rules, the Appeals Commission Rules, Board of Magistrate
- 2 Rules and these General Agency Rules.
- I have received no indication that anyone
- 4 wishes to speak to these rules. We did at the prior
- 5 hearing receive for the record some written comments
- 6 from the Michigan Association of Justice in concurrence
- 7 with the Self-Insurance Association as well as support
- 8 of the section council of the Workers' Compensation
- 9 Section of the Michigan State Bar supporting the rules
- in a document outlining some proposed changes that were
- 11 also supported by those organizations. We will, of
- 12 course, take those into consideration and incorporate
- 13 them where possible.
- 14 Is there anyone that wishes to speak regarding
- 15 any of the ruleset?
- 16 Hearing none, we will hold the record open
- 17 until 12:45.
- 18 (A short recess was taken)
- 19 DIRECTOR NOLISH: We're going to reopen the
- 20 record on the General Rules and any other comments.
- 21 I've been advised that Alicia Birach, or Birach -- how
- 22 do I pronounce this?
- MS. BIRACH: Birach.
- 24 DIRECTOR NOLISH: Okay. Would like to testify
- 25 in support.



07/07/2021 Page 17

- 1 MS. BIRACH: Hello, is this -- am I supposed
- 2 to come up here?
- 3 MR. NOLISH: That's fine. You have to come a
- little closer to the microphone. 4
- 5 MS. BIRACH: See how I do with this.
- 6 DIRECTOR NOLISH: That's perfect.
- 7 MS. BIRACH: Okay. So overall we're
- testifying in support. There were just a few issues of 8
- clarification or concern, rather. 9
- Under the Workers' Compensation Board of 10
- Magistrate proposed rules, Rule 418.86(2)(b): "A 11
- 12 magistrate is disqualified when the magistrate cannot
- 13 impartially hear a case. Circumstances that warrant
- 14 disqualification include but are not limited to
- 15 circumstances where the magistrate is personally biased
- 16 or prejudiced for or against a party or attorney."
- 17 There is some concern that this is overly
- broad and subjective and it should be narrowed and 18
- 19 provide some objective criteria to prevent from form in
- 20 judge shopping.
- 21 Moving on to the Workers' Compensation Board
- of Magistrate Rule 418.91(1)(d)(ii) and (iii), 22
- 23 Vocational Consultant Reports: Any information in the
- 24 report regarding remunerative employment must include
- all of the following: (ii) a job description outlining 25



- 1 all the functional requirements of the job; and, (iii),
- 2 any other pertinent information necessary to apply for
- 3 the employment.
- 4 We feel this is an undue burden on the
- 5 employer and impossible in most situations to obtain
- 6 this information. It's not customary practice for job
- 7 postings to include all functional requirements of the
- 8 job. Requiring the employer to obtain this information
- 9 unduly shifts the burden of looking for work from the
- 10 claimant to the employer, and the same with (iii), it is
- 11 overly broad and again shifts the burden from the
- 12 claimant to the employer.
- 13 Also, our other question is vocational
- 14 consultants used in this rule, so 91(1)(d)(ii), the same
- 15 individual who performs a forensic vocational evaluation
- 16 as defined under the general rules. If so, we were
- 17 hoping to have some consistency in linking these two and
- 18 kind of clarifying that because I think from the
- 19 terminology when it comes to vocational consultant and
- 20 vocational forensic evaluation and who performs what
- 21 could use a little bit of clarification.
- Moving on to the General Rules, under the
- 23 Definition Section Rule 1(j), Forensic Vocational
- 24 Evaluation, just a point of clarification, something to
- 25 consider. Is this the equivalent of Stokes for purposes



