

**STATEMENT OF EMERGENCY BASIS AND PURPOSE FOR
AMENDMENT TO THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION RULES OF PROCEDURE
7 CCR 1101-3**

The Governor declared a state of emergency March 11, 2020 and has issued Executive Orders directing state and private employers to dramatically reduce the number of employees reporting to work in person.

The increase in individuals working remotely, combined with the guidelines for "social distancing" have created barriers to injured workers and others in accessing the workers' compensation system. Additionally, the Division of Workers' Compensation is striving to move all employees to remote work in order to protect employee safety and the safety of the general public.

The emergency rules contain provisions reducing the need for injured workers to interact with other individuals, mandate communications via email and remove requirements placing a significant burden on healthcare providers.

Accordingly, I find that immediate adoption of this rule amendment is imperatively necessary to comply with state law, and compliance with 24-4-103 would be contrary to the public interest. This emergency rule will become effective on March 24, 2020 and be in effect for 120 days unless suspended or superseded.

Dated this 24 day of March, 2020



Paul Tauriello
Director
Division of Workers' Compensation

March 24, 2020
Date