

STATE OF CALIFORNIA - DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
Division of Workers' Compensation



**Notice to Employees--Injuries Caused By Work**

You may be entitled to workers' compensation benefits if you are injured or become ill because of your job. Workers' compensation covers most work-related physical or mental injuries and illnesses. An injury or illness can be caused by one event (such as hurting your back in a fall) or by repeated exposures (such as hurting your wrist from doing the same motion over and over).

**Benefits.** Workers' compensation benefits include:

- **Medical Care:** Doctor visits, hospital services, physical therapy, lab tests, x-rays, medicines, medical equipment and travel costs that are reasonably necessary to treat your injury. You should never see a bill. There are limits on chiropractic, physical therapy and occupational therapy visits.
- **Temporary Disability (TD) Benefits:** Payments if you lose wages while recovering. For most injuries, TD benefits may not be paid for more than 104 weeks within five years from the date of injury.
- **Permanent Disability (PD) Benefits:** Payments if you do not recover completely and your injury causes a permanent loss of physical or mental function that a doctor can measure.
- **Supplemental Job Displacement Benefit:** A nontransferable voucher, if you are injured on or after 1/1/2004, your injury causes permanent disability, and your employer does not offer you regular, modified, or alternative work.
- **Death Benefits:** Paid to your dependents if you die from a work-related injury or illness.

**Naming Your Own Physician Before Injury or Illness (Predesignation).** You may be able to choose the doctor who will treat you for a job injury or illness. If eligible, you must tell your employer, in writing, the name and address of your personal physician or medical group *before* you are injured. You must obtain their agreement to treat you for your work injury. For instructions, see the written information about workers' compensation that your employer is required to give to new employees.

**If You Get Hurt:**

1. **Get Medical Care.** If you need emergency care, call 911 for help immediately from the hospital, ambulance, fire department or police department. If you need first aid, contact your employer.
2. **Report Your Injury.** Report the injury immediately to your supervisor or to an employer representative. Don't delay. There are time limits. If you wait too long, you may lose your right to benefits. Your employer is required to provide you with a claim form within one working day after learning about your injury. Within one working day after you file a claim form, your employer or claims administrator must authorize the provision of all treatment, up to ten thousand dollars, consistent with the applicable treatment guidelines, for your alleged injury until the claim is accepted or rejected.
3. **See Your Primary Treating Physician (PTP).** This is the doctor with overall responsibility for treating your injury or illness.
  - If you predesignated your personal physician or a medical group, you may see your personal physician or the medical group after you are injured.
  - If your employer is using a medical provider network (MPN) or a health care organization (HCO), in most cases you will be treated within the MPN or HCO unless you predesignated a personal physician or medical group. An MPN is a group of physicians and health care providers who provide treatment to workers injured on the job. You should receive information from your employer if you are covered by an HCO or a MPN. Contact your employer for more information.
  - If your employer is not using an MPN or HCO, in most cases the claims administrator can choose the doctor who first treats you when you are injured, unless you predesignated a personal physician or medical group.
4. **Medical Provider Networks.** Your employer may be using an MPN, which is a group of health care providers designated to provide treatment to workers injured on the job. If you have predesignated a personal physician or medical group prior to your work injury, then you may go there to receive treatment from your predesignated doctor. If you are treating with a non-MPN doctor for an existing injury, you may be required to change to a doctor within the MPN. For more information, see the MPN contact information below:

MPN website: [https://www.anthemwc.com/medical\\_provider\\_networks.asp](https://www.anthemwc.com/medical_provider_networks.asp)

MPN Effective Date: 5/11/2020 MPN Identification number: 2415

If you need help locating an MPN physician, call your MPN access assistant at: (844) 752-1146

If you have questions about the MPN or want to file a complaint against the MPN, call the MPN Contact Person at: (844) 213-2400

**Discrimination.** It is illegal for your employer to punish or fire you for having a work injury or illness, for filing a claim, or testifying in another person's workers' compensation case. If proven, you may receive lost wages, job reinstatement, increased benefits, and costs and expenses up to limits set by the state.

