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State of California

DWCNewsline

Division of Workers' Compensation
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State Division of Workers' Compensation holds free Spanish-language seminar in Calexico on workers' compensation benefits and laws

The California Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) will conduct a free Spanish-language seminar on March 30 in Calexico regarding workers' compensation benefits. The seminar, which coincides with the Cesar Chavez holiday, is set up for employees that have recently filed a workers' compensation claim with their employer, but any employee can benefit from attending and anyone can attend.

"Calexico presents an important opportunity to reach agricultural workers," said DWC Acting Administrative Director Carrie Nevans. "Agriculture is one of California's most dangerous industries, where workers frequently face hazards from heat stress, driverless tractors and short handled tools, to name a few."

Every day during the agricultural season, thousands of workers converge in Calexico to connect with farm labor contractors who transport them to fields throughout the Imperial Valley region. For these agricultural employees, days typically begin at 3 a.m. and end around 8 p.m.

At this free, one-hour workshop, those attending will learn about their right to medical treatment, disability payments, returning to work after an injury and resolving a disagreement over a claim. The workshop consists of a presentation followed by a question and answer session. The Calexico workshop will take place:

Thursday, Mar. 30, 2006

6:30 - 7:30 a.m.

**Employment Development Department office
301 Heber Avenue @ 3rd Street
Calexico, CA**

Conducting seminars for injured workers in Spanish is one of the DWC's first steps in creating greater access to information about workers' compensation for all California's wage earners. Injured workers can call 1-800-736-7401 to get workshop and other information. Workshop posters are also available to community based organizations and others who'd like to distribute them by calling 510.286.7076. Find the workshop flyer on the what's new page of DWC's Web site at <http://www.dir.ca.gov/dwc/whatsnew.htm>.

The workshop is presented by the DWC Information and Assistance Unit. The Information and Assistance Unit helps employees, employers and others understand their rights, benefits and obligations under California's workers' compensation laws. The unit plays a major role in resolving disagreements over workers' compensation benefits and is often the first DWC contact for injured workers.

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