

he was released to one-handed work. The cast was removed on September 29 and replaced by a brace. Mr. Pettyjohn was released to full duty on October 19 and returned to full-time work on October 26.

Mr. Pettyjohn has prior experience in factory work and data entry. He has an AA degree in leadership studies. He does not have any other specialized training.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

At issue in this matter is whether Mr. Pettyjohn is entitled to job insurance benefits on his claim filed effective September 4, 2005. He had a broken hand at the time. When he was released on September 8, his hand was in a cast and he was limited to working with only his left hand. The inability to use his dominant hand substantially limited the types of work Mr. Pettyjohn could perform. He believes he could perform work in data entry. However, it seems unlikely that he could perform such work on a competitive basis with the use of only his left hand. He would also have been unable to perform the factory work he has performed in the past.

Mr. Pettyjohn has a junior college education in leadership studies. Therefore, it is believed that he has the capacity to learn other skills. However, the inability to use his dominant hand would also restrict the types of office jobs he could perform. Mr. Pettyjohn has failed to establish that there are a significant number of jobs in the economy that he could have performed using only his left hand. His abilities increased once the cast was removed and a brace put on his hand on September 29. Because Mr. Pettyjohn was unable to work for the major portion of the week ending October 1, benefits are allowed effective October 2.

DECISION:

The representative's decision dated October 6, 2005, reference 03, is hereby affirmed. Mr. Pettyjohn is denied benefits from September 4 through October 1, 2005, as he was not able to work. Benefits are allowed effective October 2, 2005, provided he satisfies all other conditions of eligibility.

cfc/kjw