TITLE 50: INSURANCE
CHAPTER VI: ILLINOIS WORKERS’ COMPENSATION COMMISSION

PART 9030
ARBITRATION

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AUTHORITY: Implementing and authorized by the Workers' Compensation Act [820 ILCS 305] and the Workers' Occupational Diseases Act [820 ILCS 310].


Section 9030.70 Rules of Evidence

EMERGENCY

a) The Illinois Rules of Evidence shall apply in all proceedings before the Commission, either upon Arbitration or Review, except to the extent they conflict with the Act, the Workers' Occupational Diseases Act [820 ILCS 310], or the Rules Governing Practice Before the Workers' Compensation Commission (50 Ill. Adm. Code Chapter VI).

1) In any proceeding before the Commission where the petitioner is a COVID-19 First Responder or Front-Line Worker as defined in Section (a)(2), if the petitioner’s injury or period of incapacity resulted from exposure to the COVID-19 virus during a COVID-19-related state of emergency, the exposure will be rebuttably presumed to
have arisen out of and in the course of the petitioner’s COVID-19 First Responder or Front-Line Worker employment and, further, will be rebuttably presumed to be causally connected to the hazards or exposures of the petitioner’s COVID-19 First Responder or Front-Line Worker employment.

2) The term “COVID-19 First Responder or Front-Line Worker” means any individuals employed as police, fire personnel, emergency medical technicians, or paramedics and all individuals employed and considered as first responders, health care providers engaged in patient care, correction officers, and the crucial personnel identified under the following headings in Section 1 Part 12 of Executive Order 2020-10 dated March 20, 2020: “Stores that sell groceries and medicine”; “Food, beverage, and cannabis production and agriculture”; “Organizations that provide charitable and social services”; “Gas stations and businesses needed for transportation”; “Financial institutions”; “Hardware and supplies stores”; “Critical trades”; “Mail, post, shipping, logistics, delivery, and pick-up services”; “Educational institutions”; “Laundry services”; “Restaurants for consumption off-premises”; “Supplies to work from home”; “Supplies for Essential Businesses and Operations”; “Transportation”; “Home-based care and services”; “Residential facilities and shelters”; “Professional services”; “Day care centers for employees exempted by [Executive Order 2020-10]”; “Manufacture, distribution, and supply chain for critical products and industries”; “Critical labor union functions”; “Hotels and motels”; and “Funeral services”.

b) Exhibits offered in evidence, whether admitted or rejected, shall be retained by the assigned Arbitrator or Commissioner until a decision is issued in the matter. Exhibits may not be removed by the parties. Once a final decision is rendered, exhibits shall be retained by the Commission pursuant to the requirements of Section 17 of the Act.

(Source: Amended by emergency rulemaking at 44 Ill. Reg. _____, effective _________________ for a maximum of 150 days)