

New York State Workers' Compensation
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In 2007 there were substantial changes made to the NYS Workers' Compensation Law. Those changes have dramatically increased the monetary value of an injury sustained while working. Prior to the changes made in 2007 the maximum additional monetary benefit an injured officer could receive was \$400.00 per week. As of July 1, 2010 that rate has been raised to \$739.83 per week. That means that an officer who is forced to retire, because of a work related injury sustained after July 1, 2010, can increase a regular or performance of duty pension by as much as \$38,471.16 per year. These additional benefits can be payable for several years after retirement.

There have also been dramatic increases to awards made for a schedule loss of use. A schedule loss of use award is an award that determines the amount of money an injured worker will receive based on the loss of use to a specific body part. Typically these injuries involve the arms, hands, legs and feet. Scheduled loss of use is usually determined one year after the injury is sustained. The chart below details the approximate value of a schedule loss of use injury. It assumes the injured officer had earned more then \$58,000.00 the year prior to the injury.

	100%	10%	15%	20%	25%
ARM	\$230,826	\$23,082	\$34,623	\$46,165	\$57,706
LEG	\$213,071	\$21,307	\$31,960	\$42,614	\$53,267
HAND	\$180,518	\$18,051	\$27,077	\$36,103	\$45,129
FOOT	\$151,665	\$15,166	\$22,749	\$30,333	\$37,916

These awards are not subject to payroll taxes. Employers are reimbursed out of the award for any salary paid to the injured officer while off from work as a result of the injury sustained.

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