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FLORIDA LAW WEEKLY

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Jurisdiction of JCC- Dispute over medical bills

Bergstein v. Palm Beach County School Board,
37 Fla. L. Weekly D1978 (Fla. 1st DCA August 17, 2012)

The E/C defended a claim for payment of medical bills by asserting that some bills had been paid, others were duplicative and some had not been properly submitted for processing. The JCC found the parties' disagreement regarding the payment of outstanding bills to be a reimbursement dispute over which she had no jurisdiction.

The First DCA affirmed the JCC's order and held that the jurisdictional defense is a de facto concession by the E/C that the services or products billed were provided by an authorized provider for compensable injuries "in accordance with" or "pursuant to" workers' compensation law, so as to insulate a claimant from financial liability for such charges.

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