

APPENDIX N

PROCEDURES FOR INJURY ON DUTY AND RECURRENCE CLAIMS

An Officer who has been certified as injured on duty shall be provided a **list** of available physicians for treatment. **The list** of available physicians **shall indicate the physicians' medical specialties and the physicians shall be** members in good standing of a network of worker' compensation physicians qualified to render appropriate medical care for the injury claimed. The Officer will select a physician from the **list** provided by the Employer. The Medical Services Section will refer the Officer to the physician selected by the Officer.

An Officer claiming a recurrence of an injury on duty will have his or her claim evaluated by a physician from the Medical Services Section. A claim of a recurrence of an injury on duty includes a claim by an Officer that an injury, illness or condition is related to an injury on duty.

If the Medical Services Section physician finds the injury, illness or condition complained of is not a recurrence of or related to an injury on duty, the Medical Services Section will provide the Officer with the list of physicians described above. The Officer will select a physician from the list provided by the Medical Services Section and the Medical Services Section will refer the Officer to the physician selected by the Officer (Referral Physician).

The parties may accept the Referral Physician's finding, which shall be final and binding on both the Officer and the Employer, or either party may seek an Independent Medical Examination (IME). The physician conducting the IME (IME Referral Physician) shall be certified in the appropriate medical specialty(ies) and shall be selected by the Officer from a list of physicians provided by the Employer, which shall indicate the physicians' certified medical specialty(ies), who are members in good standing of a network of physicians qualified to render IMEs. The Medical Services Section will refer the Officer to the IME Referral Physician selected by the Officer for an examination. The IME Referral Physician shall consider all documents and medical records considered by the Referral Physician as well as the Referral Physician's finding. The IME Referral Physician's finding shall specify the reasons for the finding and shall be supported by the evidence in the documents and medical records. The finding of the IME Referral Physician shall be final and binding on both the Officer and the Employer.

The following shall apply if the Medical Services Section finds that the injury, illness or condition complained of is not a recurrence of or related to an injury on duty and it is later determined, pursuant to the process described above, that the injury, illness or condition complained of is a recurrence of or related to an injury on duty. Under these circumstances, the twelve (12) month period of time for which an Officer receives full pay and benefits as set forth in Section 18.1 shall be extended and the Officer shall receive, in addition to the twelve (12) month period of time set forth in Section 18.1, full pay and benefits from the date the Medical Services Section initially found that the injury, illness or condition complained of was not a recurrence of or related to an injury on duty through the date it is later

certified by the Medical Services Section that the injury, illness or condition complained of is a recurrence of or related to an injury on duty.