- 1 of determining residual wage earning capacity in a
- 2 litigated case for proofs at trial? I think that's
- 3 where we were going with this rule, but I didn't find it
- 4 entirely clear. So just a little clarification with
- 5 that.
- 6 Rule 1(m), Vocational evaluation means the
- 7 first step in the vocational rehabilitation process. To
- 8 clarify, this is not the Stokes evaluation done for
- 9 litigation purposes, that's only an evaluation that
- 10 occurs when vocational rehabilitation is being
- 11 performed. So, again, just kind of clarification of
- 12 some of that terminology I think is a little confusing
- 13 there.
- 14 And then individualized written rehabilitation
- 15 plan, those are only required under the new rules in a
- 16 vocational rehabilitation setting and not for purposes
- 17 of individual residual wage earning capacity at trial,
- 18 just kind of -- I think that's pretty clear because it
- 19 talks about how it only applies under the certain, you
- 20 know, rule, I think section 318 or 319, but just a
- 21 little bit of clarification there. I think when reading
- 22 it there was some gray area that leaved a little bit of
- 23 want for interpretation.
- 24 Then Rule 408.41b, and I quess this is the
- 25 most substantive one. Notice of election to be excluded



- 1 as an employees under the Act.
- 2 It talks about, (1), a notice of election to
- 3 be excluded under Section 161, and it says (4); and then
- 4 the next parentheses (5) of the Act shall be reported to
- 5 the agency on the WC-337. Is it (4) and (5)? And if it
- 6 is (4) and (5) I think this is incorrect and it should
- 7 be just (5) and (4) should be removed. Including (4) is
- 8 inconsistent with the Act and the practices of the
- 9 Agency.
- The same applies to 161(4) in Rule 408.41c.
- 11 And there was actually a case that Magistrate Housefield
- 12 recently decided by the name of Reuber that kind of
- 13 addresses this issue at length. I can go over some of
- 14 it if anyone cares to hear me drone on.
- 15 But basically I have an entire write-up which
- 16 I'll just email you about why, but Section 161(4) is
- 17 exempting certain individuals who are officers of a
- 18 small corporation who have certain percentages of
- 19 shareholdership from a policy, and requiring them to
- 20 fill out this form to meet the requirements of (2) and
- 21 (3) would render 161(4) meaningless. So it's entirely
- 22 inconsistent with the Act.
- 23 And in the Reuber case Magistrate Housefield
- 24 gives a very eloquent summary why and also goes over how
- 25 you can tell from the legislative history when the Act



- 1 was amended the rules just were amended to keep up with
- 2 the amendment to the Act. And, so, when the initial
- 3 rule is put into place the language there at the time
- 4 just got to accept what is now Section 161(5) for
- 5 purposes of having to fill out the Form 337. And we'll
- 6 type up a comment with a little explanation.
- 7 DIRECTOR NOLISH: You're ahead of my ability
- 8 to take notes. I will admit that.
- 9 MS. BIRACH: Okay. So I will type that one up
- 10 for you. But that's the most substantive one of the
- 11 things I want to address here today.
- Rule 408.44, Attorney Fees, we think this is
- 13 long overdue. An increase in the attorney fees
- 14 provision is necessary because plaintiffs' counsel are
- 15 doing five to ten times as much work on their claims in
- order to get them to the value the claims should have as
- 17 they were doing a number of years ago. There's been
- 18 changes in the definition of disability and what
- 19 constitutes personal injury and it has created more work
- 20 in establishing these proofs. There hasn't been an
- 21 increase in the attorney fees in a very long, long time
- 22 so we support this.
- 23 Rule 408.45a, Rule 408.45a, Vocational
- 24 Rehabilitation, Paragraph 4: Agency-approved vocational
- 25 rehabilitation providers. We just want to clarify that



- 1 agency-approved vocational rehabilitation providers are
- 2 only required when performing vocational rehabilitation
- 3 under Rule 45a and not required for forensic vocational
- 4 evaluations. So that's a point of clarification that I
- 5 think needs to be addressed. We're fine with it if it's
- 6 for purposes of just vocational evaluation, but what
- 7 we're saying is that we need an agency-approved
- 8 vocational rehabilitation counselor to perform -- the
- 9 evaluations for purposes of litigation and trial in
- 10 proving residual wage earning capacity, then we're
- 11 talking a different story there. And, so, that's
- 12 something we would like to see clarified and obviously
- would maintain a potential objection to it if that was
- 14 the case.
- But, again, going back to the language there I
- 16 just think we need to clarify these rules what we're
- 17 calling the vocational evaluations that we do for
- 18 purposes of residual wage earning capacity at trial to
- 19 make these a little clearer.
- 20 And, finally, I know you guys would like to
- 21 hear me talk more but I'm coming to the end of the
- 22 road --
- DIRECTOR NOLISH: Happy to hear you out as
- 24 long as you want to go.
- MS. BIRACH: I know, I know.



