

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
ALASKA INCIDENT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK**

COMPENSATION FOR INJURY

Confidentiality

Medical information and records related to an individual's claim are confidential and should not be discussed unless the information exchange is necessary to obtain medical assistance or to process the required documentation.

Coverage

The State of Alaska Worker's Compensation Act provides for compensation and/or medical care for state employees who sustain injuries related to the performance of his/her duty. This includes off-shift hours when assigned to an incident or staging area, or when in travel status. State of Alaska employees, including EFF, are covered by State of Alaska Worker's Compensation, even when on a federal fire, disaster, or on assignment to the Lower 48. The Incident Agency is ultimately responsible for ensuring that compensation for injury cases are properly handled.

Provider

The worker's compensation insurance adjuster is:

*Harbor Adjustment Services
1900 West Benson Blvd. Suite 101
Anchorage, AK 99517
Phone: (907) 277-1377
Fax: (907) 277-4143*

Work Injuries/Illnesses Generally Covered

- Accidental injury arising out of, or in the course of, employment
- Breakage of prosthetic devices which function as part of the body such as eyeglasses/contact lenses, hearing aids, or dentures as a direct result of duty performance, e.g., a limb falls and breaks an employee's glasses
- Occupational diseases or infections such as dermatitis due to plant poison or chemical irritant or excessive smoke inhalation on a fireline
- Injury caused by the willful act of a third person directed against an employee because of his employment

Conditions Which May Void Coverage of Worker's Compensation

- Willful misconduct of employee
- Injuries or death of an employee caused by their intention to bring about the injury or death of themselves or another person
- Intoxication of the injured employee
- Being under the influence of an illegal drug or the misuse of prescribed drugs

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
ALASKA INCIDENT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK**

Filing Procedures and Responsibilities

The Area must report any event involving death or in-patient hospitalization to the Regional Forester and the Division's Safety Officer within 8 hours.

The State of Alaska uses the State of Alaska Department of Labor's "Report of Occupational Injury or Illness" (Form 07-6101), and the State of Alaska's "Supervisor's Accident Investigation Report" (Form 02-932) to document work-related injuries and illnesses. When an employee has been, or claims to have been, injured or becomes ill from work-related causes, Form 07-6101 must be completed and submitted **immediately** to the applicable Finance Section, Area Admin, or Regional Admin. Failure to file Form 07-6101 within the required time may subject the Area/Region's operating budget to a penalty equal to 20% of the amount of compensation payable to the injured employee. An employee may file one of these reports at any time. No one has the authority to deny an employee the right to file.

See that copies of the Form 07-6101 and Form 02-932 (Supervisor's Accident Investigation Report) are faxed immediately to the employee's home unit. Copies are provided to the Division of Forestry's Safety Officer with any personal identifying information such as name, address, or social security number blacked out.

At no time should employees comment on the likelihood of a claim being covered other than to inform the injured or ill party of their financial liability if the claim is determined not to be work related.

Final determination of work-related validity is the responsibility of the Adjustor. It is important that an employee is forewarned that they may be liable for any medical costs incurred if the injury/illness is determined NOT to be work-related. After learning an employee has been, or claims to have been, injured, Form 07-6101 must be completed and submitted **immediately** to the applicable Finance Section, Area Admin, or Regional Admin. If an employee chooses not to file, the supervisor may file on the employee's behalf, relaying whatever information is available to them.

Completion of the State of Alaska Report of Occupational Injury or Illness Form

- Block 26 (date returned to work) - Make sure this block is completed. If the employee did not leave work or returned to work the next day without additional time off, write in **"no time loss."**
- Fill in all the blanks, even if it means putting "not applicable" or "NA."

Injured/ill Employee's Responsibility

- Obtain first aid or medical treatment immediately and notify their supervisor.

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
ALASKA INCIDENT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK**

- Complete the “Employee’s Notice to Employer” section of Form 07-6101 Report of Occupational Injury or Illness, page 11 of this chapter).

Incident Supervisor’s Responsibility

- Be sure the employee has been provided first aid and/or medical treatment if needed.
- Assure the completion of the employer portion of Form 07-6101 by the appropriate supervisor, finance unit, or agency admin unit.

The supervisor must complete a Supervisor’s Accident Investigation Report (Form 02-932, see page 11) **IF**

- the supervisor doubts the validity of the employee’s claim
- there are obvious ambiguities
- a serious accident has occurred
- a death is involved

This form should be submitted with the original **Report of Occupational Injury or Illness Form** to the Finance Section, Area, or Regional Admin, whichever is applicable.

