IN THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

WCC No. 2001-2086

KELLY WILD

Petitioner

FILED

VS.

JUN 1 5 2004

MONTANA STATE FUND

Respondent/Insurer

OFFICE OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION JUDGE HELENA, MONTANA

WCC No. 2001-0294

MARK MATHEWS

Petitioner

VS.

LIBERTY NORTHWEST INSURANCE CORPORATION

ORDER REGARDING PROSPECTIVE CLAIMS AND COMMON FUND FEES

¶1 Approved as to form and content,

¶2 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that on this ______ day of June, 2004, the Stipulation Regarding Prospective Claims, which was approved on November 5, 2003, is hereby withdrawn and replaced by this Revised Stipulation Regarding Prospective Claims and Common Fund Fees.

 $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{N}}$ in Helena, Montana, this $\underline{19}$

_day of June, 2004.

JUDĞE

Tradley J. Luck

Mr. Greg E. Overturf Mr. Geoffrey C. Angel

Mr. Larry W. Jones

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FILED

JUN 1 4 2004

OFFICE OF KERS' COMPENSATION JUDGE HELENA, MONTANA

IN THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

KELLY WILD,

Petitioner,

WCC NO. 2001-0286

VS.

MONTANA STATE WORKERS' COMPENSATION,

Respondent.

and

WCC NO. 2001-0294

MARK MATHEWS,

Petitioner,

VS.

REVISED STIPULATION REGARDING PROSPECTIVE CLAIMS AND COMMON FUND **FEES**

LIBERTY NORTHWEST INSURANCE CORPORATION,

Respondent.

COME NOW the parties, by and through counsel, and hereby stipulate as to the dates to use for prospectively implementing Wild v. Montana State Fund, 2003 MT 115, 315 Mont. 425, 68 P.3d 855 and Mathews v. Liberty Northwest Ins. Corp., 2003 MT 116, 315 Mont. 441, 68 P.3d 865. For prospective implementation purposes, the parties agree that a claimant's entitlement date for an occupational disease shall be the date a claimant's occupational disease is first diagnosed as work-related. Therefore, all claims arising out of occupational diseases which are first diagnosed as work-related on or after April 29, 2003, the date of the Montana Supreme Court's decisions in Wild and Mathews, are considered prospective claims. The parties also agree that a claimant's entitlement date for an injury claim shall be the date the injury occurred. Therefore, all claims arising out of injuries which occur on or after April 29, 2003, are considered prospective claims. Common fund fees are not payable on prospective claims.

Recent changes to the Workers' Compensation Act prohibit the award of common fund fees on all claims arising on or after April 21, 2003. See Mont. Code Ann. §§ 39-71-611, -612 (2003); Senate Bill 450, § 6 (2003) (noting that the prohibition on common fund fees was effective on the date of passage and approval, which occurred on April 21, 2003). Therefore, common fund fees, if awarded, are not payable on any claims for injuries which occur on or after April 21, 2003, the effective date of the legislative prohibition on common fund fees. Further, common fund fees, if awarded, are not payable on any claims for occupational diseases which are first diagnosed as work-related on or after April 21, 2003.

DATED this <u>10</u> day of March, 2004.

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Attorneys for Respondent/Insurer.

| | By Bradley J. Luck |
|-------------------------|---|
| DATED this day of March | |
| * | ANGEL LAW FIRM 125 W. Mendenhall Bozeman, MT 59715 By Geofffey Angel |
| DATED this day of March | |
| | 700 SW Higgins Avenue, Suite 108 Missoula, MT 59803 |
| | Larry W. Jones |
| DATED this day of March | , 2004. |
| | LAU 17RM |
| | HUNT & MOLLOY 310 Broadway Avenue |
| | Helena, MT 59601 |
| | By |
| | James G/Hunt |

DATED this Little day of March, 2004.

FOUST LAW OFFICE 2135 Charlotte Street, Suite 1A Bozeman, MT 59715

By Lucas J. Foust

| APPROVED as to form and content and SO ORDERED on this | day of |
|--|---------|
| , 2004. The Stipulation Regarding Prospective | Claims, |
| which was approved on November 5, 2003, is hereby WITHDRAWN and RE | |
| by this Revised Stipulation Regarding Prospective Claims and Common Fund | Fees. |
| | |

Hon. Mike McCarter Workers' Compensation Judge