

3/04/2006 Honorable Members of the General Assembly and
Committee: My Name is Linda Ares Palermo of
Hartford, CT. I am a Licensed
Practical Nurse whose WK related injury
is 21 years old. I am enclosing
a letter of complaint written on 10/24/2007
to Chairman Mastropietro, Joe Deel + Attorney
General which reads as follows:

a letter of Compl. sent to John Mastropietro
requesting to receive the fee he set for
the information I requested pursuant to
FOI. This letter mentions names such as
Atty. Michael LaVelle, Atty. Letizia Ambrose,
Atty. Thomas Honkeroy; UMH Resident Employee
WCT; Respond Claims Adjuster.

The Report I received pursuant to FOI
which supports there are approx 3,385
Attorneys on both sides of the Isle more or
less 729 Insurance Companies / Claims Adjusting Company,

With all the profits made Claims should be settled by
Insurance Company & Claims Adjusters without

I Support Bill #5282; the Work Compensation Chair
& all Commissioners must be held accountable for the patients.
It's My Opinion they & the Chair having watched public trust.

Submitted By Linda Ares Palermo
with original
3/04/2006

14501012

Subj: **COMPLAINT Re WORKERS COMP TRUST in the matter 400008884 Ayres V. UMH 12-2-89**
Date: 10/24/2007 2:03:30 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time
From: Mema Pro Se
To: John.Mastropietro@CT.Gov
CC: Governor.Rell@ct.gov, Attorney.General@PO.State.CT.US, Mema Pro Se

COMPLAINT

It is my Complaint that I, Linda Ayres (Palermo), claimant, have recently leaned, in the matter, 400008884, DOI 12-02-89, Ayres Vs. United Methodist Homes of CT, Respondent Employer, that the Respondent Claims Adjuster, Workers Compensation Trust, of Wallingford, CT, who have been handling my compensation claim of 12-2-89, (approximately 19 years), are waiting for me to die, before they will make payment of any nature in this matter; And that there is one or more attorneys and or group of persons that are involved since 12-2-89 in these unethical practice and bad faith dealings.

The IRS directed me to contact the State of Connecticut Labor Department who normally oversee Worker's Compensation matters. The State Labor Department denies having any over cite in Worker's Compensation Matters. They further directed me to work with the Compensation Commissioners in resolving this matter, who for the most part have no medical back ground and ignore medical reports submitted by qualified licensed medical professionals

Summarily I am contending,

- 1) A. The actions of Worker's Compensation Trust, Claims Adjusters, B. the attorneys involved, C. Perhaps some of the Commissions, and D. Other staff employees of the CT. WCC, through they actions over the years have defied the intent of the Workers Compensation Laws, which employers are obligated to carry under Federal law. And,**
- 2) They fail to deal in good faith, and employee unethical practices. And,**
- 3) That I submit as the IRS requested for their investigate of properly reporting income and or profits, of those law firms and insurance companies and or claim adjusting companies, who's names you provided me, pursuant to my FOI Request of January 2007. And,**
- 4) Governor Rell and Attorney Blumenthal conduct an investigation the reasoning as to why the State Labor Department fails to oversee Worker's Compensation Matters. And,**

5) I need to have it pointed out to me where it is stated in Labor Law or the Compensation Act, that says I must die before any payment of any nature is made in this matter, or at least where it grants any other individual or group of individuals the "right to deny me my life", "rights to peaceful tranquility" or "any other civil right afforded". And,

6) I need to know in what year the State Legislature gave the authority to the Compensation Commission to over see matters arising out of Labor (employment) issues?

Chairman Mastropietro, here within lies my Complaint, which you requested - NOW act upon it.

BY: _____
Linda Ayres Palermo,
46 Vought Pl.
Stratford, CT 06614
Phone: 203-378-5977
E-mail: Mema Pro Se @ aol.com

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Chairman of the Worker's Compensation Commission
John A. Mastropietro,

My only source of income is my Social Security Retirement benefits. I am requesting that the fees and costs for the FOI Request, be waived.