Emergency Medical Care

Emergency medical care should be obtained from the nearest qualified physician or hospital. Employees will be responsible for all medical expenses if the injury/illness is not covered by worker’s compensation. Before leaving the medical treatment facility, the employee or accompanying Admin will need to obtain a doctor’s work release. If the employee does not receive a full release, any restrictions or limitations should be provided by the doctor in writing. Employees will not be allowed to return to work without the doctor’s written release to work.

Prescriptions

All employees should bring with them enough of their prescribed medication to last the entire assignment. Situations arise where it is necessary to obtain a prescription while on an incident due to injury or illness. The employee will be responsible for the charges if the adjustor determines the injury or illness is not work-related. If the work relatedness of the injury or illness is questionable, the medications are charged to the employee’s commissary. The employee can seek reimbursement from the adjustor.

Prescriptions can be paid for as follows:

- Injured employee pays up front and seeks reimbursement from adjustors
- Pharmacy direct-bills the respective Area/Region which then charges the cost to the employee as a commissary item
- Pharmacy charges the adjustor directly (if not work-related, employee will be responsible for the charges)

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
ALASKA INCIDENT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK**

State of Alaska Crews or Employees on Outside Assignment

Federal Agency Provided Medical Care (APMC) may be utilized for State of Alaska employees and crews on a federal or out-of-state assignment. Refer to the Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook for explanation of APMC coverage and forms required.

All State of Alaska employees must fill out the Report of Occupational Injury or Illness form if they seek any medical treatment, have a work-related injury or illness, or use APMC. If APMC is utilized, the Report of Occupational Injury or Illness should clearly specify at the top, “**APMC UTILIZED**” to avoid duplicate payment. Any federal or medical forms filled out (i.e. physician’s statement) should be attached to the original Report of Occupational Injury or Illness and sent immediately to the respective Area or Regional administrative personnel.

Authorization Letter from the Director of the Division of Forestry

The intent of this letter is to show Canadian authorities, and Canadian medical providers that State of Alaska Workers Compensation will cover Alaskan crews and overhead on fires in Canada for work-related injuries or illnesses.

This letter should be offered to a provider only when treatment is refused for a truly work-related injury or illness. If treatment is refused due to payment method, there are three choices:

- The employee can pay and request reimbursement from the State’s adjustor.
- The Supervisor or Agency Admin can charge it on a One Card, then charge the employee’s commissary.
- The employee or Supervisor/Agency Administrator can contact the State’s workers’ comp adjustor directly at 800-478-1377.

If there are any questions, contact the home unit’s Regional Administrative Officer:

- Northern Region Admin in Fairbanks is Karen Gordon at 907-451-2662
- Coastal Region Admin in Palmer is Darlene Langill at 907-761-6205

Non-work-related Medical Treatment for Alaska Natives (including American Indians)

Prior to seeking treatment, be sure to notify the employee that:

- Worker’s compensation does not cover non-work-related medical treatment.
- Their contract health organization will only cover emergency care.
- The employee may ultimately be responsible for all expenses incurred.

In addition, the two contract health agencies, ANMC and Tanana Chiefs, have very strict guidelines for what they will cover and what they won’t. Documents with these guidelines can be found on pages 12 and 13. Please refer to the crew list on pages 9 & 10 of this chapter to determine which agency is medically responsible for the employee.

If a non-work-related injury, illness, dental problem interferes with the capacity to work, and medical attention is warranted, reasonable effort should be made to find the closest Indian Health

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
ALASKA INCIDENT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK**

Care provider where services may be obtained. Call the provider to be certain the employee's visit will be covered. If not, a non-Indian Health Care Provider, dentist or doctor can be utilized, but the charge for the visit and any medications or prosthetic devices will be paid by the employee, or paid by One Card or other means, and deducted from the employee's pay via commissary.

A Report of Occupational Injury or Illness must be completed and submitted.

When receiving treatment by a non-Indian Health Services Provider, or as soon as possible afterwards, contact the Tanana Chiefs Contract Health or the Alaska Native Medical Center Contract, depending on the residence of the employee, to notify them of the treatment being provided to their client to see if the treatment will be covered by ANMC or TCC. If the medical treatment is being sought on a weekend or after hours, call the appropriate Native health agency at the numbers shown below as soon as possible during their normal business hours. Both contract health agencies in Alaska will only pay for emergency medical treatment.