- 1 The requirement under 45a(4) that the
- 2 vocational evaluation by the agency-approved provider
- 3 take place no later than 119 days from the employee's
- 4 last day of work or last day of employment or MMI,
- 5 whichever is later, we just wanted to make sure and I
- 6 think it reads this way but I think it should be a
- 7 little clearer that only applies in cases where the
- 8 employee has been referred by the director to vocational
- 9 rehabilitation and is not mandatory in all cases,
- 10 specifically those in dispute.
- 11 That's it.
- 12 DIRECTOR NOLISH: Okay. Are you going to
- 13 provide those --
- MS. BIRACH: I would gladly give you an email
- 15 before 5:00 p.m. today.
- 16 DIRECTOR NOLISH: That would be fine. Also
- 17 you might want to refer to Messrs. MacDonald and Warsh,
- 18 too, they have done some work on this.
- 19 MS. BIRACH: Okay. Sounds good. Thanks,
- 20 Director.
- 21 DIRECTOR NOLISH: Well, we'll hold the record
- 22 open for a few more minutes.
- 23 (A short recess was taken)
- 24 DIRECTOR NOLISH: Calling the rulesets for
- 25 today's hearing. Are there any additional comments?



1	Anybody wish to add anything to the record at this time?
2	Hearing none and there being no additional
3	sign-ins at the front desk the records for these
4	hearings today are closed. It's now, 1:02 p.m.
5	If there's any additional comments regarding
6	any proposed rules that you may wish to share, it can be
7	done in writing addressed to Dave Campbell at
8	Campbelld5@Michigan.gov, by mail to the Workers'
9	Disability Compensation Agency, 2501 Woodlake Circle,
10	Okemos, Michigan 48864, and the record for receipt of
11	documents in that regard will remain open until 5:00
12	p.m. today.
13	Thank you all for attending and the record is
14	closed.
15	(The hearing concluded at 1:03 p.m.)
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	



1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	
3	STATE OF MICHIGAN )
4	) SS
5	COUNTY OF OAKLAND )
6	
7	I, Cynthia Ann Chyla, hereby certify that I
8	reported stenographically the foregoing proceedings and
9	testimony under oath at the time and place hereinbefore
LO	set forth; that thereafter the same was reduced to
L1	computer transcription under my supervision; and that
L2	this is a full, true, complete and correct transcription
L3	of said proceedings.
L4	
L5	aprimis a Chyla
L6	
L7	Cynthia Ann Chyla, CSR 0092
L8	Notary Public
L9	Oakland County, Michigan
20	My Commission expires: May 12, 2023
21	
22	
23	
24	



25

# Hearing

( **(1)** 20:2 (2) 20:20 (3) 20:21 **(4)** 20:3,5,6,7 **(5)** 20:4,5,6,7 1 **1(j)** 18:23 **1(m)** 19:6 **107** 5:12 **11-2021** 3:24 7:17 9:20 15:21 **119** 23:3 **11:05** 3:20 **11:20** 5:25 **11:30** 6:4,17 7:14 **125.1998** 3:18 7:12 9:15 **125.998** 15:15 **12:00** 8:10 9:17 **12:30** 6:9,10 9:24 14:3 15:17 **12:45** 16:17 **161** 20:3 **161(4)** 20:10,16,21 **161(5)** 21:4 **18.24** 3:17 **1969** 3:12,14 7:9 9:9,11 15:11 **1982-2** 3:16 **1986-3** 3:16 **1990-1** 3:16 **1993** 7:10 **1996-2** 3:16 7:10 9:13 15:13

