

### **11 NCAC 23A .0613 EXPERT WITNESSES AND FEES**

(a) The parties shall file with the Deputy Commissioner or Commissioner in accordance with Rule .0108 of this Subchapter within 15 days following the hearing, a list identifying all expert witnesses to be deposed and the deposition dates unless otherwise extended by the Commission in the interests of justice and judicial economy.

(b) After the deposition of each expert, the party that noticed the deposition shall, within 10 days after receiving the expert's fee invoice, file with the Deputy Commissioner or Commissioner in accordance with Rule .0108 of this Subchapter a request to approve the costs related to the expert deposition. In these requests, the party shall provide, in a cover letter along with the invoice (if available), the following:

- (1) the name of the expert and the expert's practice;
- (2) the expert's fax number;
- (3) the expert's area of specialty and board certifications, if any;
- (4) the length of the deposition;
- (5) the length of time the expert spent preparing for the deposition, excluding any time meeting with parties' counsel;
- (6) whether the Commission determined that the claim was filed pursuant to G.S. 97-29(d) or involved an exceptional, unique, or complex injury or disease;
- (7) whether the deponent was selected by the employee in the Pre-Trial Agreement as an expert to be deposed at employer's expense; and
- (8) the party initially responsible for payment of the deposition fee pursuant to Rule .0612 of this Section.

At the time the request is made, the requesting party shall submit a proposed Order that shows the expert's name, practice name and fax number under the "Appearances" section. The proposed Order shall also reflect the party initially responsible for payment of the deposition fee pursuant to Rule .0612 of this Section.

(c) The Commission shall issue an order setting the deposition costs of the expert. The term "costs" as used in this Rule shall mean the expert's fee as approved by the Commission for the deposition, including the expert's time preparing for the deposition, if applicable.

(d) Failure to make payment to an expert witness within 30 days following the entry of a fee order shall result in an amount equal to 10 percent being added to the fee granted in the Order.

(e) A proposed fee for cancellation of a deposition within five days of a scheduled deposition may be filed with the Deputy Commissioner in accordance with Rule .0108 of this Subchapter for consideration and approval if in the interest of justice and judicial economy.

(f) This Rule applies to all expert fees for depositions; provided, however, either party may elect to reimburse a retained expert that did not treat or examine the employee the difference between the fee awarded by the Commission and the contractual fee of the expert.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 97-26.1; 97-80(a); 97-80(d);  
Eff. January 1, 1990;  
Amended Eff. February 1, 2016; November 1, 2014; January 1, 2011; June 1, 2000;  
Recodified from 04 NCAC 10A .0613 Eff. June 1, 2018.*