Tanana Chiefs Contract Health

(907) 451-6682, ext. 3613 or 1-800-770-8254, ext. 3613

Alaska Native Medical Center Contract Health

(907) 563-2662 or 1-800 478-1636

Non-work-related Medical Treatment for Non-Natives

If the employee is not an American Indian or Alaska Native, seek medical treatment in the most practical and expedient manner. The employee should be informed that worker's compensation does not cover non-work-related problems, and they will be responsible for all medical expenses if their claim is denied by the Worker's Compensation Adjustor.

A Report of State of Alaska Report of Occupational Injury or Illness must be completed and submitted.

Always maintain a copy of all documentation for the final fire package regardless of what agency forms are used.

Timekeeping Adjustments

Normally, pay on the day of injury consists of time worked, including travel to medical treatment, or base wage, whichever is greater.

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
ALASKA INCIDENT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK**

State Compensation for Injury Contacts

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>PRIMARY</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>
COASTAL	761-6289	Valerie Hendrickson	RaDonna Turner
AMSO/Palmer	761-6389	Lisa Burns	Jan Balfe
KKAO/Soldotna	260-4200	Leana Moore	Leslie Aills
SWAO/McGrath	524-3010	Naomi Norback	Jeff Browne
VCRAO/Glennallen	822-5534	Laura Hood	Gary Mullen
NORTHERN	451-2662	Karen Gordon	Jo Bante
FAO/Fairbanks	451-2600	Tina Donahue	Marc Lee
DAO/Delta	895-4225	Joanne Singer	Al Edgren
TAO/Tok	883-5134	Sandra Gabbard	Jeff Hermanns
SER/Ketchikan	225-3070	Melinda Byron	Valerie Hendrickson

Routing State of Alaska Forms

When all required State of Alaska forms have been completed and signed by the employee and supervisor (or other appropriate state representative), the forms will be scanned or faxed to the individual's home unit.

- The individual's home unit

If the fire is in the home unit of the injured or ill employee, then the fire needs to scan or fax the paperwork, followed up with the original documents sent from the home unit to:

Juneau Division of Personnel
Sandy Tagaban Phone: 465-5052
Employee Services Fax: 465-5850
DOA Division of Personnel Email: roi@admin.state.ak.us
P.O. Box 110201
Juneau, Alaska 99811

- Division Safety Officer (with ANY personally identifying information blacked out)
Rocky Ansell Phone: 761-6247
101 Airport Rd. Fax: 761- 6273
Palmer, AK 99645

State of Alaska employee's home unit always gets the original paperwork. From there it will be routed to the Division of Personnel.

It is advisable to keep a fax confirmation with the paperwork copies.

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
ALASKA INCIDENT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK**

Federal Worker's Compensation Claims Distribution

Financial Services (located at BLM-AFS on Ft. Wainwright) coordinates federal worker's compensation claims for Alaska BLM employees. Financial Services may coordinate claims for other federal employees (Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife, etc.) if they receive treatment in Fairbanks, or if requested to do so by an Incident Management Team or host agency.

For BLM-Alaska Fire Service employees, fax the relevant forms to AFS – Financial Services within 48 hours. Staple the appropriate original federal compensation for injury documentation (CA-1, CA-2, or CA-16) to the federal employee's original timesheet.

Alaska Fire Service
Financial Services
P.O. Box 35005
Ft. Wainwright, AK 99703
907-356-5780
907-356-5784 (fax)

Other BLM Employees

Fax the forms to the home unit within 48 hours.

US Forest Service

Fax and mail the original to:
ASC-HCM-WE (USDA Forest Service)
Mail Stop #118 – Workers' Comp.
3900 Masthead Street NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109

If any questions, please call the Forest Service Workers' Comp office at 877-372-7248 and press 2 during the hours of 7am and 6pm Mountain Time. Their emergency and after hours number is 505-280-7691. Their fax number is 866-339-8583.

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
ALASKA INCIDENT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK

State of Alaska

Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
Northern Regional Office

SARAH PALIN, GOVERNOR

*3700 Airport Way
Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-4699
Phone: (907) 451-2660
Fax: (907) 451-2690*

Date: _____

To Health Care Provider

The following individual is a State of Alaska employee on an incident assignment. This letter is your authorization to provide treatment for any potential worker's compensation injuries or illnesses.

