

Work Comp Connection



October 2013 Newsletter

Division of Workers Compensation:
Serving Kansas for more than 100 years



Work Comp Offices Make Final Moves

The Overland Park office moved to the ANB Bank Building, 2nd Floor, 11900 W 87th St., Lenexa KS. The building is at the intersection of 87th Street and Quivira Road. Click [here](#) for a map to the new location. Primary phone numbers will remain the same, however extension numbers may change – be sure to listen carefully to the prompt. The office opened on Monday, Sept. 30.

The Wichita office will move to a new location at 226 N Main St., in early November. All phone numbers will change for employees in that office. Monitor the [Latest News](#) for more information.

Medical Fee Schedule Coming in November

The Medical Services section administers the Division of Workers Compensation’s fee schedule for provision of medical services to injured workers. The section revises the fee schedule on a biannual basis. This assures that the fee schedule is reasonable and promotes health care cost containment, yet ensures the availability of necessary treatment and care for injured employees.

The changes to the medical fee schedule will be posted on the [section’s website](#) in November and go into effect in January 2014.

2014 Appeals Board Hearing Dates and Locations

Lenexa	Topeka	Wichita
Jan. 14	Jan. 7	Jan. 22
March 11	Feb. 4 & 11	Feb. 19
May 13	March 4	March 19
July 15	April 8 & 15	April 23
Sept. 9	May 6	May 21
Nov. 13	June 3 & 10	June 18
	July 8	July 23
	Aug. 5 & 12	Aug. 20
	Sept. 3	Sept. 17
	Oct. 7 & 14	Oct. 22
	Nov. 4 & 19	
	Dec. 2, 9 & 17	

Hearings are held by appointment only.

Workers Compensation Judicial Section and Appeals Board

The Division has 10 Administrative Law Judges throughout the state. Their primary function is to conduct timely hearings in contested workers compensation claims, and render orders based on the facts presented, as applied to the Workers Compensation Act. For an initial determination of benefits, preliminary hearings are set on a priority basis, and preliminary decisions are issued within five days of the hearing. A list of the workers compensation [Administrative Law Judges](#) and their [contact information](#) is available online.

A listing of the [counties served](#) by each judge, a [districting map](#) showing the areas of coverage, and a [survey of attorneys](#) who practice in front of the Administrative Law Judges and rated them on fairness, knowledge of the law and courtroom decorum, are also available online.

The Workers Compensation Appeals Board was established in 1993 to decide appeals of orders and awards from the Workers Compensation Administrative Law Judges. The Legislature created the Board to replace the state district court judges' place in the appeal process, hoping to obtain more uniform decisions throughout the state.

Appeals board members conduct de novo review of decisions. Review is on the record. All five Board members decide final orders, awards and modifications of final awards. Review of preliminary hearing orders are decided by a single Board member.

Decisions from the Board are due within 30 days of the date arguments are presented. Decisions are posted online at [Recent Board Decisions](#) and [Search and Access Board Decisions](#).

Who's Working for You?



Douglas Hager has transferred to the Division of Workers Compensation after serving as Director of Labor Relations and Executive Director of the Public Employee Relations Board for the Department since 1999. He received his law degree from the University of Houston, and his Bachelor of Science in Business with a major in Business Administration and Bachelor of Science with a major in Public Administration degrees from Emporia State University.

Hager's past experience includes working as Special Assistant to the Kansas Secretary of Revenue and as the Department of Revenue's Chief Administrative Law Judge for Taxation and Alcoholic Beverage Control Appeals. He has also worked as a financial consultant in the securities industry. Douglas will assist the Workers Compensation Appeals Board by providing legal research and writing to administer the 2011 changes to the Workers Compensation Act.

Fast Facts

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Release 3 testing with Tier 3 EDI partners will begin Oct. 1, and continue through Dec. 20. Check the [Tier 3 Implementation Schedule](#) for your testing date if you are a Tier 3 partner.

Depending on your occupation, it could be several years before you need to report continuing education documentation for credit purposes. Assistance to reissue certification documentation from past Workers Compensation Seminars can be done for up to five years from the date you attended. Contact WCseminar@dol.ks.gov for information.

A [Records Download Requestor's Guide](#) can be found online to provide an overview of the process when registering as a requestor and downloading workers compensation records.

Other KDOL Divisions

Workplace Laws and Requirements: houses information about Kansas wage laws; wage claims; posters for your workplace; minimum wage; overtime; payroll deductions and requirements; holiday, vacation, sick and severance pay; and more.

Industrial Safety and Health: request a free safety consultation to discover the potential hazards at your workplace and improve safety and health practices.

