

Work Comp Connection

November 2012 Newsletter



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

Mediation

The Division strongly encourages workers and employers to resolve workers compensation disputes by mutual agreement. Full-time, approved mediators work to assist workers and employers in reaching an agreement on any contested issue.

Mediation services are free of charge and conferences can be set at various locations throughout the state. When practical, mediation conferences can be conducted by teleconference or video conference.

Communications are confidential. If the dispute is resolved, the mediator can produce a written agreement or an agreed order to memorialize the terms of the resolution.

There are no procedural requirements for requesting a mediation conference.

To learn more, visit the mediation Web page at: www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/mediation.aspx. Contact the unit at 785-296-4000, toll free at 800-332-0353 or email Jassina.Washington@dol.ks.gov.

Meet mediation staff member, Steve Holzmeister, in this issue's *Who's Working For You?* article on page two.

Newly Revised Mediation Brochure

Available at:

<http://www.dol.ks.gov/Files/PDF/kwcp100.pdf>

2012 DOWNLOAD HANDOUTS IS CLOSED

To request 2012 handouts, email:
Shirley.Hastings@dol.ks.gov

ATTENTION Insurance carriers, group pools and self insurers!

Are you ready to file reports
of injury electronically?

Learn more at:

www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/edinews.aspx

Fast Facts: EDI

Kansas Workers Compensation will mandate the use of IAIABC Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Release 3 Standards beginning in April 2013.

All insurance carriers, group pools and self-insurers will be required to use EDI to file both First and Subsequent Reports of Injury using the Release 3 Standards.

Inside Information

- Learn about fraud in workers compensation on the Fraud and Abuse Web page at: <http://www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/fraud.aspx> and from the *Fraud and Compliance Pamphlet* at: <http://www.dol.ks.gov/Files/PDF/kwc706.pdf>
- Employers must report employee accidents within 28 days if the injury wholly or partially incapacitates the worker for more than the day, shift or turn.

Who's Working For You?



John Carpinelli joined the Division as a pro-tem Board Member on October 15, 2012.

John has 16 years of experience working at the Benfer, Owen and Carpinelli, PA firm where he defended workers compensation claims for

respondents, insurance companies and some self-insureds.

Carpinelli grew up in Atchison and has lived in Topeka since graduating from Washburn University School of Law.



Steve Holzmeister is a graduate of Washburn University with a bachelor's degree in political science.

Steve began working at the Department of Labor in 1992 as an Adjudicator in the Division of Unemployment Insurance. He moved

to the Division of Workers Compensation to work as an Ombudsman in 2006 and is now lead worker and mediator.

Steve's duties include advising employees, employers, insurance carriers and attorneys on workers compensation issues. He also assists workers and employers in reaching an agreement on contested issues.

Holzmeister is an approved mediator by the Kansas Supreme Court. To reach Steve, call 785-296-4000 or email him at Steve.Holzmeister@dol.ks.gov.

Email Article

  **Suggestions to**
 **wc@dol.ks.gov**

2013 Topics and Speakers are being Selected!

Submit your ideas and nominations using the appropriate online forms or email:
Shirley.Hastings@dol.ks.gov

www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/seminar.aspx

2012 Seminar Report

The 38th Annual Workers Compensation Seminar was held at the Overland Park Convention Center on October 2 and 3. Thank you to the 627 attendees, 53 sponsors and 92 exhibitors.

Topics included: *Causation: Prevailing Factor, Temporary Total Disability to Maximum Medical Improvement, Psychological Injuries, Pain Management and Post Award Medical* and more.

Two cost-saving changes were made at this year's event – the elimination of both on-site registration and the distribution of hard-copy handouts. These changes allowed registration prices to remain affordable for all attendees.

The Division appreciates everyone's cooperation in making these changes.

The 39th Annual Workers Compensation Seminar will be held at the Hyatt Regency Wichita, August 6 and 7, 2013.



Save The Date



39th Annual Workers Compensation Seminar

August 6-7, 2013 • Hyatt Regency Wichita

For More Information Visit:

<https://www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/seminar.aspx>