

**From:** NYS Workers' Compensation Board - Office of General Counsel  
<wcbny@govqa.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2025 1:40 PM  
**To:** elena@judgewatch.org  
**Subject:** [Records Center] FOIL Records Request :: F000025-012125

--- Please respond above this line ---



Dear Elena Sassower,

Please accept the following in response to your January 21, 2025 Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) request, which was received by the New York State Workers' Compensation Board's (Board's) Office of General Counsel via electronic mail on that same date (FOIL No. F000025-012125).

Your request mentioned:

**TO: Workers' Compensation Board Records Access Officer/Office of General Counsel**

**The Workers' Compensation Board webpage about itself states, under the heading "Members of the Board":**

**"The Chair, Vice Chair, and Board Members are eligible for payment of expenses and annual compensation in the performance of their duties pursuant to NYS Workers' Compensation Law, Section 148. Specifically, the Chair's annual compensation (salary plus fringe benefits) is \$337,641 (\$198,926 salary), the Vice Chair's annual compensation is \$286,994 (\$169,087 salary), and the annual compensation of each Board Member is \$268,762 (\$158,345 salary)."**  
(hyperlinking and underlining added).

**This does not appear to be consistent with Executive Law §169, as modified by the December 10, 2018 Report of the Committee on Legislative and Executive**

**Compensation (at pp. 6-7, 17-18, 20-21) and thereafter by the Governor pursuant thereto.**

**Consequently, this is to request, pursuant to FOIL (Public Officers Law, Article VI):**

- **records as to the basis of the Chair’s \$198,926 salary, the Vice Chair’s \$169,087 salary, and the Member salaries of \$158,345;**
- **records as to the specific “fringe benefits” that increased the Chair’s compensation to \$337,641, the Vice Chair’s compensation to \$286,994, and the Members’ compensation to \$268,762;**
- **records confirming that the salaries of the Chair, Vice Chair, and Members were respectively increased, as of January 1, 2025, to \$225,000, \$200,000, and \$190,000, pursuant to the November 14, 2024 Report of the Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation (at pp. 11-13).**
- **records as to the resulting new compensation levels and the specifics of the “fringe benefits” comprising same.**

It has been determined that we require additional time to process your request for the following reasons:

- Due to the volume of requests for records under the Freedom of Information Law by this agency, we need additional time to respond to your request.
- We are still conducting a diligent search for responsive records.
- Records that have been identified as potentially responsive to your request are currently under review for applicable exemptions, legal privileges and responsiveness.

The Workers’ Compensation Board estimates it will complete your request and provide a response in writing by March 18, 2025

To the extent that you deem any portion of this response to your FOIL request to be a denial, it may be appealed within thirty (30) days pursuant to Public Officers Law § 89(4) to the Board’s Executive Director at 328 State Street, Room 438, Schenectady, New York 12305.

In all future correspondence relating to this request, please refer to the assigned FOIL Number.

Thank you,

**Brian Hamm**  
FOIL/Records Access

**NYS Workers' Compensation Board**

328 State Street, Schenectady, NY 12305

(518) 486-9564 | [OfficeofGeneralCounsel@wcb.ny.gov](mailto:OfficeofGeneralCounsel@wcb.ny.gov)

<http://www.wcb.ny.gov>

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To monitor the progress or update this request please log into the [Records Access Center](#)

