



**Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeals  
Panel Adjudicator (Lay)**

**2017**

**Assessment Centre  
June 2017**

**Situational Judgement Exercise  
Applicant Booklet**

## **Situational Judgement Exercise CICAP (Lay) Adjudicator 2017**

### **Instructions to Applicants**

You have **30 minutes** to read and prepare your responses to the attached Situational Judgement Exercise.

Please read the information attached and prepare your answer to the set questions that follow. After your **30 minutes** preparation time is up, the Selection Committee will allow you up to **15 minutes** to respond to the set questions, which will be followed by a number of follow up questions.

When your 15 minutes question and answer time is up, the Selection Committee will then move on to your interview questions which will last for a further 25 minutes approximately.

The questions asked in the Situational Judgement Exercise are intended to primarily assess the following areas of the Personal Profile (but may also address other aspects of the Personal Profile):

- **Intellectual Capacity, Knowledge and Expertise**
- **Personal Qualities**
- **Communication Skills**

You may write notes during the 30 minute preparation time and bring them into the interview to aid you in responding to the questions.

**The Situational Judgement Exercise is provided overleaf.**

The following papers are provided for your reference, if required.

- The Northern Ireland Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme (2009)
- Guide to the Northern Ireland Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme (2009)

## **Your Role**

For the purposes of the Situational Judgement Exercise assume you are sitting as an Adjudicator (Lay Member) of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeals Panel for Northern Ireland (CICAP) alongside a Legal (Chair) and Medical colleague. You are presented with the following case to hear. You will have reviewed the following documentation in advance of the hearing:

- The appellant's application form
- A police report
- The appellants statement
- The appellant's complete medical records including hospital records, proformas from the police attending officer and the General practitioner along with other correspondence
- The alleged offender's statement

Under the terms of the scheme, the panel members will assess the evidence presented to ascertain if the appellant is eligible for an award i.e. did a crime of violence take place. In conjunction with the Legal and Medically qualified members, appeals will be decided by considering the facts, researching as necessary, and applying the relevant law to them.

Below is a summary of the notes of the case.

## **Summary**

Mary is a 33 year old woman who claims that she was assaulted on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2015 while attending a Christmas work party in a local hotel. She states that she was attacked by Emma who used to work in her office. There had been previous ill feeling between them. She claims that Emma had been staring at her throughout the evening and then punched her in the face. She sustained a broken nose.

Mary reported the incident to the police on the following Monday evening. She had been feeling unwell during the weekend and went to her doctor on

Monday morning. He referred her to the Accident and Emergency unit at the hospital where it was confirmed that her nose was broken. She then attended at the Police Station and made a statement.

Emma was subsequently interviewed by the Police and made a statement denying assault. She said that Mary was drunk and had been giving her 'dirty looks'. She denied punching her and said that Mary fell down some steps due to her intoxicated state.

Emma has not been convicted of assaulting Mary. The Police have confirmed that there were no Court proceedings mainly because no witnesses came forward and it was really 'one word against another.'

Mary's application for compensation has been rejected by Compensation Services under paragraphs 6&8 and 14 (1)(a) of the NI Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme 2009. She appeals the decision to the Panel. The Investigating Police Officer is in attendance. Emma does not attend as alleged offenders rarely attend before the Panel. However, her statement is within the documentation provided to the Panel.

**END OF CASE STUDY**

**QUESTIONS OVERLEAF**

**Questions:**

Please refer to paragraphs 6 & 8 and 14 of the Northern Ireland Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme (2009) and the Guide for assistance.

1. On the basis of the information that you have received so far, what are the key issues for the Panel to decide?
2. What factors would you take into account in considering the issue of Mary's eligibility for compensation? What questions would you ask of Mary?
3. Emma is not present at the hearing, is her statement of any relevance?
4. Would the Investigating Police Officer be of significant assistance? Why?
5. If the Panel was satisfied that Mary had been assaulted and was eligible for compensation, what is the impact of Paragraph 14(1)(a) on any award? What options are open to the Panel?
6. If the Panel concludes that Mary is entitled to an award, how much is she likely to receive in compensation?