

NORTH CAROLINA INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

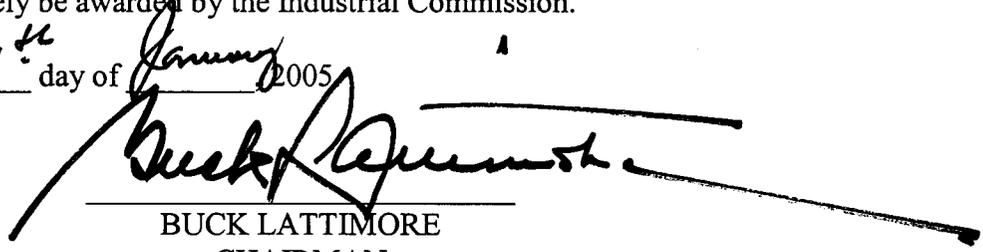
MINUTES

To promote prompt payment of death benefits, the Industrial Commission hereby adopts the following policy to clarify that an employer, carrier or administrator may voluntarily pay death benefits on the uncontested part of a claim prior to an award or order of the Commission determining all of the issues in dispute:

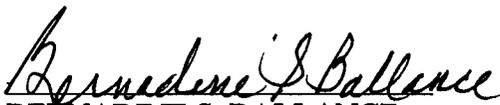
In cases where compensability is not disputed, but a contested claim exists over who is entitled to death benefits or the amount of death benefits payable; an employer, carrier or administrator may voluntarily pay the undisputed benefits to eligible beneficiaries without a final award or order of the Commission resolving all issues in the claim.

The parties making the undisputed payment shall provide notification to the Industrial Commission in writing of the amounts and dates of payment and shall receive a credit in the full amount of its payments against any benefits which may ultimately be awarded by the Industrial Commission.

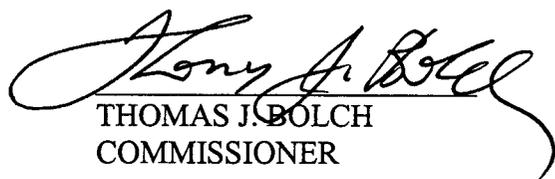
This the 18th day of January 2005



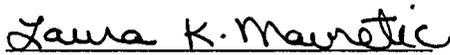
BUCK LATTIMORE
CHAIRMAN



BERNADINE S. BALLANCE
COMMISSIONER



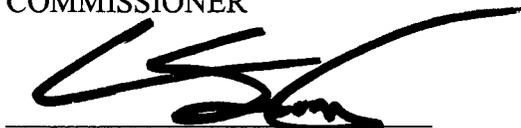
THOMAS J. BOLCH
COMMISSIONER



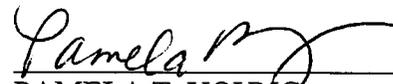
LAURA K. MAVRETIC
COMMISSIONER



DIANNE C. SELLERS
COMMISSIONER



CHRISTOPHER SCOTT
COMMISSIONER



PAMELA T. YOUNG
COMMISSIONER