



2014 California Workers' Comp Regulatory Update: Filling in the Details of SB 863

Background: SB 863, enacted in 2012, called for the most comprehensive overhaul of the California workers' comp system in a decade. While the bill outlined the changes state lawmakers wanted to make to the system, in most areas the practical details needed to implement the reforms required adoption of regulations. As a result, over the past 15 months, there has been a steady stream of regulatory activity, primarily through the Division of Workers' Comp (DWC), which has utilized task forces, forums, and public hearings to gather input from throughout the community on a variety of regulatory proposals.

While the reform implementation process will continue throughout 2014, the DWC has revised or developed and finalized regulations affecting the following key areas: utilization review, Independent Medical Review, Independent Bill Review, several fee schedules (including the new Resource-Based Relative Value Scale fee schedule for physician services), lien processes, the supplemental job displacement benefit, the Qualified Medical Evaluator process; and certification standards for interpreters. The state has already adopted most of these regs, while others are in the process of final adoption. To help industry professionals get up to speed on the regulatory changes, CWCI will conduct a 1-day seminar in San Francisco and in Long Beach.

Topics include:

- **Utilization Review**
 - Definitions
 - Requests for authorization
 - Deferral
 - Internal UR appeals
- **Independent Medical Review**
 - IMR application
 - IMR eligibility
 - Notices of assignment
 - Medical record requests
 - Consolidating requests
 - Final determinations
 - Penalties
- **Fee Schedules**
 - RBRVS Physician Fee Schedule
 - Inpatient Hospital Fee Schedule
 - Outpatient Facility Fee Schedule
- **Independent Bill Review**
 - Requests for second review
 - Revised Guides & Forms
 - IBR application
 - Consolidated requests
 - Determinations

- **Liens**
 - DWC Regs & WCAB Regs (Litigation Procedures)
 - How DWC & WCAB Regs Fit Together
 - Federal Suits Affecting Lien Regs
- **Supplemental Job Displacement Benefit (SJDB)**
 - Eligibility Changes
 - New Benefits
 - Changes to the Job Offer
 - Notices & Forms
 - Role of the Vocational Expert
- **QME**
 - Office Locations
 - Correcting Factual Errors
 - How to Request a QME Panel & Replacement Panel
 - Ex Parte Communication
- **Interpreter Certification Standards**
 - Definitions
 - Credentialing
 - Provisional certification
 - Interpreter directories

Seminar Format: CWCI will hold the seminar Monday, March 3 at the Parc 55 Wyndham Hotel in San Francisco and Wednesday, March 5 at the Grand Long Beach Event Center. The program will feature speaker presentations, with panel discussions and Q&As, and will run from 9 am to 3:30 pm, with a 1-hour lunch at noon, and 15-minute breaks in the morning and afternoon. Attendees will receive a comprehensive syllabus with presentation outlines, supplementary materials, and appendices with information on the regulations and enabling statutes.

Participants: The seminar is designed for claims adjusters, TPAs, attorneys, hearing reps, workers' compensation managers, UR professionals – anyone who needs to understand the new regulations and develop operational and/or defense strategies.

Continuing Ed Units: CWCI will be applying to be a State Bar of California approved MCLE provider (5 hours). CWCI also will provide certificates of attendance upon completion of the program for submission to the Assn of Hearing Reps of California and for the verification of hours for those in need of credit for the Department of Insurance workers' comp claims adjuster or medical bill reviewer certification requirements.



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Cost: Standard tuition is \$375, or \$275 for employees of CWCI members (see list on Page 4). Tuition covers the 1-day program, the syllabus, Continental breakfast, lunch, and afternoon beverage. To register online go to the Seminar section at www.cwci.org, or fax or mail the attached registration form with payment information. Additional flyers and registration forms can be downloaded from the website. All credit card charges will be processed via Authorize.net. For more information, call 510-251-9470.

General Information: The 2014 California Workers' Comp Regulatory Update Seminar will be given on the following dates at these locations:

Monday, March 3, 2014

Parc 55 Wyndham Hotel, San Francisco

55 Cyril Magnin St., San Francisco
(415) 392-8000

Located Across from Powell St. BART

- **BART to the Powell St. Station.** Take the northwest exit from the station. The Hotel is across the street on the corner of Eddy and Cyril Magnin.

- **From the Peninsula:** Take 101 north and merge onto I-80 toward the Bay Bridge. Take 7th St. exit and merge right to Bryant St. Turn left on 5th St. cross Market and 5th St. becomes Cyril Magnin. The Hotel parking entrance is on the left. Please note: parking validation is **NOT** included.

- **From the East Bay:** Cross the Bay Bridge and take the 5th St. exit. Turn right on 5th. cross Market and 5th St. becomes Cyril Magnin. The Hotel parking entrance is on the left. Please note: parking validation is **NOT** included.

Wednesday, March 5, 2014

The Grand Long Beach Event Center

4101 East Willow St., Long Beach (562) 426-0555

Located off Lakewood Blvd, 1 block south of I-405

- Take the 405 to Long Beach and exit south on Lakewood Blvd. Turn right on Willow St., then right on Grand Ave. The Grand Event Center is on the right. Parking in the Event Center Garage is free. Note: **Do Not Park at the Jewish Community Center.**

Registration: Preregistration and prepayment are required. Registrations with payment received after Feb 28 will be accepted on a space available basis only, and walk-ins will be wait-listed and may only be admitted after 9 a.m. if space is available. Check-in and breakfast begin at 8 a.m., and the seminar will begin promptly at 9 and adjourn by 3:30 p.m. Lunch will be from noon to 1 p.m. and an afternoon beverage break will be provided.

