



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation will hold a public hearing on September 3, 2025, at 10:00 A.M. in Room 1, Level 2, 30 West Spring Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215, to consider the following rules as summarized below.

4123-15-01 - Code of ethics, title and rules covering: This rule establishes the codes of ethics for Bureau employees. There is no change to this rule.

4123-15-02 – Policy: This rule authorizes the bureau to establish policies on ethics for Bureau employees to follow. There is no change to this rule.

4123-15-03 - Standards of conduct: The proposed change to rule 4123-15-03 Standards of Conduct is to remove the word “handicap” and replace it with the word “disability.” Additionally, under paragraph H pertaining to “confidentiality,” the phrase “rules, and policy of the bureau” is added to make it clear BWC employees should familiarize themselves with BWC rules and policy to properly understand the confidentiality afforded BWC’s information.

4123-15-04 - Posting, distribution and employee acknowledgement and receipt. The proposed change reflect modernization of how BWC publishes these rules.

4123-15-05 - Purpose: eliminating outside influence; producing impartiality in handling of claims and employer risk accounts and avoiding favoritism: This rule establishes the purpose of eliminating the outside influence of Bureau and Industrial Commission employees when handling claims. There is no change to this rule.

4123-15-06 - Furnishing employees' code of ethics and rules on improper influence to representatives. The proposed change reflect modernization of how BWC publishes these rules.

4123-15-07 - Representatives' responsibility relative to employees' code of ethics: This rule establishes criteria for ethical behavior for representatives when dealing with the Bureau and the Industrial Commission. There is no change to this rule.

4123-15-08 - Remedial action against persons exercising improper influence and engaging in favoritism: This rule establishes remedial action against persons exercising improper influence and engaging in favoritism. There is no change to this rule.

4123-15-09 - Prohibition against unnecessary claim file possession: This rule states that no employee shall access a workers' compensation claim file unless the file is necessary to the performance of the employee's duties. There is no change to this rule.

Six of the proposed rules are no change and three are amended.

The full and complete text of the proposed rules is available on the Register of Ohio (<http://www.registerofohio.state.oh.us>) and Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation Rules Under Review ([Rules under review | Bureau of Workers' Compensation \(ohio.gov\)](#)) websites, and is on file in the office of the Secretary of State (180 East Broad Street, 15th Floor, Columbus, Ohio), the Legislative Service Commission (77 South High Street, 9th Floor, Columbus, Ohio), the office of the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (77 South High Street, Concourse Level, Columbus, Ohio), and the Bureau of Workers' Compensation, Legal Division (30 West Spring Street, 26th Floor, Columbus, Ohio).

All interested parties will be given an opportunity to be heard. Any interested party unable to attend the public hearing may submit written comments to the undersigned prior to the public hearing at enotification@bwc.state.oh.us.

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