

The Workers' Compensation Law Seminar

# Live Mediation

Narrator: Lindsey Mills Mediator: Debra Dubik



Claimant: Kathy Jones (played by Attorney Britney Steele)

Claimant's Husband: Steve Jones (played by Attorney Skylar Limkemann)

Claimant attorney: Cynthia Sueppel

Defense Attorney: Kent Smith

Claims Adjuster: Sarah Denial (played by Attorney Sasha Monthei)



### **Background Facts**

DOI: 10/1/17

**INJURY:** Low back

INCIDENT: Claimant alleges to have fell on a carpeted breakroom floor for unexplained reasons.

LIABILITY: Accepted

PETITION: Yes (no hearing date yet scheduled)

**DEPUTY: Unknown** 

**Occupation: CNA** 



### **Background Facts**

**EMPLOYER:** Assisted Living Inc.

LOCATION: Fort Dodge

**INSURANCE CARRIER: XYZ Insurance Carrier** 

**SELF-INSURED: NO** 

HIGH DEDUCTIBLE POLICY: NO

**RENEWED: YES** 



### Claimant Background Information: Employment

Kathy is employed as a CAN.

56 years old.

High School Graduate and obtained certified nursing assistant certificate.

Worked for 6 years at Assisted Living Inc.

Earning \$14 an hour.

Worked the last 20 years as a CAN for last 20 years. Prior to that, Kathy worked as a waitress, for a gas station, and at a grocery store.

Lives in Fort Dodge.





### **Claimant Background: Medical**

Surgical laminectomy.

Has reached MMI.

Has ongoing pain complaints. Claimant's IME doctor recommended pain management and Defendants' denied.

Claimant is receiving prescription pain medication from PCP at the cost of \$200 per month.

13% impairment from Claimant IME doctor.

7% impairment from treating surgeon





### **Claimant Background: Restrictions**

Released without restrictions by treating surgeon.

Provided restrictions by FCE Claimant attorney arranged.

- FCE indicated no lifting more than 20lbs.
- FCE restrictions adopted by Claimant's IME doctor

Employer offered Claimant same position based upon treating surgeon's release without restrictions. Employer cannot accommodate Claimant's claimed restrictions.

Claimant is currently out on medical leave.





### **Background: Benefits Paid**

## All healing period benefits have been paid. No disputes.

Defendants' have voluntary paid 7% BAW.

No pre-mediation settlement demand.



### **Settlement Chart: Rate \$544.10**

%	Weeks	Credit	Total	Total (less credit)
10	50	\$16,997.05	\$27,205.00	\$10,207.50
20	100	\$16,997.05	\$54,410.00	\$37,412.50
30	150	\$16,997.05	\$81,615.00	\$64,617.50
35	175	\$16,997.05	\$95,217.50	\$78,220.00
40	200	\$16,997.05	\$108,820.00	\$91,822.50
45	225	\$16,997.05	\$122,422.50	\$105,425.00
50	250	\$16,997.05	\$136,025.00	\$119,027.50
55	275	\$16,997.05	\$149,627.50	\$132,630.00
60	300	\$16,997.05	\$163,230.00	\$146,232.50
65	325	\$16,997.05	\$176,832.50	\$159,835.00
70	350	\$16,997.05	\$190,435.00	\$173,437.50
75	375	\$16,997.05	\$204,037.50	\$187,040.00





### **Settlement Chart: Rate \$485.63**

%	Weeks	Credit	Total	Total (less credit)
10	50	\$16,997.05	\$24,281.50	\$7,284.45
20	100	\$16,997.05	\$48,563.00	\$31,565.95
30	150	\$16,997.05	\$72,844.50	\$55,847.45
35	175	\$16,997.05	\$84,985.25	\$67,988.20
40	200	\$16,997.05	\$97,126.00	\$80,128.95
45	225	\$16,997.05	\$109,266.75	\$92,269.70
50	250	\$16,997.05	\$121,407.50	\$104,410.45
55	275	\$16,997.05	\$133,548.25	\$116,551.20
60	300	\$16,997.05	\$145,689.00	\$128,691.95
65	325	\$16,997.05	\$157,829.75	\$140,832.70
70	350	\$16,997.05	\$169,970.50	\$152,973.45
75	375	\$16,997.05	\$182,111.25	\$165,114.20



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### **Claimant's First Offer**

75% new money (\$204,037.50)

**Agreement for Settlement** 

Authorize PCP

Pay past medical and prescriptions by PCP

**Reimburse IME** 



### **Defendants' First Counter Offer**

10% less credit (\$10,20750)

Full and Final per Iowa Code Section 85.35(3)

**Reimburse IME** 

Global Release with voluntary resignation and no re-apply language





### **Claimant's Second Offer**

0% new money (\$204,037.50)

**Agreement for Settlement** 

Authorize PCP

Pay past medical and prescriptions by PCP

**Reimburse IME** 



### **Defendants' Second Counter Offer**

0% less credit (\$10,20750)

Full and Final per Iowa Code Section 85.35(3)

**Reimburse IME** 

Global Release with voluntary resignation and no re-apply language



