

Workers' Compensation Acronyms

AA – Applicant Attorney

ACOEM – American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine

ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act (Federal)

ADL – activities of daily living

ALJ – Administrative Law Judge (aka WCALJ)

AMA – American Medical Association

AOE/COE – Arising out of employment and occurring in the course of employment

AVE – Agreed Vocational Evaluator

AWE – average weekly earnings

AWW – average weekly wages

CIGA – California Insurance Guarantee Association

C&R – Compromise & Release (settlement)

COB – Close of business

COLA – Cost of living adjustment

COPD – chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

CRPS – complex regional pain syndrome

CT – cumulative trauma

CTS – carpal tunnel syndrome

C/S – cervical spine (Neck)

DC – Doctor of chiropractic medicine

DEU – Disability Evaluation Unit

DIP – distal interphalangeal joint

DOI – date of injury

DOL – date of loss (similar to date of injury)

DOR or D/R – Declaration of Readiness to Proceed

DRE – diagnosis-Related Estimates (assessing impairment per AMA Guides)

DSM-IV – *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, Fourth Edition

DVT – deep vein thrombosis

DWC – Division of Workers’ Compensation

DWDU – Death Without Dependents Unit

EBM – evidence based medicine

E/C – employer/carrier

EDD – Employment Development Dep’t

EMG/NCS – Electro Myography/Nerve Conduction Study (sometimes called NCV [velocity])

ER – Employer

F&A – Findings & Award

F&O – Findings & Order (this usually issues when we win [it’s usually a take-nothing])

FAS – functional acuity score

FEC – future earning capacity

FMC – future medical care (or, FM)

F/U – follow up

GAF – global assessment of functioning (psyche-related impairment is based on this)

I&A – Information and Assistance Officer

IFR – initial file review (for HB, this is a CC09)

IME – independent medical examination

IP – interphalangeal joint

LDP – last day paid

LDW – last day worked

LEC – loss of earning capacity (aka DFEC: diminished future earning capacity)

LE – lower extremity

LT – lost time

L/S – Lumbar spine (low back)

MDT – multiple disabilities table (aka CVC: combined values chart)

MMI – maximum medical improvement

MPN – medical provider network

MSA – Medicare set-aside analysis

MTUS – medical treatment utilization schedule (new version of ACOEM)

MVA – motor vehicle accident

NCV / NCVS– nerve conduction velocity testing/ studies

NOI – notice of intent

NSAIDS – non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs

OCC – occupation (eg: Occ. Code for rating impairment)

OSHA – Occupational Safety and Health Act

P&S – permanent and stationary (applies to a condition, not to a person)

PD – permanent disability (disability is not impairment!)

PDA – permanent disability advance

PDRS – permanent disability rating schedule

POA – plan of action

PPD – permanent partial disability

PTD – permanent total disability

PTP – Primary Treating Physician

RFC – residual functional capacity

ROM – range of motion

RTW – return to work

SCIF – State Compensation Insurance Fund

SDT – Subpoena duces tectum (subpoena records in essence)

SIBTF – Subsequent Injuries Benefits Trust Fund (aka “SIF”)

SIP – self-imposed penalty (10%)

SIR – Self-Insured Retention

SOL – statute of limitations

SSA – Social Security Administration

SSD – Social Security Disability

SSDI – Social Security Disability Income

SSI – Supplemental Security Income (Social Security welfare benefit payable to disabled and poor person)

SSR – Social Security Retirement

SUO – statement under oath

SWAG – scientific wild-ass guess (seriously)

TD – temporary disability

Th/S – thoracic spine (middle back)

TPA – third party administrator

TPD – temporary partial disability

TTD – temporary total disability

VR – vocational rehabilitation

WC – workers' compensation

WCIRB – WC Insurance Rating Bureau

WL – wage loss

WPI – whole person impairment