

RESOLUTION NUMBER 24-01
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION AND SERVICE
BY THE ALASKA WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD

WHEREAS, the Alaska Workers' Compensation Board is a public organization accountable through its members and staff to the residents, the Legislature, and the Governor of Alaska;

WHEREAS, the Alaska Workers' Compensation Board acts as the lead state agency for adjudicating disputes under the Alaska Workers' Compensation Act, to ensure quick, efficient, fair and predictable provision of benefits to injured workers at a reasonable cost to employers;

WHEREAS, AS 23.30.110's requirement that claims, decisions, and compromise and release agreements be served either personally or via certified mail, was adopted in 1959;

WHEREAS, since 1959 technology has advanced and permits claims, decisions and compromise and release agreements, and notices to be served quickly, efficiently, and predictably via electronic distribution;

WHEREAS, the Alaska Court System, effective January 1, 2016, adopted Civil Rule 5.3, which permits the use of electronic mail to distribute notices, orders, judgments, and other documents to attorneys, to court-appointed professionals, and to agencies and other entities that routinely receive documents from the court and permits self-represented persons to opt in to e-mail distribution;

WHEREAS, requests are routinely made by parties and attorneys who regularly appear before the Board to receive notices, claims, decisions, compromise and release agreements, and other documents from the Board via electronic distribution;

WHEREAS, the Alaska Workers' Compensation Division expends approximately \$30,000 annually on postage to serve notices, claims, decisions, compromise and release agreements, and other documents via certified mail and regular mail;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska Workers' Compensation Board supports an amendment to AS 23.30.110 to permit the Alaska Workers' Compensation Board use electronic mail to distribute notices, claims, decisions, compromise and release agreements, and other documents to attorneys, to division-appointed professionals, and to agencies and other entities that routinely receive documents from the Board, and to permit self-represented persons to opt in to e-mail distribution.

CERTIFICATION

The Alaska Workers' Compensation Board held a meeting duly and regularly called, noticed, and convened the 16th day of May, 2024, and the foregoing Resolution was adopted at the meeting.

Signed this 16th day of May 2024

DocuSigned by:

Charles Collins

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Charles Collins, Chair

Alaska Workers' Compensation Board

BOARD MEMBERS

DocuSigned by:



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Bradley Austin

DocuSigned by:



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Pamela Cline

DocuSigned by:



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Jonathon Dartt

DocuSigned by:

Sara Faulkner

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Sara Faulkner

DocuSigned by:



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Steven Heidemann

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Sarah Lefebvre

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Debbie White

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Brian Zematis

DocuSigned by:



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Randy Beltz

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John Corbett

DocuSigned by:

Michael Dennis

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Michael Dennis

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Bronson Frye

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Anthony Ladd

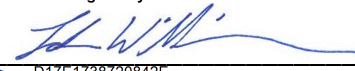
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Marc Stemp

DocuSigned by:



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Lake Williams