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Division of Workers' Compensation posts revised benefit notice regulations to online forum for public comment

The Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC), in consultation with the Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation, has drafted regulations to substantially revise and streamline the notices claims administrators are required to send injured employees and/or dependents in death cases. Public participation is invited—the proposed regulations have been posted to the online forum so that members of the public may review and comment on the proposal.

The most significant of the proposed changes to the current regulations include:

- 1. Elimination of the requirement to provide Fact Sheets as attachments to notices.
- A marked reduction in the requirement to provide a QME panel request form with notices.
- 3. Elimination of the warning notice language at the top of notices.
- 4. Allowing employees to choose to receive electronic service of notices.

Revisions are also being proposed to the Claim Form, Notice of Potential Eligibility and Notice to Employees Poster.

The proposed regulations are in <u>Title 8</u>, California Code of Regulations, sections 9705.1 through 9705.2.

The forum can be found on the DWC public forum Web <u>page</u>.

Comments will be accepted on the forum until 5 p.m. on May 3. Please feel free to participate in this important process.

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