**Section 7030.70 Rules of Evidence**

a) The Illinois common law rules of evidence and the Illinois Evidence Act [820 ILCS 305] shall apply in all proceedings had before the Industrial Commission, either upon arbitration or review, except to the extent they conflict with the Workers' Compensation Act, the Workers' Occupational Diseases Act [820 ILCS 310], or the Rules Governing Practice Before the Industrial Commission.

b) Exhibits offered in evidence, whether admitted or rejected, shall be retained by the assigned Arbitrator or Commissioner until a decision is issued in the matter. Exhibits may not be removed by the parties. Once a final decision is rendered exhibits shall be retained by the Industrial Commission pursuant to the requirements of Section 17 of the Workers' Compensation Act [820 ILCS 305/17].

(Source: Amended at 20 Ill. Reg. 4053, effective February 15, 1996)