



Hope you are
Enjoying Summer

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committed to serving you

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Dear Client:

As you will read in this newsletter, the Workers' Compensation Law continues to evolve on the heels of the massive 2007 workers' compensation reform. We previously highlighted the caps that have been put in place on permanent partial disability benefits in our spring 2009 newsletter, which you can review at www.connorsandferris.com. In this edition of our newsletter we will address new standards being placed on partially disabled claimants. Suffice it to say, injured workers are being scrutinized more than they ever have been before and it is incumbent upon injured workers to familiarize themselves with these significant changes as their benefits may be profoundly affected.

At Connors & Ferris, we are committed to helping you with your disability claim(s) and providing you with the information and legal advice you need to make balanced decisions regarding your claim(s). Staying ahead of these changes allows our attorneys and legal staff to assist you best with the increasing demands the workers' compensation reforms are placing on you and your claim(s).

As a reminder, at Connors & Ferris, we also lead the way in representing Western New York's injured and/or disabled workers in their Social Security Disability claims. Our goal, whether in workers' compensation or social security disability, is to provide you with the best representation possible. We are, and continue to be, thankful for your trust in us and we recommit ourselves to ensuring that your claims are handled properly, professionally and with the care you deserve. We continue to be grateful for the many referrals you make



to our office and we want you to know that we welcome any and all questions from you, your family, your friends and your co-workers regarding any personal injury, workers' compensation or social security disability claims. Thank You!

On behalf of the Connors & Ferris team,
we hope you have a great summer!

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The National Kidney Foundation of Upstate New York will hold its annual Kidney Walk on Saturday, September 25, 2010. The walk will take place at the Seneca Park Zoo and once again, Connors & Ferris will sponsor the event.

26 million Americans – that's 1 in 8 adults – suffer from Chronic Kidney Disease. The Kidney Walk raises awareness about the disease, early detection and life saving organ donation.

For more information about the National Kidney Foundation or how to participate in the Kidney Walk, visit www.kidney.org.

BE AWARE OF WHAT YOU POST ON INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES

Be cautious of what you post on social networking sites such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter. Insurance companies, their attorneys' office and the investigators they hire can and will follow your activities on sites such as these. Be assured they will try to use any information they obtain to portray you in a negative light. Just as we warn you that an investigator could be watching your activities around your home, they will do the same online.

CHANGES REGARDING ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOR MARKET

If you have a partial disability or if you have been classified by the Workers' Compensation Board as having a permanent partial disability, the rules have changed regarding your obligations in order to remain eligible for benefits.

IN THE RECENT CASE OF AMERICAN AXLE, the Board set out specific criteria to show that you are remaining attached to the labor market. To remain attached to the job market, you may perform an independent job search. You may also participate in re-employment services through One-Stop Career Centers such as VESID. If you are involved in a One-Stop Career Center program, VESID program or other re-employment service and actively participate, then you should be found attached to the labor market.

YOU CAN SHOW ATTACHMENT TO THE LABOR MARKET BY:

- 1 Active participation in a job location services such as the Department of Labor's One Stop Career Centers; see www.labor.state.ny.us/workforcepartners/osview.asp for One-Stop Career Center locations; or
- 2 Active participation in a job retraining program; or
- 3 An independent job search that is timely, careful and continual. You must keep a written record of your job search efforts including:
 - date of contact
 - name and address of employer visited
 - name and telephone number of contact person
 - copies of written contacts (resumes, applications, etc. that you mail, fax, etc.)
 - the type of job sought and the result of the contact; or
- 4 Active participation in a vocational rehabilitation program approved by the Board (such as VESID); or
- 5 Full time attendance at an accredited educational institution in order to pursue employment.