Attire: Business casual. Room temps may vary, so **for your comfort, please dress in layers.** Slacks and a sweater with a jacket or coat are recommended.

Tax Deductibility of Expenses: See Treasury Reg. 1.162.5 Coughlin v. Comm., 203 F.2d.307.

Cancellations/Substitutions: The tuition, less a \$50 cancellation fee may be refunded only if notice is submitted in writing, postmarked or faxed 10 days prior to the program; however, another attendee may be substituted at any time. Course manuals will be mailed to registrants who cannot attend and who fail to find a substitute or meet the cancellation deadline.

Faculty: The faculty will include two of California's top workers' compensation defense attorneys, the director of workers' compensation for a large JPA handling risk management and financing for school districts, as well as the Institute's Claims and Medical Director and General Counsel:

Victor Andersen, Esq., Finnegan, Marks, Theofel & Desmond, San Francisco

David M. Skaggs, Managing Attorney, Claims Litigation Dept., Pacific Compensation Insurance Co. Agoura Hills

Debra Russell, Director of Workers' Compensation Schools Insurance Authority, Sacramento

Brenda Ramirez, Claims & Medical Director California Workers' Compensation Institute Oakland

Michael McClain, Esq., General Counsel California Workers' Compensation Institute Oakland



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REGISTRATION FORM

Note: The fastest and easiest way to register for CWCI seminars is to enroll online. Simply click the "Seminar" button at www.cwci.org for seminar information or to sign up using the online registration system. Alternatively, you may return this form, along with payment, by mail or fax as noted below.

"2014 California Workers' Comp Regulatory Update: Filling in the Details of SB 863." Check date/location:
 Parc 55 Wyndham Hotel, San Francisco, Mon, March 3 **Grand Long Beach Event Center, Wed, March 5**

Please Type or Print Clearly. For additional registrants, please photocopy this form or attach a separate list.

	<u>Name of Attendee</u>	<u>E-mail Address (required)</u>
1)	_____	_____
2)	_____	_____
3)	_____	_____

Contact Person: _____ Email: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Check here to request a vegetarian lunch To advise us of special needs, please call 510-251-9470.

NOTE: CWCI members are insurers licensed to write workers' compensation in California or self-insured employers who pay dues and assessments to CWCI. Only regular employees of member companies qualify for the member company rate. If you qualify, note your company code (listed on Page 4) in the space below. All other registrants must pay standard tuition. Non-members who submit member tuition will not be registered unless the full \$375 tuition is received prior to the seminar. **ALL REGISTRATIONS MUST BE PREPAID.** To meet the deadline, registrations with credit card information may be submitted online from the seminar page at www.cwci.org; faxed to 510.763.1592; or mailed to CWCI, 1111 Broadway, Suite 2350, Oakland, CA 94607-4009.

Standard Tuition (non-member rate) \$375 x _____ = \$ _____

CWCI Member Employee Rate CWCI Co. ID # (see Page 4) _____ \$275 x _____ = \$ _____

Method of Payment (check one): ___ Visa ___ MasterCard ___ American Express ___ Check/Money Order

Cardholder's Name: _____

(Exact name as it appears on the credit card)

Account #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Credit Card Billing Address: _____

(Must be the address registered to the card)

City, State, ZIP: _____

Signature of Cardholder: _____



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CWCI Member Insurers		CWCI Associate Members (Self-Insured)	
Code	Company	Code	Company
21	ACE Group	22	Adventist Health
23	AIG	24	Agilent Technologies
25	Alaska National Insurance Company	26	Chevron Corporation
27	AmTrust North America	28	City and County of San Francisco
29	Chubb Group of Insurance Companies.	30	City of Santa Ana
31	CNA	32	City of Torrance
33	CompWest Insurance Company	34	Contra Costa County Schools Ins. Group
35	Crum & Forster	36	Costco Wholesale
37	EMPLOYERS	38	County of San Bernardino Risk Mgmt
39	Everest National Insurance Company	40	County of Santa Clara Risk Mgmt
41	Farmers Insurance Group	42	Dignity Health
43	Fireman's Fund Insurance Company	44	Foster Farms
45	The Hartford Insurance Group	46	Grimmway Enterprises
47	ICW Group	48	Kaiser Permanente
49	Liberty Mutual Insurance	50	Marriott International, Inc.
51	Pacific Compensation Insurance Company	52	Pacific Gas & Electric Company
53	Preferred Employers Group	54	Safeway, Inc.
55	Springfield Insurance Company	56	Schools Insurance Authority
57	State Compensation Insurance Fund	58	Sempra Energy
59	State Farm Insurance Companies	60	Shasta County Risk Management
61	Travelers	62	Southern California Edison
63	XL Insurance	64	Sutter Health
65	Zenith Insurance Company	66	University of California
67	Zurich North America	68	The Walt Disney Company

ABOUT CWCI

Founded in 1964, the California Workers' Compensation Institute is a private, nonprofit organization working to improve the California workers' compensation system through research, education, information, and representation. Institute members include workers' compensation insurers, as well as public and private self-insured employers.