**Questions?** Learn more about workers' compensation by reading the information that your employer is required to give you at time of hire. If you have questions, see your employer or the claims administrator (who handles workers' compensation claims for your employer):



## Workers' Compensation Claim Form (DWC 1) & Notice of Potential Eligibility Formulario de Reclamo de Compensación de Trabajadores (DWC 1) y Notificación de Posible Elegibilidad

If you are injured or become ill, either physically or mentally, because of your job, including injuries resulting from a workplace crime, you may be entitled to workers' compensation benefits. Use the attached form to file a workers' compensation claim with your employer. **You should read all of the information below.** Keep this sheet and all other papers for your records. You may be eligible for some or all of the benefits listed depending on the nature of your claim. If you file a claim, the claims administrator, who is responsible for handling your claim, must notify you within 14 days whether your claim is accepted or whether additional investigation is needed.

To file a claim, complete the "Employee" section of the form, keep one copy and give the rest to your employer. Do this right away to avoid problems with your claim. In some cases, benefits will not start until you inform your employer about your injury by filing a claim form. Describe your injury completely. Include every part of your body affected by the injury. If you mail the form to your employer, use first-class or certified mail. If you buy a return receipt, you will be able to prove that the claim form was mailed and when it was delivered. Within one working day after you file the claim form, your employer must complete the "Employer" section, give you a dated copy, keep one copy, and send one to the claims administrator.

**Medical Care:** Your claims administrator will pay for all reasonable and necessary medical care for your work injury or illness. Medical benefits are subject to approval and may include treatment by a doctor, hospital services, physical therapy, lab tests, x-rays, medicines, equipment and travel costs. Your claims administrator will pay the costs of approved medical services directly so you should never see a bill. There are limits on chiropractic, physical therapy, and other occupational therapy visits.

**The Primary Treating Physician (PTP)** is the doctor with the overall responsibility for treatment of your injury or illness.

- If you previously designated your personal physician or a medical group, you may see your personal physician or the medical group after you are injured.
- If your employer is using a medical provider network (MPN) or Health Care Organization (HCO), in most cases, you will be treated in the MPN or HCO unless you predesignated your personal physician or a medical group. An MPN is a group of health care providers who provide treatment to workers injured on the job. You should receive information from your employer if you are covered by an HCO or an MPN. Contact your employer for more information.
- If your employer is not using an MPN or HCO, in most cases, the claims administrator can choose the doctor who first treats you unless you predesignated your personal physician or a medical group.
- If your employer has not put up a poster describing your rights to workers compensation, you may be able to be treated by your personal physician right after you are injured.

Within one working day after you file a claim form, your employer or the claims administrator must authorize up to \$10,000 in treatment for your injury, consistent with the applicable treating guidelines until the claim is accepted or rejected. If the employer or claims administrator does not authorize treatment right away, talk to your supervisor, someone else in management, or the claims administrator. Ask for treatment to be authorized right now, while waiting for a decision on your claim. If the employer or claims administrator will not authorize treatment, use your own health insurance to get medical care. Your health insurer will seek reimbursement from the claims administrator. If you do not have health insurance, there are doctors, clinics or hospitals that will treat you without immediate payment. They will seek reimbursement from the claims administrator.

### **Switching to a Different Doctor as Your PTP:**

- If you are being treated in a Medical Provider Network (MPN), you may switch to other doctors within the MPN after the first visit.
- If you are being treated in a Health Care Organization (HCO), you may switch at least one time to another doctor within the HCO. You may switch to a doctor outside the HCO 90 or 180 days after your injury is reported to your employer (depending on whether you are covered by employer-provided health insurance).
- If you are not being treated in an MPN or HCO and did not predesignate, you may switch to a new doctor one time during the first 30 days after your injury is reported to your employer. Contact the claims administrator to switch doctors. After 30 days, you may switch to a doctor of your choice if your employer or the claims administrator has not created or selected an MPN.

