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State of California

DWCNewsline

Division of Workers' Compensation
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Division of Workers' Compensation will provide two Spanish-language seminars to commemorate Cesar Chavez Day

Seminars will focus on workers' rights to benefits if injured on the job and will feature information about staying safe through the summer heat

The California Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) will conduct two free Spanish-language seminars on workers' compensation in conjunction with Cesar Chavez Day 2009. The first seminar will take place March 24 in Sacramento. The second seminar will be held March 26 in Brawley. The seminars will also feature presentations by Cal/OSHA, the state's occupational safety and health agency, which will help workers understand how to stay healthy in the coming summer months.

"Every employee in California has the right to medical treatment if they get hurt on the job, and language should not be a barrier," said DWC acting Administrative Director Carrie Nevans.

"Cesar Chavez provided us with a living example of what it means to be of service to the community. These seminars are one small way we can pay tribute to his legacy of dedication: By reaching out to the Spanish-speaking community we help ensure those who need our assistance know where to turn for help."

The first seminar will be held in collaboration with the Consulate General of Mexico in Sacramento. The second will be held in Brawley, in the heart of the Imperial Valley, an important source of winter agricultural produce for the northern areas of the entire country.

"Workers in both of these areas of our state are particularly vulnerable to injuries and illnesses associated with high temperatures," said Cal/OSHA Deputy Chief Vicky Heza. "California employers must take specific measures to protect workers under these conditions, and workers must know their rights."

At each seminar employees will receive information on medical treatment, disability payments, returning to work after an injury and resolving a disagreement over a workers' comp claim. They will also be able to get assistance, in Spanish, with their individual cases. Additionally, they will be provided with information about the state's heat illness prevention program. The workshops will take place:

Tuesday, March 24, 2009
6-7 p.m.
Sacramento Mexican Consulate
1010 8th Street
Sacramento, CA

Thursday, March 26, 2009
6-7 p.m.
Lions Memorial Center conference room
225 A Street
Brawley, CA

Each program consists of a short presentation followed by a question and answer session, and is hosted by the DWC Information and Assistance Unit. The Information and Assistance Unit plays a major role in resolving disagreements over workers' compensation benefits and is the state's main information source for injured workers.

A listing of regularly scheduled workshop days, times and locations in English and Spanish can be found on DWC's Web site at www.dwc.ca.gov. In the left navigation pane, click on "know my rights" under the "I want to" section. Spanish-speaking workers can scroll down the main navigation pane to the "[En español](#)" link above the "What's new" section.

Injured workers can also call 1-800-736-7401 to find the workshop near them and hear other recorded information. To go directly to workshop locations in Spanish, workers should press 2 after dialing the 800 number. English-speaking workers should call 1-800-736-7401 and press 7, then 7 again for workshop details.

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