Name: _____

Social Security Number: _____

Please provide the necessary care to this employee and submit invoices/bills to:

Harbor Adjustment Services
1900 West Benson Blvd. Suite 101
Anchorage, AK 99517
Phone: (907) 277-1377
Fax: (907) 277-4143

If you have any questions regarding State of Alaska employees, call:
Northern Region Administrative Assistant at 907-451-2662
Coastal Region Administrative Assistant at 907-761-6205

Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

John "Chris" Maisch
State Forester

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
ALASKA INCIDENT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK**

DESIGNATED INTERAGENCY EFF CREW LIST

LOCATION	NATIVE MEDICAL CLINIC	AGENCY	REGION OR AREA OFFICE	3-LETTER DESIGNATION
Allakaket/Alatna	TCC	AFS	TAD	AET
Ambler	ANMC	AFS	GAD	ABL
Aniak	TCC	DOF	SWS	ANI
Beaver	TCC	AFS	UYD	WBQ
Buckland	ANMC	AFS	GAD	7K5
Chalkyitsik	TCC	AFS	UYD	CIK
Chevak	ANMC	DOF	SWS	VAK
Copper River	ANMC	DOF	CRS	GKN
Delta	TCC	DOF	DAS	BIG
Eagle	TCC	AFS	UYD	EAA
Fairbanks	TCC	DOF	FAS	FAI
Ft. Yukon	TCC	AFS	UYD	FYU
Galena	TCC	AFS	GAD	GAL
Grayling	ANMC	AFS	GAD	KGX
Holy Cross	ANMC	AFS	GAD	4Z4
Hooper Bay	ANMC	DOF	SWS	HPB
Hughes	TCC	AFS	TAD	HUS
Huslia	TCC	AFS	GAD	HSL
Kalskag, Lower	ANMC	DOF	SWS	KLG
Kalskag, Upper	ANMC	DOF	SWS	KLG
Kaltag	TCC	AFS	GAD	KAL
Kenai	ANMC	DOF	KKS	ENA
Kiana	ANMC	AFS	GAD	IAN
Koyuk	ANMC	AFS	GAD	KKA
Koyukuk	TCC	AFS	GAD	KYU
Marshall	ANMC	AFS	GAD	MLL
Mat-Su	ANMC	DOF	MSS	PAQ
McGrath	ANMC	DOF	SWS	MCG
Mentasta	ANMC	DOF	TAS	MEN
Minto	TCC	AFS	TAD	51Z
Mt. Village	ANMC	AFS	GAD	MOU
Nenana	TCC	DOF	FAS	ENN
Nikolai	TCC	DOF	SWS	5NI
Nondalton	ANMC	DOF	SWS	5NN
Noorvik	ANMC	AFS	GAD	ORV
Northway	TCC	DOF	TAS	ORT
Nulato	TCC	AFS	GAD	NUL

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
ALASKA INCIDENT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK**

DESIGNATED INTERAGENCY EFF CREW LIST

LOCATION	NATIVE MEDICAL CLINIC	AGENCY	REGION OR AREA OFFICE	3-LETTER DESIGNATION
Pilot Station	ANMC	AFS	GAD	PST
Ruby	TCC	AFS	GAD	RBY
Scammon Bay	ANMC	DOF	SWS	SCM
Selawik	ANMC	AFS	GAD	WLK
Shageluk	ANMC	DOF	SWS	SHX
Shungnak	ANMC	AFS	GAD	SHG
Sleetmute	ANMC	DOF	SWS	SLQ
Stebbins	ANMC	AFS	GAD	WBB
Stevens Village	TCC	AFS	UYD	SVS
St. Marys	ANMC	AFS	GAD	KSM
St. Michael	ANMC	AFS	GAD	5S8
Tanacross	TCC	DOF	TAS	TSG
Tanana	TCC	AFS	TAD	TAL
Tetlin	TCC	DOF	TAS	3T4
Tok	TCC	DOF	TAS	6K8
Venetie	TCC	AFS	UYD	VEE

AFS Areas:

GAD - Galena Zone, Galena Dispatch: (907) 356-5891 Toll Free: (800) 237-3644
TAD - Tanana Zone, Tanana Dispatch: (907) 356-5578 Toll Free: (800) 237-3652
UYD - Upper Yukon Zone, Fairbanks Dispatch: (907) 356-5553

DOF Areas:

Coastal Region

KKS – Kenai-Kodiak Area, Soldotna Dispatch: (907) 260-4233
MSS - Mat-Su Area, Palmer Dispatch: (907) 761-6240
SWS - Southwest Area, McGrath Dispatch: (907) 524-3368