Si Ud. se lesiona o se enferma, ya sea físicamente o mentalmente, debido a su trabajo, incluyendo lesiones que resulten de un crimen en el lugar de trabajo, es posible que Ud. tenga derecho a beneficios de compensación de trabajadores. Utilice el formulario adjunto para presentar un reclamo de compensación de trabajadores con su empleador. **Ud. debe leer toda la información a continuación.** Guarde esta hoja y todos los demás documentos para sus archivos. Es posible que usted reúna los requisitos para todos los beneficios, o parte de éstos, que se enumeran dependiendo de la índole de su reclamo. Si usted presenta un reclamo, el administrador de reclamos, quien es responsable por el manejo de su reclamo, debe notificarle dentro de 14 días si se acepta su reclamo o si se necesita investigación adicional.

Para presentar un reclamo, llene la sección del formulario designada para el "Empleado," guarde una copia, y déle el resto a su empleador. Haga esto de inmediato para evitar problemas con su reclamo. En algunos casos, los beneficios no se iniciarán hasta que usted le informe a su empleador acerca de su lesión mediante la presentación de un formulario de reclamo. Describa su lesión por completo. Incluya cada parte de su cuerpo afectada por la lesión. Si usted le envía por correo el formulario a su empleador, utilice primera clase o correo certificado. Si usted compra un acuse de recibo, usted podrá demostrar que el formulario de reclamo fue enviado por correo y cuando fue entregado. Dentro de un día laboral después de presentar el formulario de reclamo, su empleador debe completar la sección designada para el "Empleador," le dará a Ud. una copia fechada, guardará una copia, y enviará una al administrador de reclamos.

**Atención Médica:** Su administrador de reclamos pagará por toda la atención médica razonable y necesaria para su lesión o enfermedad relacionada con el trabajo. Los beneficios médicos están sujetos a la aprobación y pueden incluir tratamiento por parte de un médico, los servicios de hospital, la terapia física, los análisis de laboratorio, las medicinas, equipos y gastos de viaje. Su administrador de reclamos pagará directamente los costos de los servicios médicos aprobados de manera que usted nunca verá una factura. Hay límites en terapia quiropráctica, física y otras visitas de terapia ocupacional.

**El Médico Primario que le Atiende (Primary Treating Physician- PTP)** es el médico con la responsabilidad total para tratar su lesión o enfermedad.

- Si usted designó previamente a su médico personal o a un grupo médico, usted podrá ver a su médico personal o grupo médico después de lesionarse.
- Si su empleador está utilizando una red de proveedores médicos (*Medical Provider Network- MPN*) o una Organización de Cuidado Médico (*Health Care Organization- HCO*), en la mayoría de los casos, usted será tratado en la *MPN* o *HCO* a menos que usted hizo una designación previa de su médico personal o grupo médico. Una *MPN* es un grupo de proveedores de asistencia médica quien da tratamiento a los trabajadores lesionados en el trabajo. Usted debe recibir información de su empleador si su tratamiento es cubierto por una *HCO* o una *MPN*. Hable con su empleador para más información.
- Si su empleador no está utilizando una *MPN* o *HCO*, en la mayoría de los casos, el administrador de reclamos puede elegir el médico que lo atiende primero a menos de que usted hizo una designación previa de su médico personal o grupo médico.
- Si su empleador no ha colocado un cartel describiendo sus derechos para la compensación de trabajadores, Ud. puede ser tratado por su médico personal inmediatamente después de lesionarse.

Dentro de un día laboral después de que Ud. Presente un formulario de reclamo, su empleador o el administrador de reclamos debe autorizar hasta \$10000 en tratamiento para su lesión, de acuerdo con las pautas de tratamiento aplicables, hasta que el reclamo sea aceptado o rechazado. Si el empleador o administrador de reclamos no autoriza el tratamiento de inmediato, hable con su supervisor, alguien más en la gerencia, o con el administrador de reclamos. Pida que el tratamiento sea autorizado ya mismo, mientras espera una decisión sobre su reclamo. Si el empleador o administrador de reclamos no autoriza el tratamiento, utilice su propio seguro médico para recibir atención médica. Su compañía de seguro médico buscará reembolso del administrador de reclamos. Si usted no tiene seguro médico, hay médicos, clínicas u hospitales que lo tratarán sin pago inmediato. Ellos buscarán reembolso del administrador de reclamos.