**1999-3** 7:11 9:13 15:13

**1:02** 24:4

07/07/2021 **1:03** 24:15 **1st** 3:24 5:19,20 7:18 9:21 15:21 2 **2002-1** 7:11 9:13 15:13 **2003-1** 3:16 7:11 9:13 15:13 **2011-4** 3:17 **2019-13** 3:17 7:11 **2019-3** 9:13 15:13 **2020** 5:19 **2021** 3:20,24 5:16,20 7:18 9:21 15:17,21 **2022** 5:18 **205** 3:11 9:8 15:10 **213** 9:8 **24.233** 3:15 9:12 **2501** 24:9 **274** 7:9 3 **3** 5:14 **3026** 3:21 7:15 9:18 15:18 **306** 3:15 9:12

**315** 3:11 **317** 3:13 7:9 9:10 15:12 **318** 19:20 **319** 19:20 33 3:13 9:10 **337** 21:5 4

4 21:24 **4-page** 12:25 13:10 **4.813** 15:14

**408.44** 21:12 **408.45a** 21:23 **418.1** 3:17 5:11 **418.10107** 5:12 **418.2** 3:17 **418.205** 3:13 9:10 15:12 **418.213** 9:10 **418.274** 7:9 **418.3** 7:12 9:15 15:14 **418.315** 3:13 **418.3445** 9:14 **418.86(2)(b)** 17:11 **418.91(1)(d)(ii)** 17:22 **445.2001** 3:17 7:12 9:14 15:14 **445.2004** 7:12 9:15 15:14 **445.2011** 3:18 7:12 9:15 15:15 **445.2030** 3:18 **45a** 22:3 **45a(4)** 23:1 **48864** 24:10 5 **5** 13:4,9 **5-page** 12:1 **5:00** 23:15 24:11 7 7th 3:20 7:14 9:17 15:17 9 91(1)(d)(ii) 18:14