Northern Region

CRS – Valdez-Copper River Area, Glennallen Dispatch: (907) 822-8627
DAS - Delta Area, Delta Dispatch: (907) 895-2107
FAS - Fairbanks Area, Fairbanks Dispatch: (907) 451-2626
TAS - Tok Area, Tok Dispatch: (907) 883-5134

Native Medical Clinics:

TCC – Tanana Chiefs Conference (800) 478-1636
ANMC –Alaska Native Medical Center (800) 770-8251 x 3613

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
ALASKA INCIDENT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK**

Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Alaska Workers' Compensation Board
P.O. Box 115512, Juneau, AK 99811-5512

**REPORT OF OCCUPATIONAL
INJURY OR ILLNESS**

AWCB Case Number

EMPLOYEE: Answer ALL questions 1-20, sign, and give to your employer immediately.

1. Last Name Smith	First Name John	Initial J.	2. Telephone Number 907-451-2160	3. Date of Birth 1/20/1950	4. Sex <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	5. Social Security Number 123-45-6789
6a. Mailing Address 12 My Way Road			7a. Residence Address 12 My Way Road			
6b. City Palmer		State AK	ZIP Code 99645		7b. City Palmer	
		State AK	ZIP Code 99645			
8. Place (city/town/village/camp) where injury/occupational illness happened Anchor Point, AK			9. Date of Injury or Exposure to Disease 6/7/0X		10. On Employer's Premises? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
11. Name and Address of Attending Physician Dr. Henry Thomas 516 Johnson Dr.			12. Hospitalized In-Patient? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		13. Name of Hospital N/A	
City Palmer		State AK	ZIP Code 99645		Hospital Address N/A	
		State AK	ZIP Code 99645			
14. Describe Part(s) of Body Injured / Nature of Occupational Illness <input type="checkbox"/> Left <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Right Hand			15a. Describe How the Injury or Illness Happened was unloading truck with crew and			
15b. as I was pulling a box out of a pick-up when adjacent pump kit fell						
15c. sideways and hit my hand.						
16. To all health care providers: You are authorized to provide my employer (named in box 18), its workers' compensation liability insurance company (box 21), and its claims adjuster (box 22), information concerning any health care advice, testing, treatment, or supplies provided to me for the injury or illness described above in box 14. This information will be used to evaluate my entitlement to receive benefits, including payment of medical benefits, under the Alaska Workers' Compensation Act. This authorization is valid for a one-year period from the date of my signature (box 17a). I know I have a right to receive a copy of this authorization and agree a photographic copy of this authorization is as valid as the original.						
			Employee/Patient's signature: John Smith			
17. If Employee Unavailable for Signature, explain circumstances in this space:					17a. Date Signed 6/7/0X	

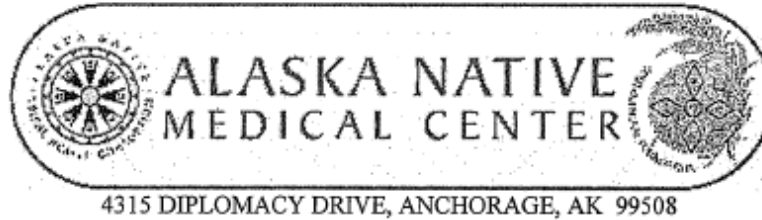
EMPLOYER: Review employee 18-20, answer questions 21-49.