### **Cambiando a otro Médico Primario o PTP:**

- Si usted está recibiendo tratamiento en una Red de Proveedores Médicos (*Medical Provider Network- MPN*), usted puede cambiar a otros médicos dentro de la *MPN* después de la primera visita.

**It is illegal for your employer** to punish or fire you for having a job injury or illness, for filing a claim, or testifying in another person's workers' compensation case (Labor Code 132a). If proven, you may receive lost wages, job reinstatement, increased benefits, and costs and expenses up to limits set by the state.

**Resolving Problems or Disputes:** You have the right to disagree with decisions affecting your claim. If you have a disagreement, contact your employer or claims administrator first to see if you can resolve it. If you are not receiving benefits, you may be able to get State Disability Insurance (SDI) or unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Call the state Employment Development Department at (800) 480-3287 or (866) 333-4606, or go to their website at [www.edd.ca.gov](http://www.edd.ca.gov).

**You Can Contact an Information & Assistance (I&A) Officer:** State I&A officers answer questions, help injured workers, provide forms, and help resolve problems. Some I&A officers hold workshops for injured workers. To obtain important information about the workers' compensation claims process and your rights and obligations, go to [www.dwc.ca.gov](http://www.dwc.ca.gov) or contact an I&A officer of the state Division of Workers' Compensation. You can also hear recorded information and a list of local I&A offices by calling (800) 736-7401.

**You can consult with an attorney.** Most attorneys offer one free consultation. If you decide to hire an attorney, his or her fee will be taken out of some of your benefits. For names of workers' compensation attorneys, call the State Bar of California at (415) 538-2120 or go to their website at [www.californiaspecialist.org](http://www.californiaspecialist.org).

**Learn More About Workers' Compensation:** For more information about the workers' compensation claims process, go to [www.dwc.ca.gov](http://www.dwc.ca.gov). At the website, you can access a useful booklet, "Workers' Compensation in California: A Guidebook for Injured Workers." You can also contact an Information & Assistance Officer (above), or hear recorded information by calling 1-800-736-7401.

tan pronto como usted pueda medicamente hacerlo. Los estudios demuestran que entre más tiempo esté fuera del trabajo, más difícil es regresar a su trabajo original y a sus salarios. Mientras se está recuperando, su *PTP*, su empleador (supervisores u otras personas en la gerencia), el administrador de reclamos, y su abogado (si tiene uno) trabajarán con usted para decidir cómo va a permanecer en el trabajo o regresar al trabajo y qué trabajo hará. Comuníquese de manera activa con su *PTP*, su empleador y el administrador de reclamos sobre el trabajo que hizo antes de lesionarse, su condición médica y los tipos de trabajo que usted puede hacer ahora y los tipos de trabajo que su empleador podría poner a su disposición.

**Pago por Incapacidad Permanente:** Si un médico dice que no se ha recuperado completamente de su lesión y siempre será limitado en el trabajo que puede hacer, es posible que Ud. reciba pagos adicionales. La cantidad dependerá de la clase de lesión, grado de deterioro, su edad, ocupación, fecha de la lesión y sus salarios antes de lesionarse.

**Beneficio Suplementario por Desplazamiento de Trabajo (Supplemental Job Displacement Benefit- SJDB):** Si Ud. se lesionó en o después del 1/1/04, y su lesión resulta en una incapacidad permanente y su empleador no ofrece un trabajo regular, modificado, o alternativo, usted podría cumplir los requisitos para recibir un vale no-transferible pagadero a una escuela para recibir un nuevo curso de reentrenamiento y/o mejorar su habilidad. Si Ud. cumple los requisitos, el administrador de reclamos pagará los gastos hasta un máximo establecido por las leyes estatales.

**Beneficios por Muerte:** Si la lesión o enfermedad causa la muerte, es posible que los pagos se hagan a un cónyuge y otros parientes o a las personas que viven en el hogar que dependían económicamente del trabajador difunto.