**408.41b** 19:24

**408.41c** 20:10



Α

a.m. 3:20 7:14

ability 21:7

accept 21:4

**Act** 3:12,14,15 9:9,11,12 15:11,12 20:1,4,8,22,25 21:2

Acting 10:6

add 13:13 24:1

**additional** 4:16 13:18 14:1 23:25 24:2,5

address 11:12 21:11

addressed 22:5 24:7

addresses 4:10 20:13

**administrative** 3:2,4,14 5:22 7:5 9:3,11 12:2 15:3

**admit** 21:8

advised 16:21

**agency** 3:4 4:1 6:15 7:3 12:3, 5,21 13:10 14:4 15:1,8 16:2 20:5,9 24:9

**agency-approved** 21:24 22:1, 7 23:2

ahead 21:7

**Alicia** 16:21

amended 21:1

amendment 21:2

Ann 6:7 15:24

announce 12:16

**Appeals** 7:1,7,20 8:5 13:25 16:1

appeared 6:7

appearing 8:8

applies 19:19 20:10 23:7

apply 6:13 18:2

Arbor 6:8 15:24

area 19:22

assisting 10:9

associate 13:6

**Association** 11:19,21,24 13:7

16:6,7

attending 24:13

**attorney** 13:6 17:16 21:12,13, 21

В

back 10:10 22:15

Bar 10:7,23 12:15 16:9

basically 20:15

behalf 10:20 11:19,24 12:23

**biased** 17:15

bipartisan 10:16

**Birach** 16:21,23 17:1,5,7 21:9

22:25 23:14,19

**bit** 18:21 19:21,22

**Board** 6:5 9:1,5 12:2,20 13:4,

9,25 16:1 17:10,21

**BOM** 9:6

**Boulevard** 3:21 7:15 9:18

15:18

broad 17:18 18:11

burden 18:4,9,11

**business** 4:19 10:22

C

Cadillac 3:20 7:14 9:17 15:17

call 4:6

**called** 3:19 6:14 7:13 9:16

15:16

calling 7:19 22:17 23:24

Campbell 24:7

Campbelld5@michigan.gov

24:8

Cannon 13:5

capacity 19:1,17 22:10,18

cards 6:1 7:21 9:25 13:19

cares 20:14

case 17:13 19:2 20:11,23

22:14

cases 23:7,9

**Chair** 10:6

chairperson 10:8

**checked** 6:1 8:7

Chizick 10:2,4 11:9,13

Circle 24:9

circulation 3:23 7:16 9:19

15:20

circumstance 10:23

circumstances 17:13,15

**claimant** 18:10,12

claims 21:15,16

**clarification** 17:9 18:21,24

19:4,11,21 22:4

clarified 22:12

clarify 19:8 21:25 22:16

clarifying 18:18

**clear** 19:4,18

clearer 22:19 23:7

close 4:19 5:7

closed 6:4 8:8 14:2 24:4,14

closer 17:4

**comment** 7:20 11:11 14:2

21:6

commentary 10:13

**comments** 4:4,16 9:23 11:14 13:18,20 15:22,24 16:5,20

23:25 24:5

**Commission** 7:1,7,21 8:5



13:25 16:1

Committee 5:22

Compensation 3:4,5,12 4:1 5:1 7:1,3,7 8:5 9:1,5,9 10:7,20 13:25 15:1,5,8,11 16:8 17:10, 21 24:9

compromises 11:5

concern 17:9,17

concluded 24:15

concur 12:11,12 13:14,17

concurrence 16:6

conducted 3:10 7:8 9:7 15:9

conducting 15:8

confusing 19:12

consideration 11:8 16:12

considered 11:11 12:20

consistency 18:17

constitutes 21:19

consult 10:14

consultant 17:23 18:19

consultants 18:14

consulted 10:24

corporation 20:18

costs 10:21

council 10:8,13,15,21 16:8

counsel 10:22 21:14

counselor 22:8

created 21:19

criteria 17:19

critical 10:17

cross-reference 5:14

**crowd** 4:12

customary 18:6

D

**Dan** 13:5

**Data** 5:15

date 5:19

**Dave** 24:7

**Dawn** 11:18 12:22 13:14

day 23:4

days 23:3

deal 11:6

decided 20:12

defense 13:6

defined 18:16

definition 18:23 21:18

**Department** 3:3 4:18 7:5 9:3

15:4

description 17:25

desire 7:22

desk 4:17 24:3

determining 19:1

Detroit 3:21 7:15 9:18 15:18

director 3:1,25 5:2,10,25 7:2,3 8:4 9:2 10:14 11:9,13,16,25 12:6,9,11,13,18 13:2,11,16, 18,24 15:2,7 16:19,24 17:6 21:7 22:23 23:8,12,16,20,21,