18. Employer's Name SOA / Natural Resource			19. Employer's Alaska Address (If different from mailing) Coastal			
20. Employer's Mailing Address (street and number) 101 Airport Road			21. Name of Insurer State of Alaska Self Insurance Program			
20a. City Palmer		State AK	ZIP Code 99645		20b. Telephone 907-761-2102	
		State AK	ZIP Code 99645			
23. Date Employer First Knew of Injury 6/7/0X		24. Date/Time (a.m./p.m.) Employee Left Work Date 6/7/0X Time 2:00pm		22. Full Name of Adjusting Company Harbor Adjustment Services		
25. Off work after Injury or Illness? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> 3 or more days		26. Date Returned to Work 6/8/0X		27. Death (Y/N) Date N		22a. Mailing Address (street and number) 1900 West Benson Blvd. Suite 101
28. Location Where Injury or Illness Happened: Anchor Point, AK			22b. City Anchorage		State AK	ZIP 99517
			22c. Telephone 907-271-1371		29. Employee's Occupation EFF (Emergency Firefighter)	
					30. Date Hired by Employer 5/1/0X	
31. Earnings Calculated By: <input type="checkbox"/> Output <input type="checkbox"/> Wk. <input type="checkbox"/> Mo. <input type="checkbox"/> Year		32. Rate of Pay \$ 11.98 per hr		33. Days Employee Works per Week <input type="checkbox"/> 3 or Less <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 7		34. Describe Scheduled Days Off Ø
35. Workday Began: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM		36. Employee Paid for day injured or ill? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		37. Employer EIN # 92-6001185		38. Give Details of How Injury or Illness Happened John picked up a box out of a pick-up.
38a. This made another box unstable and it fell on his right hand.						
39. Injury/Illness Due to Machine Product Failure? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		40. Mechanical Guard/Safeguards Provided? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		41. List any machine/substance/object causing injury N/A		42. If Machine, What Part? N/A
43. Names and Addresses of Witnesses Nikolai Team and Strike Team leader Frank Paul			44. If Injury/Illness Caused by Anyone Besides Employee, Give Name/Address N/A			
PO Box 38 Tok, AK			45. Dependents (in case of death), Names/Addresses N/A			
46. If you Doubt Validity of Injury or Illness, State Reason N/A						
47. Signature of Authorized Employer Representative Grant Winters			48. Title IC Type III		49. Date Signed 6/8/0X	

WARNING TO EMPLOYEES AND EMPLOYERS: AS23.30.250 imposes civil penalties for fraud as well as certain false or misleading statements or acts. Criminal penalties for theft by deception (including fines and incarceration) apply to knowingly made false statements, claims, or employee misclassifications.

Distribution: Original – Workers' Compensation Division; Copy – Adjuster; Copy – Employer; Copy – Employee

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY
ALASKA INCIDENT BUSINESS MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK



January 9, 2007

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This letter outlines the required procedures that must be followed in order for the Alaska Native Medical Center's (ANMC) Contract Health Services (CHS) program to consider authorizing payment for emergency medical care while traveling outside the State of Alaska. First and foremost, Indian Health Service (IHS) facilities must be utilized when they are available. If individuals decide not to use IHS facilities, ANMC CHS will not authorize payment for the medical care he/she may have received from private providers. "Emergency" means any medical condition for which immediate medical attention is necessary to prevent the death or serious impairment of the health of an individual.

ANMC must have eligibility documentation (Certificate of Indian Blood or tribal enrollment card issued by a federally recognized, tribe) on file for each individual seeking authorization by CHS. If emergent care is required, CHS must be notified within 72 hours (including weekends and holidays) from the beginning of medical treatment or admission to a health care facility. The patient or the patient's family has the ultimate responsibility of notifying the CHS by calling (800) 478-1636. If the ANMC CHS office is closed, the individual is able to leave his/her name and a contact telephone number and CHS staff will return the call the next business day. ANMC CHS is not an insurance program and does not provide coverage for travelers who are residents of the following service units: Annette Island (Metlakatla), Interior (Tanana Chiefs), Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium, or Ketchikan Indian Corporation.

Services that will not be authorized by ANMC CHS:

Routine obstetrical care is not considered emergent.	Medications purchased while traveling will not be reimbursed.
Routine or emergent dental care is not covered.	Inpatient/outpatient mental health services are not covered.
Routine and follow-up appointments are not covered.	Inpatient/outpatient substance abuse services are not covered.
Injuries resulting from employment.	Pre-existing conditions.

Individuals are required to provide the medical records for all out-of-state services he/she needs before final payment authorization is given. The records will be reviewed to determine if the care received is medically emergent. If upon review, the care received is considered not emergent, CHS will deny payment. For those traveling outside the United States, traveler is required to pay up-front for the emergent care they receive, must notify CHS within 72 hours from the beginning of treatment, and can submit receipts to CHS for reimbursement upon returning to Anchorage.

For those moving outside the State of Alaska, he/she should register and utilize the services available at the closest IHS facility. CHS staff can provide a list of IHS facilities but cannot guarantee anyone will be eligible to receive services at any of these facilities. Each area has local policies that determines who is eligible to receive care at that facility. ANMC CHS will provide coverage only for emergent medical services for 180 days from the date the individual left Alaska. Individuals will be required to provide proof, with date, of when he/she left Alaska.

This intent of this letter is to only provide instruction on ANMC's CHS requirements and is not a guarantee of payment for those individuals traveling outside the State of Alaska. Individuals can call CHS at 800-478-1636 if there are additional questions or concerns. Have a safe trip.

Sincerely,


Iris Gray, Director
Contract Health Services