**Es ilegal que su empleador** le castigue o despida por sufrir una lesión o enfermedad laboral, por presentar un reclamo o por testificar en el caso de compensación de trabajadores de otra persona. (Código Laboral, sección 132a.) De ser probado, usted puede recibir pagos por pérdida de sueldos, reposición del trabajo, aumento de beneficios y gastos hasta los límites establecidos por el estado.

**Resolviendo problemas o disputas:** Ud. tiene derecho a no estar de acuerdo con las decisiones que afecten su reclamo. Si Ud. tiene un desacuerdo, primero comuníquese con su empleador o administrador de reclamos para ver si usted puede resolverlo. Si usted no está recibiendo beneficios, es posible que Ud. pueda obtener beneficios del Seguro Estatal de Incapacidad (*State Disability Insurance- SDI*) o beneficios del desempleo (*Unemployment Insurance- UI*). Llame al Departamento del Desarrollo del Empleo estatal al (800) 480-3287 o (866) 333-4606, o visite su página Web en [www.edd.ca.gov](http://www.edd.ca.gov).

**Puede Contactar a un Oficial de Información y Asistencia (Information & Assistance- I&A):** Los Oficiales de Información y Asistencia (*I&A*) estatal contestan preguntas, ayudan a los trabajadores lesionados, proporcionan formularios y ayudan a resolver problemas. Algunos oficiales de *I&A* tienen talleres para trabajadores lesionados. Para obtener información importante sobre el proceso de la compensación de trabajadores y sus derechos y obligaciones, vaya a [www.dwc.ca.gov](http://www.dwc.ca.gov) o comuníquese con un oficial de información y asistencia de la División Estatal de Compensación de Trabajadores. También puede escuchar información grabada y una lista de las oficinas de *I&A* locales llamando al (800) 736-7401.

**Ud. puede consultar con un abogado.** La mayoría de los abogados ofrecen una consulta gratis. Si Ud. decide contratar a un abogado, los honorarios serán tomados de algunos de sus beneficios. Para obtener nombres de abogados de compensación de trabajadores, llame a la Asociación Estatal de Abogados de California (*State Bar*) al (415) 538-2120, o consulte su página Web en [www.californiaspecialist.org](http://www.californiaspecialist.org).

**Aprenda Más Sobre la Compensación de Trabajadores:** Para obtener más información sobre el proceso de reclamos del programa de compensación de trabajadores, vaya a [www.dwc.ca.gov](http://www.dwc.ca.gov). En la página Web, podrá acceder a un folleto útil, "Compensación del Trabajador de California: Una Guía para Trabajadores Lesionados." También puede contactar a un oficial de Información y Asistencia (arriba), o escuchar información grabada llamando al 1-800-736-7401.

## TIME OF HIRE PAMPHLET

This pamphlet, or a similar one that has been approved by the Administrative Director, must be given to all newly hired employees in the State of California. Employers and claims administrators may use the content of this document and put their logos and additional information on it. The content of this pamphlet applies to all industrial injuries that occur on or after January 1, 2013.

### WHAT IS WORKERS' COMPENSATION?

If you get hurt on the job, your employer is required by law to pay for workers' compensation benefits. You could get hurt by:

One event at work. Examples: hurting your back in a fall, getting burned by a chemical that splashes on your skin, getting hurt in a car accident while making deliveries.

—or—

Repeated exposures at work. Examples: hurting your wrist from using vibrating tools, losing your hearing because of constant loud noise.

—or—

Workplace crime. Examples: you get hurt in a store robbery, physically attacked by an unhappy customer.

### Discrimination is illegal

It is illegal under Labor Code section 132a for your employer to punish or fire you because you:

- File a workers' compensation claim
- Intend to file a workers' compensation claim
- Settle a workers' compensation claim
- Testify or intend to testify for another injured worker.

If it is found that your employer discriminated against you, he or she may be ordered to return you to your job. Your employer may also be made to pay for lost wages, increased workers' compensation benefits, and costs and expenses set by state law.

### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- **Medical care:** Paid for by your employer to help you recover from an injury or illness caused by work. Doctor visits, hospital services, physical therapy, lab tests and x-rays are some of the medical services that may be provided. These services should be necessary to treat your injury. There are limits on some services such as physical and occupational therapy and chiropractic care.

Information & Assistance Unit by going to [www.dwc.ca.gov](http://www.dwc.ca.gov) and looking under “Workers’ Compensation programs and units” for the “Information & Assistance Unit” link or visit the DIR web site at [www.dir.ca.gov](http://www.dir.ca.gov).

**Workers’ compensation fraud is a crime**

Any person who makes or causes to be made any knowingly false statement in order to obtain or deny workers’ compensation benefits or payments is guilty of a felony. If convicted, the person will have to pay fines up to \$150,000 and/or serve up to five years in jail.

**WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I HAVE AN INJURY?**

**Report your injury to your employer**

Tell your supervisor right away no matter how slight the injury may be. Don’t delay – there are time limits. You could lose your right to benefits if your employer does not learn of your injury within 30 days. If your injury or illness is one that develops over time, report it as soon as you learn it was caused by your job.

If you cannot report to the employer or don’t hear from the claims administrator after you have reported your injury, contact the claims administrator yourself.

**Workers’ compensation insurance company or if employer is self-insured, person responsible for handling the claim is:**

THE HANOVER INSURANCE COMPANY

Address: PO BOX 15144 Worcester, MA 01653

Phone: 1-800-628-0250

You may be able to find the name of your employer’s workers’ compensation insurer at [www.caworkcompcoverage.com](http://www.caworkcompcoverage.com). If no coverage exists or coverage has expired, contact the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement at [www.dir.ca.gov/DLSE](http://www.dir.ca.gov/DLSE) as all employees must be covered by law.

**Get emergency treatment if needed**

If it’s a medical emergency, go to an emergency room right away. Tell the medical provider who treats you that your injury is job related. Your employer may tell you where to go for follow up treatment.

group with an M.D. or D.O. You must name your doctor in writing *before* you get hurt or become ill.

You may predesignate a doctor if you have health care coverage for non-work injuries and illnesses. The doctor must have:

- Treated you
- Maintained your medical history and records before your injury and
- Agreed to treat you for a work-related injury or illness before you get hurt or become ill.

You may use the “predesignation of personal physician” form included with this pamphlet. After you fill in the form, be sure to give it to your employer.

If your employer does not have an approved MPN, you may name your chiropractor or acupuncturist to treat you for work related injuries. The notice of personal chiropractor or acupuncturist must be in writing *before* you get hurt. You may use the form included in this pamphlet. After you fill in the form, be sure to give it to your employer.

With some exceptions, state law does not allow a chiropractor to continue as your treating physician after 24 visits. Once you have received 24 chiropractic visits, if you still require medical treatment, you will have to select a new physician who is not a chiropractor. The term “chiropractic visit” means any chiropractic office visit, regardless of whether the services performed involve chiropractic manipulation or are limited to evaluation and management.

Exceptions to the prohibition on a chiropractor continuing as your treating physician after 24 visits include postsurgical physical medicine visits prescribed by the surgeon, or physician designated by the surgeon, under the postsurgical component of the Division of Workers’ Compensation’s Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule, or if your employer has authorized additional visits in writing.

### **WHAT IF THERE IS A PROBLEM?**

If you have a concern, speak up. Talk to your employer or the claims administrator handling your claim and try to solve the problem. If this doesn’t work, get help by trying the following:

#### **Contact the Division of Workers’ Compensation (DWC) Information and Assistance (I&A) Unit**

All 24 DWC offices throughout the state provide information and assistance on rights, benefits and obligations under California's workers' compensation laws. I&A officers help resolve disputes without formal proceedings. Their goal is to get you full and timely benefits. Their services are free.

To contact the nearest I&A Unit, go to [www.dwc.ca.gov](http://www.dwc.ca.gov) and under “Workers’ Compensation programs and units”, click on “Information & Assistance Unit.” At this site you will find fact sheets, guides and information to help you.

