

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

S.P. 457 - L.D. 1123

An Act to Create a Presumption Under the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 That a Cardiovascular Injury or Disease or Pulmonary Disease Suffered by Certain Law Enforcement Officers Is in the Course of Employment

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 39-A MRSA §328-D is enacted to read:

§328-D. Cardiovascular injury or disease and pulmonary disease suffered by a law enforcement officer or resulting in a law enforcement officer's death

Cardiovascular injury or disease and pulmonary disease suffered by a law enforcement officer or resulting in a law enforcement officer's death are governed by this section.

1. Law enforcement officer defined. For the purposes of this section, "law enforcement officer" means an active member of a law enforcement agency, as defined in Title 5, section 4651, if the person is vested by law with the power to make arrests for crimes or serve criminal process, whether that power extends to all crimes or is limited to specific crimes and if the person holds a current and valid certificate issued by the Board of Trustees of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy pursuant to Title 25, section 2803-A.

2. Presumption. There is a rebuttable presumption that a law enforcement officer received the injury or contracted the disease arising out of and in the course of employment, that sufficient notice of the injury or disease has been given and that the injury or disease was not occasioned by the willful intention of the law enforcement officer to cause self-injury or injury to another if the law enforcement officer has been an active member of a law enforcement agency, as defined in Title 5, section 4651, for at least 2 years prior to a cardiovascular injury or the onset of a cardiovascular disease or pulmonary disease and if:

A. The disease has developed or the injury has occurred within 6 months of having participated in law enforcement activities or in a training or drill that involved law enforcement activities; or

B. The law enforcement officer had developed the disease or had suffered the injury that resulted in death within 6 months of having participated in law enforcement activities or in a training or drill that involved law enforcement activities.