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State of California

DWCNewsline

Division of Workers' Compensation
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Internet Web Page: <http://www.dir.ca.gov>

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Division of Workers' Compensation offers Bakersfield's first Spanish-language seminar this week, July 15, 2009

The California Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) will conduct a free Spanish-language seminar on workers' compensation in California's Central Valley. This is the first Spanish-language seminar in Bakersfield and will take place Wednesday, July 15. The seminar will also feature a presentation by Cal/OSHA, the state's occupational safety and health agency, which will help workers understand how to stay healthy during the summer months.

"We are working diligently to increase our outreach efforts statewide and in the Central Valley. This is the first time we have the opportunity to include Spanish speakers in Bakersfield," said DWC acting Deputy Administrative Director Destie Overpeck. "We are determined to ensure that anyone who needs us know who we are and where to find us."

"Workers in this part of California 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."

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 workshop will take place:

Wednesday, July 15, 2009

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Christ the King Catholic Church

1800 Bedford Way

Bakersfield, 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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