## PREDESIGNATION OF PERSONAL PHYSICIAN

In the event you sustain an injury or illness related to your employment, you may be treated for such injury or illness by your personal medical doctor (M.D.), doctor of osteopathic medicine (D.O.) or medical group if:

- on the date of your work injury you have health care coverage for injuries or illnesses that are not work related;
- the doctor is your regular physician, who shall be either a physician who has limited his or her practice of medicine to general practice or who is a board-certified or board-eligible internist, pediatrician, obstetrician-gynecologist, or family practitioner, and has previously directed your medical treatment, and retains your medical records;
- your "personal physician" may be a medical group if it is a single corporation or partnership composed of licensed doctors of medicine or osteopathy, which operates an integrated multispecialty medical group providing comprehensive medical services predominantly for nonoccupational illnesses and injuries;
- prior to the injury your doctor agrees to treat you for work injuries or illnesses;
- prior to the injury you provided your employer the following in writing: (1) notice that you want your personal doctor to treat you for a work-related injury or illness, and (2) your personal doctor's name and business address.

You may use this form to notify your employer if you wish to have your personal medical doctor or a doctor of osteopathic medicine treat you for a work-related injury or illness and the above requirements are met.

### NOTICE OF PREDESIGNATION OF PERSONAL PHYSICIAN

**Employee: Complete this section.**

To: \_\_\_\_\_ (name of employer) If I have a work-related injury or illness, I choose to be treated by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name of doctor)(M.D., D.O., or medical group)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(street address, city, state, ZIP)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(telephone number)

Employee Name (please print):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Employee's Address:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Insurance Company, Plan, or Fund providing health coverage for nonoccupational injuries or illnesses:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Employee's  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Physician: I agree to this Predesignation:**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Physician or Designated Employee of the Physician or Medical Group)

The physician is not required to sign this form, however, if the physician or designated employee of the physician or medical group does not sign, other documentation of the physician's agreement to be predesignated will be required pursuant to Title 8, California Code of Regulations, section 9780.1(a)(3).

## WHISTLEBLOWERS ARE PROTECTED

It is the public policy of the State of California to encourage employees to notify an appropriate government or law enforcement agency, person with authority over the employee, or another employee with authority to investigate, discover, or correct the violation or noncompliance, and to provide information to and testify before a public body conducting an investigation, hearing or inquiry, when they have reason to believe their employer is violating a state or federal statute, or violating or not complying with a local, state or federal rule or regulation. ■

### Who is protected?

Pursuant to California Labor Code Section 1102.5, employees are the protected class of individuals. "Employee" means any person employed by an employer, private or public, including, but not limited to, individuals employed by the state or any subdivision thereof, any county, city, city and county, including any charter city or county, and any school district, community college district, municipal or public corporation, political subdivision, or the University of California. [California Labor Code Section 1106]

### What is a whistleblower?

A "whistleblower" is an employee who discloses information to a government or law enforcement agency, person with authority over the employee, or to another employee with authority to investigate, discover, or correct the violation or noncompliance, or who provides information to or testifies before a public body conducting an investigation, hearing or inquiry, where the employee has reasonable cause to believe that the information discloses:

1. A violation of a state or federal statute,
2. A violation or noncompliance with a local, state or federal rule or regulation, or
3. With reference to employee safety or health, unsafe working conditions or work practices in the employee's employment or place of employment.

A whistleblower can also be an employee who refuses to participate in an activity that would result in a violation of a state or federal statute, or a violation of or noncompliance with a local, state or federal rule or regulation.

### What protections are afforded to whistleblowers?

1. An employer may not make, adopt, or enforce any rule, regulation, or policy preventing an employee from being a whistleblower.
2. An employer may not retaliate against an employee who is a whistleblower.
3. An employer may not retaliate against an employee for refusing to participate in an activity that would result in a violation of a state or federal statute, or a violation or noncompliance with a state or federal rule or regulation.
4. An employer may not retaliate against an employee for having exercised his or her rights as a whistleblower in any former employment.

Under California Labor Code Section 1102.5, if an employer retaliates against a whistleblower, the employer may be required to reinstate the employee's employment and work benefits, pay lost wages, and take other steps necessary to comply with the law.

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