24

**disability** 3:4,12 7:1,6 9:4,9 15:1,5,10 21:18 24:9

discussion 6:11

discussions 9:23

dispute 23:10

disqualification 17:14

disqualified 17:12

distribution 3:9

document 13:1,4,10 16:10

documents 5:13 13:2 24:11

drafted 5:16

**drafting** 10:9,15

**Drobnich** 11:17,18,25 12:8,22,

23 13:3

drone 20:14

dually 3:8

due 15:23

Ε

earning 19:1,17 22:10,18

**echoed** 11:14

Economic 3:3 7:6 9:4 15:4

edition 5:16

effective 5:18

efficiency 10:21

effort 11:6 12:19

election 19:25 20:2

eloquent 20:24

email 4:10 20:16 23:14

employee 23:8

employee's 23:3

employees 20:1

**employer** 18:5,8,10,12

employment 17:24 18:3 23:4

end 22:21

**ended** 10:12

endorse 11:1

endorsed 10:16

entertain 6:11 9:23

entertaining 3:6

**entire** 20:15

entitled 3:3 7:5 9:3 15:3

equivalent 18:25



**error** 6:6 15:23

establishing 21:20

**evaluation** 18:15,20,24 19:6,8, 9 22:6 23:2

**evaluations** 22:4,9,17

evidence 10:18

exchange 10:17

excluded 19:25 20:3

excuse 7:11 9:14

**Executive** 3:15 7:10 9:12

15:12

exempting 20:17

explanation 21:6

**expressing** 7:22 9:25

F

facilitating 4:1

fashion 10:16

feel 5:8 18:4

fees 21:12,13,21

fill 20:20 21:5

finally 22:20

find 19:3

fine 17:3 22:5 23:16

for/against 5:3

forensic 18:15,20,23 22:3

form 17:19 20:20 21:5

fortunate 10:13.25

forward 4:8 7:24

foundation 10:11

free 5:8 8:1

front 24:3

functional 18:1,7

G

**general** 3:9,23 6:15 7:7,16 9:5, 19 11:10 13:9 15:1,5,19,22 16:2,20 18:16,22

give 23:14

**gladly** 23:14

**good** 7:2 11:18,20,23 15:2

23:19

Grand 3:21 7:15 9:18 15:18

gray 19:22

guess 19:24

guys 22:20

Н

happy 11:14 12:16 22:23

Healthcare 3:5,8 5:1,3,11 6:2,

10 15:25

hear 17:13 20:14 22:21,23

heard 6:8 10:25

hearing 3:2,10,19,22 4:2,11, 12 5:7 6:3 7:4,8,13,15 9:2,7, 16,18,22,24 15:3,9,16,19 16:5,16 23:25 24:2,15

hearings 3:7 24:4

**held** 9:17

history 20:25

hold 5:23 7:25 16:16 23:21

Honor 12:10

**hoping** 18:17

Housefield 20:11,23

1

identify 4:8

ii 17:25

iii 17:22 18:1,10

impartially 17:13

**impose** 4:13

impossible 18:5

include 17:14,24 18:7

Including 20:7

inconsistent 20:8,22

incorporate 16:12

incorporated 5:21

incorrect 20:6

increase 10:21 21:13,21

indicating 4:5

indication 16:3

individual 18:15 19:17

individualized 19:14

individuals 20:17

information 4:11 10:18 17:23

18:2,6,8

initial 21:2

injured 10:22

**injury** 21:19

interest 6:9 10:1

interested 5:3 6:12 8:6

interpretation 19:23

invited 10:9

involved 10:13,24

issue 3:24 7:17 9:20 15:20

20:13

**issues** 17:8

J

Jack 3:25 7:2 15:7

Jayson 10:2

**job** 17:25 18:1,6,8

**Joint** 5:21

judge 17:20

**July** 3:20,24 5:19,20 7:14,18 9:17,21 15:17,21

**Justice** 11:22,24 16:6

K

**kind** 4:13 18:18 19:11,18 20:12

L

**L-150** 3:20 7:14 9:17 15:17

Labor 3:3 7:6 9:4 15:4

language 21:3 22:15

large 4:12

**Law** 10:7,20

leave 4:17 13:21

**leaved** 19:22

legislative 20:25

length 20:13

letter 12:1,4,25 13:9

**letters** 12:24

limited 17:14

linking 18:17

list 6:1 8:7

listed 4:7 6:8

litigated 19:2

litigation 19:9 22:9

long 21:13,21 22:24

M

**Macdonald** 11:20,21 12:9,10, 12 13:13,14 23:17

made 12:7

**magistrate** 6:5 13:9 14:1 16:1 17:11,12,15,22 20:11,23

magistrate's 8:11

Magistrates 9:1,5 12:21 13:4

mail 24:8

mailing 4:10

maintain 22:13

**MAJ** 11:3

make 4:5 13:11 22:19 23:5

making 8:6

management 10:18

mandatory 23:9

Manual 5:15

matter 8:4,9 13:24

matters 11:6

**MCL** 3:13,15,17 7:9,11 9:10,

12,14 15:12,14

meaningless 20:21

means 19:6

meet 20:20

member 13:6

members 10:8

mention 5:10

**Messrs** 23:17

**Michigan** 3:21,23 7:17 9:20 10:7 11:19,21,24 12:23 13:7

15:18,20 16:6,9 24:10

microphone 17:4

minutes 5:6 8:2 23:22

MMI 23:4

monitoring 6:12

months 10:11

morning 7:2 11:18,20,23 15:2

Moving 17:21 18:22

Ν

names 4:7

narrowed 17:18

newspaper 6:8

**newspapers** 3:22 7:16 9:19

15:19

Nolish 3:1,25 5:2,10,25 7:2,3

8:4 9:2 10:4 11:9,13,16,25 12:6,9,11,13,18 13:2,11,16, 18,24 15:2,7 16:19,24 17:3,6 21:7 22:23 23:12,16,21,24

