

July 1, 2024

The Department of the Navy sent the below answers to additional questions they have received about their Claims Management Portal since releasing their first set of FAQs in April 2024. The Plaintiffs' Leadership Group ("PLG") will continue to post on this website any information we receive from the government.

Zina Bash, PLG Government Liaison

Filing Dates: "Pre-Portal Filing Date" is the original filing date on which the batch was filed. The "Portal Filing Date" is the date that populates once you validate and submit the draft claim that was ingested from the batch. You will get the benefit of the "Pre-Portal Filing Date," which is why both dates are maintained.

1. We have most of our claims updated in the portal but are still missing some. When will the rest of our claims be visible in the portal?

A: We are not entirely complete with ingestion of our CLJA claims inventory and quality control review of ingested claims. For that reason, you may not see all of your filed claims when you access the portal. We will communicate to all firms in our system when our ingestion is complete.

2. All of our claims that are in the portal currently, show in that draft status, which from my understanding of the portal means, "Claim has not been officially submitted for processing". Do we need to go through each one, open and verify the data, and then save for it to show as "Submitted"?

A: Draft versus submitted is a portal distinction that ensures a claimant/authorized representative has validated the ingested claims. In this draft stage, you can make any adjustments to the claim, validate, and submit. Your original filing date is the date of batch form filing.

3. We also have several claims we need to amend for, and I know previously Jennifer Langley directed us to do batch amendments with a CSV with the changed info as red. Is there a way to do batch amendments through the portal, or do we need to just do them individually?

A: The current system cannot ingest amendment or profile changes in batches, therefore, claims in your portal in draft status, can be amended or adjusted before you submit. This was the intent behind the draft status. Ms.

Langley's advice pre-dates the Claims Management Portal.

4. Also, do these amended claims still need to have a new claim form completed before an amendment can be made or can we make the amendment without making our clients sign another claim form?

A: You can amend a submitted claim directly in the Portal (for claims in draft status, see previous answers). Profile changes (which are not substantive amendments) can also be made in the portal.

5. Will the claims that have been settled such as Elmer Johnson (Portal ID: CLC-000042664) be updated to show as settled, or is there anything we need to do for those within the portal?

A: No action is required from filers. The CLCU will populate settlement information in the portal for all CLJA claims settled to date.

6. I noticed there is a portion within a claim to provide substantiation documents, as well as substantiating information such as the date of diagnosis for the injury our client is claiming, can we start utilizing the portal to submit this information if we have it?

A: Absolutely.

7. For the cases we believe qualify for the Elective Option, and can provide sufficient documentation to show this, is there a way to bring these to your attention for review and consideration of settlement? Such as uploading the substantiating documentation and then utilizing the "Messages" function for the client's file within the portal?

A: Yes

8. I also noticed that under the "Claims Details" and if the Nature of Injury is Personal Injury for said claim, it does not list the claim amount for wrongful death; however, on the Personal Injury Claim Forms we submitted on behalf of our clients, in batch files, we included a claim amount for both Personal Injury and Wrongful Death injury in the unfortunate chance that our client passes away before recovery is made. Is there a reason this is not displayed in the portal?

A: It should show as "injury resulting in death damages." Due to the legal meaning of "wrongful death" in many states, and not to confuse the elective option death amount with those constructions, we refined the name to "injury resulting in death damages."

9. Additionally, if we are added to a client's retainer and take over their claim, how do we transfer the claim from one firm to another?

A: You can now submit a change of representative through the portal directly.

10. Lastly, under the "Claimant Information" tab, it states, "Attorneys must provide authorization to file as evidence they are authorized to act on behalf of the Claimant or their authorized agent. This claim cannot be evaluated for settlement awarded until there is proper authorization," with a spot to upload a document. What documentation is needed to provide the correct authorization that you are looking for?

A: A retainer agreement is sufficient.

Respectfully,
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