Historically, as you know my work related injury occurred December 2, 1989. I have been on a fixed income since March 1, 1993. (Income 1990 - 1993, null) At that time, I began receiving Social Security Disability Benefits based on the aforementioned work related accident, which resulted in my having a medical impairment. I did not nor have I ever received the weekly monetary benefits, and other benefits for my ongoing medical impairments such as physical therapy, medical treatment, medication and my primary physician still has not been paid for his services, which was to be afforded based on the intent of the Workers Compensation Act. This work related injury occurred prior to the reforms of 1991. I believe that was around the time you were appointed a commissioner by the former Governor Weicker.

The claim has not been paid timely or properly as a result of, **bad faith on the part of the respondent claims adjusters "Workers Compensation Trust"**, (see FOI Report, pg. 14, L.19), the repeated and deliberate interferences on the part of the Atty. Michael LaVelle of Pullman and Comley (formerly Pullman Comley Bradley and Reeves) who instructed the former respondent-employer UMH to have WCT have any attorney's handling the claim, to call him so that he could give them personal information he said he knew of me, which caused the ongoing harassment, continual repeated patterns of unprofessional behavior and deliberate interferences to occur. La Velle, was the respondent employer's labor attorney and had no standing in the compensation matter. One of the law firms that represent WCT for at least 14 years in the compensation claim is Letizia, Ambrose and Falls, P. C. (Letizia & Ambrose). In accordance with the FOI Report (pg. 40., L. 31 & 32 they presently are handling a total of 2,508 claims, and 2501 claims based on the date of the injury fall in the category of 3 - 5, 4 - 10, 11 - 15, 16 - 20, and > then 20 years. My claim fall in the 16-20 year category (mid 1994) - Thirteen years of earnings to be reported, just on my claim alone. Incidentally, an attorney Tom Thornberry formerly of Thornberry and Frankel (the former lobbyist), was very much involved in the conspiracy, they often appeared at the LOB at public hearing especially at the reappointments of compensation commissioners.

By way of back ground, La Velle, was a respondent employer's labor attorney in another unrelated civil matter. The late Justice Burton Jacobson, issued a capious ordering that human resources director to be brought to court due to La Velle telling her she did not have to come a deposition, after being properly served by a sheriff, with a subpoenaed. La Velle heard about the capious and called every sheriff he could, asking if they had the capious, in an attempt to stop it from being served. He even showed up at the health facility, (also a member of CHA-WCT), and attempted to stop the arrest from taking place. He went so far as to offer to pay for the bond with one of his checks. The sheriff became upset with is actions. After she explained what he attempted to do, I filed a Motion to Disqualify La Velle and the firm Pullman, Comley, Bradley and Reeves from appearing on the bases I was calling his as a witness to question his as to what personal knowledge he had about me regarding my private life or even regarding my professional status. Judge Jacobson, granted my Motion to Disqualify. Atty. La Velle became very repressive and retaliatory and started up his campaign "to get any dirt he could on me", by calling any attorneys he felt would embrace and support his game. When his attempts failed, he began making up stories about me. I learned of this some time later, during the time of the Compensation claim 12-2-89, and after he was given "heads up" by the staff in Bridgeport as to when my hearing were set down for and after the compensation file was turned over to Letizia. The Commissioners allowed La Velle, to come to the hearing, to harass and belittle me. He even threatened some of the attorney's who represented or had represented me in the past. Eventually, I received a letter evidently put together by members in the legal profession, who referred to themselves as my friends that La Velle was instrumental in causing the problems. As recently as "2006", I received the Certification page from a deposition that was taken in that matter. I called the co counseling law firm that had appeared. In speaking with the senior member of the firm regarding as to where the firms copy of the deposition would be in view of the fact that it was so old. I asked if it was possibly in storage. He said it would have been destroyed by now and the Court Report was no longer in business. His through and mine were the same, in that someone who was appearing in the matter, had gotten a copy of the deposition, and more than likely was inappropriately using it and disseminating it. He thanked me for calling his firm regarding this matter as he didn't want it to give a bad reflection on the Firms name.

