

Authorized Representatives: What They Do & When To Use One

Filing an EEOICPA Claim can feel complex especially if you're gathering decades of employment and medical documentation or if you have a complicated situation. That's why some former energy workers choose to work with an Authorized Representative (AR) to file and manage their claims. Here's what you need to know about ARs and how to decide whether one is right for you.

What Is An Authorized Representative?

An Authorized Representative is an individual you designate and authorize to act on your behalf to file and manage your EEOICPA or RECA claim. They can:

- Help you gather employment and medical documentation
- Complete and file your claim forms
- Track your case receiving correspondence from the DOL or DOJ and responding on your behalf
- Submit additional evidence to appeal a denied claim

While you can absolutely file your claim on your own, an AR can be helpful for anyone who prefers professional guidance or has a complex work or medical history.

EEOICPA & RECA: Key Differences for ARs

Program	What It Covers	AR Roles	AR Fees
EEOICPA Department of Labor	Illnesses caused by radiation or toxic substance exposure at Department of Energy (DOE) facilities	Any individual you designate to represent you in filing your claim	New Claims – 2% of settlement award Denied Claims – 10% of settlement award
RECA Department of Justice	Illnesses caused by radiation exposure at DOE uranium sites	Only a licensed attorney may serve as an AR under RECA	New Claims – 2% of settlement award Denied Claims – 10% of settlement award

When To Consider Using An Attorney As Your AR?

You may want to work with an Attorney as your AR if:

- You need help gathering your employment records
- Your employment history spans multiple contractors or DOE worksites
- You need guidance to prove the causal link between your illnesses and your worksite exposures
- You want an experienced advocate to interpret DOL correspondence for you and communicate with them on your behalf
- You've had a claim denied or partially approved and want to file an appeal

What To Consider In Choosing An Authorized Representative?

When selecting an Attorney or other Advocate as your Authorized Representative, ask questions and make the selection that is best for you:

- How long have they worked with EEOICPA or RECA claims?
- How familiar are they with your specific worksite and exposures?
- What is their process for communication and document tracking?
- What fees do they charge? Always ensure you have a written fee agreement in place.
- How do they handle appeals or claims for consequential illnesses?

We're Here To Help – Every Step Of The Way

CNS Cares has helped thousands of former energy workers navigate their EEOICPA & RECA claims. We can help you understand your eligibility, decide which filing method is best for your situation and help connect you with trusted advocates and the resources you need to file your claim.

Let us help you make sure you receive all the care and benefits you have earned.

Call us at **877-259-9001** or Visit **CNSCares.com** to get started.