## NEW YORK STATE INJURED WORKERS' BAR ASSOCIATION

# **Electronic Message Board and List-Serve Guidelines**

The following constitutes guidelines for member-only use of the Injured Workers' Bar Association electronic message board and list-serve.

#### I. Professionalism and Courtesy:

The IWBA electronic forums are intended to be a collegial on-line environment where members can discuss issues related to the stated purpose of the IWBA. As such, each message shall be professional, respectful and temperate in tone and content. No message may be defamatory, abusive, profane, sarcastic, threatening or otherwise offensive.

Electronic message board and list-serve postings shall not be shared with individuals who are not members of the IWBA.

#### II. Forum Etiquette

Each message should have a concise topic identified in the "subject" line which summarizes the question or issue contained within the message. If you are replying from a message from the forum, but changing the topic, be sure to change the subject line of your reply.

All posts should include your full name.

Questions and information posted on the IWBA electronic message board and list-serve should be directly related to the purpose of the IWBA. Jokes, chain letters, or other off-topic messages are discouraged.

### III. Authority and Control

The IWBA electronic message board and list-serve operate under the authority and control of the IWBA. In the event that a participant fails to abide by these guidelines, the IWBA may, in its sole and absolute discretion, determine to: remind the offending member of the aforesaid guidelines in an effort to correct the offending behavior; and/or, remove the offending participant from the IWBA's electronic forums.

By subscribing to and participating in the IWBA on line forums, each IWBA member is agreeing to abide by these guidelines and standards of usage.

The IWBA does not actively monitor the on-line forum for inappropriate postings, or undertake editorial control on its own initiative. If a message is posted in violation of the

guidelines, it is entirely appropriate for another forum participant to remind the offending participant, courteously and professionally, about the guidelines, as well as to bring the offensive message to the attention of the IWBA.

If failure to comply with these guidelines results in the removal of the offending participant from the IWBA's electronic forum, removal from the electronic forums does not affect the membership status of the offending party.

Any member who is removed from an electronic forum may apply for reinstatement to that forum. The matter of reinstatement is at the sole and absolute discretion of the IWBA, and may carry stipulations, depending upon the extent and type of the violation, such as, but not limited to, an open apology to the forum.

Participation in the IWBA's electronic message board and list-serve is a privilege of membership and not guaranteed.

Access to the member's-only electronic message board and list-serve will be terminated upon the expiration of the IWBA member's membership in the IWBA.

The IWBA electronic message board and list-serve is provided as a service of the IWBA. The IWBA does not accept responsibility for the opinions and information posted on the electronic message board and list-serve. The IWBA is not responsible for any damage, loss of data, or loss of productivity due to virus activity that may be delivered via the electronic message board and/or list-serve.

The IWBA in its sole and absolute discretion reserves the right to remove any member who does not abide by these guidelines.