



Argonaut Insurance Company

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DIVISION

April 18, 2000

To : Michael Nolan, SVP, General Counsel

From : Dianna Cumpian, Principal Account Specialist, Brea Office

RE : Claim No. : 62X103499
Employee : Rick Hollifield
Employer : Kvas Construction/MWWD
Injury Date : 08/28/1996

Claim History

This claim involves a 31-year-old laborer who fell 12 feet from a ladder while working. The claimant sustained severe fractures to his left wrist. The claimant is left hand dominant. He also sustained a hairline fracture to his left 5th rib that did not require medical treatment. The claimant has retained an attorney who claimed injury to the left upper extremity and the left 8th rib. He also alleged a back injury and a left lower extremity injury. We denied liability for the back and left lower extremity as we have no medical evidence of injury to the back and left leg. Throughout the entire period of medical treatment (over 2 years), the claimant did not make any complaints of back or left leg pain to his treating doctor per the medical reporting. The claimant has filed a 3rd party liability case against Olsen Steel, the other contractor on the jobsite at the time of the injury. Since this is an OCIP, Argonaut Insurance Company was also the liability carrier for this project.

Temporary Disability

The claimant received temporary total disability payments from 08/29/96 to 10/02/98 at \$490 per week for a total of \$53,550.00.

Medical Treatment

At the initial time of his injury the claimant underwent emergency left wrist surgery with Dr. Kupfer. The claimant was referred to Dr. Richard Braun, a well known hand surgeon, as his primary treating doctor. Due to the serious nature of this injury, I assigned a nurse case manager, Doris Harrah with Corvel, to monitor the medical treatment on this claim. While under the care of Dr. Braun, the claimant underwent 8 additional surgeries to his left wrist. Doris Harrah advised me that Dr. Braun was attempting to save as much motion in the wrist as possible versus a total fusion wherein the claimant would lose all mobility in the wrist joint. The doctor verbally stated to the nurse case manager, Doris Harrah, that the claimant was permanent & stationary as of 10/02/98 and that he would issue a report accordingly. Therefore, temporary total disability benefits were discontinued at that time. The doctor's office did not issue this report. The claimant then returned to Dr. Braun on 12/09/98 complaining of pain in his left wrist. He was diagnosed with a broken bone plate in the distal forearm area that