**note** 3:6 4:3 6:6 11:2,5 12:23

**noted** 11:16 13:11,21

**notes** 21:8

notice 19:25 20:2

noticed 3:9

notices 6:7

**number** 3:24 7:17 15:13,21

21:17

**Numbers** 3:16 7:10 9:13

0

objection 22:13

objective 17:19

obtain 18:5,8

occurs 19:10

officers 20:17

official 5:15

**Okemos** 24:10

**open** 7:4 8:1 13:21 16:16

23:22 24:11

opportunity 3:3 7:6 9:4 10:5

15:4

order 3:16,19 4:7 7:10,13

9:13,16 10:1 15:13,16 21:16

organization 4:9

organizations 16:11

outdated 5:17

outlined 12:4

outlining 16:10 17:25

overdue 21:13 overly 17:17 18:11 P

**p.m.** 9:17 15:17 23:15 24:4,12, 15

**PA** 3:13 7:9 **pages** 13:4,9 **paper** 15:24

**Paragraph** 5:13 21:24

parentheses 20:4

part 5:7,21 12:7 13:12

participate 10:9

parties 13:5party 17:16past 11:21

percentages 20:18

perfect 17:6 perform 22:8

performed 19:11

performing 22:2

period 10:10 13:21

personal 11:2,5 21:19

personally 17:15

pertinent 18:2

**place** 3:21 7:14 9:18 15:18 21:3 23:3

plaintiffs' 21:14

**plan** 19:15

**point** 4:13 7:19 8:1 9:25 18:24 22:4

**policy** 20:19

portion 6:3

postings 18:7

potential 22:13

practice 10:18 18:6

practices 20:8

prejudiced 17:16

present 4:14

presentations 8:6

president 11:21

**pretty** 19:18

prevent 17:19

prior 9:22 16:4

**Procedures** 3:14 9:11

proceed 6:13

process 10:11,15 19:7

progress 10:14

pronounce 16:22

proofs 19:2 21:20

proposals 10:12

**proposed** 3:2 4:4 7:5 9:3 11:3, 7 12:2,4 15:3 16:10 17:11 24:6

provide 17:19 23:13

provided 12:5

provider 23:2

providers 21:25 22:1

proving 22:10

provision 21:14

**provisions** 3:11 7:8 9:8 15:10

**public** 3:2,15 7:4,19 9:2,9,12

14:1 15:3,11

publication 5:19 15:23

publications 3:9

published 3:22,24 6:7 7:16,18

9:19,21 15:19,21

purposes 18:25 19:9,16 21:5

22:6,9,18

pursuant 3:10 7:8 9:7 15:9

**put** 21:3

putting 10:24

Q

question 18:13

R

reading 19:21

reads 23:6

reasonable 11:6

**Recall** 13:24

Recalling 8:4

receipt 24:10

receive 4:3 16:5

received 16:3

recently 20:12

recess 5:9,24 6:16 8:3,11,12 13:22,23 14:6 16:18 23:23

recessed 14:3

reconvene 6:4 8:10

**record** 3:1 5:7 7:4,25 8:8 12:7 13:12,21 14:2 16:5,16,20

23:21 24:1,10,13

records 24:3

**reduce** 10:21

refer 23:17

referred 9:6 15:5 23:8

reflect 3:1

regard 24:11

Register 3:23 7:17 9:20 15:20

registration 4:17

rehabilitation 19:7,10,14,16 21:24,25 22:1,2,8 23:9

relative 7:20

relying 5:16,18

remain 24:11 remarks 12:20

removed 20:7

remunerative 17:24

**render** 20:21 **reopen** 16:19

**Reorganization** 3:15 7:10

9:12 15:12

report 4:11 5:21 17:24

reported 20:4

reporting 10:10

Reports 17:23

represent 4:9 11:5

representatives 11:4

requested 14:2

required 19:15 22:2,3