Chairman Mastropietro, thank you for responding to my FOI Request in a timely manner. As you can see the information provided has been put to good use. Your response to the FOI request, # 11 how many claimants have noticed you that they have filed complaints with the Medicare Fraud Unit as a result of liens not being satisfied? Response: None. # 12. How many claimants have noticed you that they have filed complaints with the U.S. Medicare Fraud Unit as a result of their claim not being settled? Response: None. # 13. How many of your commissioners reported to you, that any claimant has report through to them, that they alleged fraudulent activity is talking place in the Commission and it has been reported to the U.S. Medicare Fraud Unit. Response: None.

It is my feeling and belief, I have made concerted efforts to notice you through your staff in Hartford regarding my concerns of fraud and my informing Medicare, but perhaps you just did not want to listen.

Wherefore, I am requesting you view this, my "Complaint", as being the first you will entertain regarding, "bad faith dealings on the part of Workers Compensation Trust", so that in this manner you will never have to, Respond: "None" - ever again. (FOI #15.)
And please waive the fees and charges for the FOI request.

SUBMITTED BY:


LINDA PALERMO ARES
01/20/2007

Subj: FOI Response from the Workers' Compensation Commission
Date: 1/19/2007 5:13:03 P.M. Eastern Standard Time
From: Connie.Rue@ct.gov
To: memaprose@aol.com

Hello Linda,

Please consider this email and attached documents as the Commission's official response to your FOI request of January 3, 2007:

1. FOI - Linda Ayres 1-17-07.pdf (FOI written response and invoice) (4 pages printed)
2. FOI - Linda Palermo Ayres 1-17-07.xls (data report of statistics, attorneys, and insurance companies) (86 pages printed)

As discussed by telephone on January 18, 2007, the attached invoice is for \$280.00 for computer programming services required to develop the response to your FOI Request. The charges are billed pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 1-212 <http://www.state.ct.us/foi/2003FOIA/Sec.%201-212.htm>.

Further, this response is being sent to you via email on the promise that you will provide me with a valid court order previously obtained from a court in the State of Connecticut which verifies you are indigent and unable to pay the attached invoice for \$280.00.

As further agreed, said court order will be reviewed by Chairman John Mastropietro, at which time he will determine whether or not the charges of \$280.00 for providing this response will be waived. Until that time, the invoice for \$280.00 will remain due and owing to the Workers' Compensation Commission.

We thank you for your patience and hope you find this information useful. It was quite the endeavor on our part since the information is not readily available in our database.

Best regards,

Connie Rue
Legislative, Leasing & FOI Liaison
COOP Planning Section Chief
Chairman's Office
Workers' Compensation Commission
p: 860.493.1580
f: 860.247.0831
e: Connie.Rue@ct.gov

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Web site: <http://wcc.state.ct.us>



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January 17, 2007

Ms. Linda Palermo Ayres
46 Vought Place
Stratford, CT 06614

Re: FOI Request

Dear Ms. Ayres:

The following information is all of the data we have available to the questions posed in your Freedom of Information Request dated January 3, 2007 and received via fax in the Chairman's Office on January 3, 2007 at 4:15 p.m. Accordingly, I sent you a letter on January 8, 2007 acknowledging your request.

1. *How many workers compensation claims on file remain unsettled?*

Response: As of January 17, 2007, the Commission has 548,341 claims in its database: 469,212 remain open and 79,129 have been closed. It is contrary to the statutory purpose of the Workers' Compensation Act to settle claims. Workers compensation claims remain open so the injured worker with an accepted claim may seek medical treatment and associated lost wages for the remainder of their lifetime.

2. *How many of these cases are*

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------|
| <i>1-5 years old?</i> | Response: | 129,165 |
| <i>6-10 years old?</i> | Response: | 163,928 |
| <i>11-15 years old?</i> | Response: | 169,861 |

3. *Who are the claims Adjusting companies in each of the above cases?*

Response: We do not have this information because it is not tracked in our database.

4. *Who are the Insurance Companies in each of the above cases?*

Response: please see the attached list

5. *Is there pending litigation in any of the above claims?*

Response: Yes

6. *Who are the attorneys of record in those claims that remain unresolved?*

Response: please see the attached list

7. *How many of these cases have Medicare liens against them?*

Response: Unknown; the Workers' Compensation Commission does not receive this information.

