
In the Matter of the Compensation of
LONNIE SHOEMAKER, Claimant
Own Motion No. 03-0500M
OWN MOTION ORDER
Claimant Unrepresented
Crawford & Co Ins Adj Inc, Insurance Carrier

Reviewing Panel: Members Langer and Biehl.

The self-insured employer has submitted a “Carrier’s Own Motion Recommendation” form, indicating that claimant requests that it reopen his 1982 injury claim for a “worsening” of his previously accepted conditions (“left shoulder injury and bruised rib cage”). *See* ORS 656.278(1)(a) (2001). The employer recommends against reopening the claim.

Claimant sustained a compensable left shoulder and rib cage injuries on October 1, 1982. Claimant’s aggravation rights have expired. The employer issued a denial on November 20, 2003, contending that claimant’s current need for treatment was not related to his compensable injury and it was not responsible for his current condition. No hearing has been requested regarding that denial.

Under such circumstances, claimant’s medical services claim for his accepted conditions remains in denied status. Consequently, we are not authorized to reopen the claim for a worsening of his previously accepted conditions under ORS 656.278(1)(a) (2001). *James J. Kemp*, 54 Van Natta 491 (2002). Accordingly, the request for claim reopening is denied.¹

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Entered at Salem, Oregon on February 12, 2004

¹ Inasmuch as claimant is unrepresented, he may wish to consult the Workers’ Compensation Ombudsman, whose job it is to assist injured workers in such matters. He may contact the Workers’ Compensation Ombudsman, free of charge, at 1-800-927-1271, or write to:

WORKERS’ COMPENSATION OMBUDSMAN
DEPT OF CONSUMER & BUSINESS SERVICES
PO BOX 14480
SALEM, OR 97309-0405