requirement 23:1

requirements 18:1,7 20:20

requiring 18:8 20:19

residual 19:1,17 22:10,18

respects 11:14

response 5:5

restrictions 4:14

result 10:19

**Reuber** 20:12,23

reviewed 11:3

Richard 11:23

road 22:22

**Robert** 11:20

Room 3:20 7:14 9:17 15:17

**rule** 4:15 5:11,12 10:11 17:11, 22 18:14,23 19:3,6,20,24 20:10 21:3,12,23 22:3

**rules** 3:2,5,7,8 4:4 5:4,16,17, 22 6:3,4,8,10 7:5 8:5,11 9:3 10:10,16,19,24 11:1,7,10,15

12:3,21,24 13:10 14:1,4 15:1, 3 16:1,2,4,9,20 17:11 18:16, 22 19:15 21:1 22:16 24:6

**ruleset** 5:14 7:7,20 9:6,23 15:23 16:15

Ruleset also 15:5

rulesets 6:14 15:25 23:24

S

**section** 3:11,13 7:9 9:8,10 10:6,7,20 15:10 16:8,9 18:23 19:20 20:3.16 21:4

Self-insurance 16:7

**self-insured** 11:4,19 12:23 13:7

separate 3:7

separately 11:12

**Services** 3:5,8 5:1,4,11 15:25

set 6:15 11:15

sets 4:15

setting 19:16

**share** 24:6

shareholdership 20:19

sheet 4:8

**shifts** 18:9,11

shopping 17:20

**short** 5:9,24 8:3,12 13:23 14:6

16:18 23:23

**shows** 6:10

**sides** 12:15

sign-in 4:7 6:1 8:7

**sign-ins** 24:3

**signed** 4:5 6:2 7:21,22 12:17

13:5,8

similarly 5:19

situations 18:5

**small** 20:18

**Sounds** 23:19

**Source** 5:12

**speak** 4:5,6,8 7:22 10:5 11:10

16:4,14

speakers 4:6

speaking 5:3 8:6 10:1,3,19

specifically 23:10

Specifications 5:15

starting 9:24

**State** 10:7,23 16:9

**step** 19:7

**Stokes** 18:25 19:8

story 22:11

streamlining 10:17

subjective 17:18

submit 4:16,18

submitted 6:1 10:2 12:1

substantive 19:25 21:10

suggested 12:25

summary 20:24

**support** 10:3,11 12:1,3,24 16:7,25 17:8 21:22

supported 12:15 16:11

supporting 16:9

supposed 17:1

Т

**taking** 15:22

talk 22:21

talking 22:11

talks 19:19 20:2

temporary 13:22

ten 21:15

terminology 18:19 19:12

testify 6:2 16:24 testifying 17:8

things 21:11

thoughtfully 12:16

**time** 4:13 5:17,23 6:11,15 13:22 14:4 21:3,21 24:1

times 21:15

**today** 3:7 4:2,3,19 6:3 10:12 13:8 21:11 23:15 24:4,12

today's 23:25

transcribed 4:11

trial 19:2,17 22:9,18

**type** 21:6,9

U

**UB-04** 5:15

**undue** 18:4

unduly 18:9

update 5:13 10:14

updated 5:20

٧

version 5:18

visit 5:8

**vocational** 17:23 18:13,15,19, 20,23 19:6,7,10,16 21:23,24 22:1,2,3,6,8,17 23:2,8

W

wage 19:1,17 22:10,18

**wait** 5:6

wander 8:1

wanted 23:5

warrant 17:13

**Warsh** 11:23 12:13,14 13:16, 17 23:17

WC-337 20:5

**WCA** 15:6

**WDCAC** 7:7

whichever 23:5

willingness 4:6

wishes 7:23 16:4,14

Woodlake 24:9

work 18:9 21:15,19 23:4,18

workers 4:1 8:5 10:22

**Workers'** 3:4,5,11 5:1 7:1,3,6 9:1,4,5,8 10:6,20 13:25 15:1, 4,7,10 16:8 17:10,21 24:8

**write-up** 20:15

writing 4:17 24:7

written 16:5 19:14

Υ

years 21:17