8. *Have the Medicare liens been satisfied?*

Response: Unknown; the Workers' Compensation Commission does not receive this information.

9. *How many settlements have been made for in the past 20 years in the following monetary categories: \$0 - 10,000? 10,000 - 25,000? 26,000 - 75,000? 75,000 - 100,000? 100,000 - 150,000?*

Response: Unknown; this information is not maintained in the database.

10. *In the above referenced claims what is the margin of profit that an insurance trust and or adjustment company is allowed to make?*

Response: Unknown; the Workers' Compensation Commission does not receive this information.

11. *How many claimants have noticed you that they have filed complaints with the Medicare Fraud Unit as a result of liens not being satisfied?*

Response: None

12. *How many claimants have noticed you that they have filed complaints with the U.S. Medicare Fraud Unit as a result of their claim not being settled?*

Response: None

13. *How many of your Commissioners reported to you, that any claimant has report through to them, that the alleged fraudulent activity is taking place in the Commission has been reported to the U.S. Medicare Fraud Unit?*

Response: None

14. *Are insurance companies, trusts and adjusters, obligated to operate in good faith when coming before the Compensation Commission*

Response: Yes

15. *How many complaints have you entertained regarding bad faith dealing on the part of any insurance, trust and or adjustment company and adjuster, since you were appointed chairman?*

Response: None

14. *Which law firm(s) and or attorneys(s) names appear in the compensation records reflecting, the number of cases they appear in?*

Response: please see the attached list

15. *The names of the law firm(s) and or attorneys(s) who are appearing or have appeared in the cases that are 3-5 years old, 6-10 years old, 11-15 years old, 16-20 years old?*

Response: please see the attached list

16. *What is the average time it takes to settle a claim? 1-3 years? 3-5 years?*

Response: It is contrary to the statutory purpose of the Workers' Compensation Act to settle claims. Workers compensation claims remain open so the injured worker with an accepted claim may seek medical treatment and associated lost wages for the remainder of their lifetime.

17. *What is the average time a claimant has to wait for an Informal Hearing?*

Response: 4.1 weeks

18. *What is the time period a claimant must wait for an Emergency Hearing?*

Response: 10 days

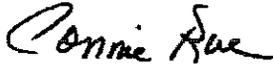
19. *The name of the former governor who appointed you as chairperson?*

Response: John Rowland

20. *Name of the previous Chairperson?*

Response: Jesse M. Frankl

Very truly yours,



Connie Rue
FOI Liaison
Encs.

| District Office | # Claims # Open # W/ STP # W VA # Closed | Age of Claim Based on Date of Injury | | | | | # Appealed | | | |
|-----------------|--|--------------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|--------|------------|-------|-------|-----|
| | | 0 - 5 | 6 - 10 | 11 - 15 | 16 - 20 | > 20 | | | | |
| Hartford | 98519 87440 | 11368 | 20927 | 11079 | 24729 | 27967 | 15259 | 10540 | 112 | |
| Norwich | 74029 62863 | 11681 | 14839 | 11166 | 21791 | 24358 | 8104 | 4225 | 89 | |
| New Haven | 72701 61268 | 11150 | 18440 | 11433 | 22381 | 25295 | 6540 | 2332 | 150 | |
| Bridgeport | 62614 53176 | 8397 | 17093 | 9438 | 18972 | 17953 | 6645 | 2423 | 134 | |
| Waterbury | 57091 48698 | 8600 | 15277 | 8393 | 16968 | 16975 | 7213 | 3157 | 96 | |
| New Britain | 59212 50106 | 9185 | 16036 | 9106 | 18788 | 17906 | 5178 | 2110 | 102 | |
| Stamford | 53819 45093 | 7894 | 13309 | 8726 | 17507 | 17421 | 4091 | 1327 | 128 | |
| Middletown | 70356 60568 | 10288 | 19210 | 9788 | 19335 | 22792 | 21986 | 5297 | 105 | |
| | 548341 469212 | 78563 | 135131 | 79129 | 129165 | 163928 | 169861 | 58327 | 27060 | 916 |