



Federal Occupational Health Services

Date:

Dear _____:

Attached you will find a copy of the results of your recent audiogram, which was performed by or under the direction of Federal Occupational Health Services for your employer. Based on this audiogram, your hearing appears to be:

1. _____ **Normal: No hearing threshold level over 25 db* and no Standard Threshold Shift**.** Continue to wear proper hearing protection on and off the job in noisy environments***.
2. _____ **Abnormal, and no prior audiograms are available for comparison.** Your test results are outside the normal range, and this audiogram will be used for future comparison as your baseline unless a prior audiogram from your current employer becomes available. Continue to have audiograms annually, and wear hearing protection on and off the job in noisy environments***.
3. _____ **Abnormal: Hearing loss is present, but there is not a new Standard Threshold Shift** from your most recent baseline audiogram.** Continue to have audiograms annually, and wear hearing protection on and off the job in noisy environments***.
4. _____ **Abnormal: Hearing loss is present, and there has been a new Standard Threshold Shift**.** Your hearing results **have changed significantly** from your most recent baseline audiogram. A repeat audiogram should be performed within 30 days, if this has not already been done. It is important that you wear proper hearing protection on and off the job in noisy environments***. It also is important that you be fitted, or refitted, with proper hearing protection, and be trained, or retrained, in its use.
5. _____ Due to the results of the hearing test, **a complete hearing evaluation is recommended by a specialist** (an ear, nose, and throat physician, or an audiologist) **within 2-4 weeks.** Please bring the attached audiogram and history form to your appointment, and NOTE that this evaluation will be at your own expense (though it may be covered by your medical insurance policy) unless the hearing loss is determined to be work-related after a formal claim is presented by you to the Office of Workers' Compensation.

5. Other Comments:

Printed Name (reviewer)

Signature (reviewer)

* db = decibel, a standardized unit of sound measurement.

** STS = Standard Threshold Shift is a term used to identify a **change** in the hearing threshold level (relative to the baseline audiogram) of an **average** of 10 db or more at frequencies of 2000, 3000, and 4000 hertz, in either ear.

***A "noisy environment" is one where two people standing about three feet apart must raise their voices about the normal level in order to be heard.