

# Work Comp Connection

February 2014 Newsletter



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

## Law Book Update Coming Online

A 2013 update to the Workers Compensation Law Book is scheduled for publication in early February. Continue to monitor the [Latest News](#) box of the Workers Compensation website for updates.

## Fraud and Abuse

The Fraud and Abuse section was created in 1994 to combat fraudulent or abusive acts and practices by employers, employees and health care providers. The section is responsible for the investigation of alleged violations of the Workers Compensation Act.

If a violation of the Act is discovered, the section is willing to pursue administrative remedies and in certain cases may ask a county or district attorney to file criminal charges. Per Kansas law, an Assistant Attorney General is assigned to direct and assist in the investigation and prosecution process.

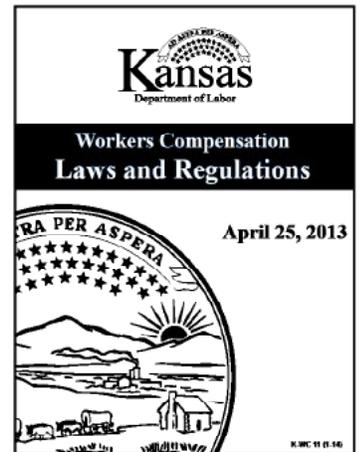
Areas of investigation can include; making false or misleading statements to obtain benefits, presenting a false certificate of insurance, submitting a charge for health care not furnished, failure to secure workers compensation insurance, failure to timely file accident reports and more.

Reports of fraud come from many sources including; anonymous tips, employers and employees, insurance companies and the Kansas Insurance Department.

Any person who refers a possibly fraudulent or abusive practice is immune from civil or criminal liability arising from the referral as long as the referral is made in good faith with the belief that a fraudulent or abusive practice has, is or will occur and the referral is not submitted by the person or persons who are in violation of the Workers Compensation Act in order to avoid criminal prosecution or administrative hearings.

Employees and employers who are not sure if a violation has occurred can contact the Workers Compensation [Ombudsman section](#) for discussion.

For detailed information on the areas of investigation by the Fraud and Abuse section and to report fraud, visit the [website](#). You may also call the section at 785-296-4000 (opt. 4), call toll free at 800-332-0353 (opt. 3), or email [wcfraud@dol.ks.gov](mailto:wcfraud@dol.ks.gov).



**NOTE:** Workers Compensation Fraud and Abuse section does not investigate alleged misconduct by insurance carriers or agents. These investigations are made by the Kansas Insurance Department.

## Report Workers Compensation

# FRAUD



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Email article ideas to:  
[Shirley.Hastings@dol.ks.gov](mailto:Shirley.Hastings@dol.ks.gov)



## New to Workers Compensation in Kansas?

We recommend these employer and employee materials from the *Forms and Publications Web page*.

**K-WC 25** - *Workers Compensation Information for Kansas Employers and Employees*, and the Spanish version, **K-WC 250** both describe the purpose of the law, elections, employers' responsibilities, the categories of disability benefits, how rates are determined, how to obtain insurance, conditions that affect benefits, guidelines for medical treatments, ombudsman and medication services and more.

**K-WC 27-A** - *Important Information for Injured Employees*, and the Spanish version **K-WC 270-A**, both apply only to injuries on or after April 25, 2013.

**K-WC 40-A** - *Posting Notice - Workers Compensation Rights and Responsibilities*, applies only to injuries on or after April 25, 2013.



### Who's Working for You?

**Tara Noll** has worked as first contact and Administrative Specialist for the Ombudsman section since January 2012. As the section's first contact, she screens and directs phone inquiries and assists insurance agents, employers and attorneys with elections processing.

Prior to joining the Division, Tara worked at Children and Family Services in the Child and Adult Abuse Intake Center for more than 12 years. She received reports of abuse and determined if the information received met the state's criteria for investigation. Tara also worked in customer service and handled customer complaints about cases and case workers.

Tara is currently enrolled to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Information Technology from the Colorado Technical University.

## Fast Facts

**Elections** - Statutes written within the Kansas Workers Compensation Act allow certain employers to elect in or out of coverage under the Act. The Election Process is detailed. Read the general rules for the elections and find instructions on how to complete them [online](#). Send questions to [WCEmployerServices@dol.ks.gov](mailto:WCEmployerServices@dol.ks.gov).

**Self-Insured** - The Business and Accounting section reviews applications from employers who wish to become self-insured. For assistance, email [WCSelfInsurance@dol.ks.gov](mailto:WCSelfInsurance@dol.ks.gov).

## Documenting Continuing Education

For some, it could be several years before you need to report documentation of credit to maintain licensing or certification. The Division can reissue the documentation of past credits awarded at Workers Compensation Seminars for up to five years from the date you attended.

If you need documentation or have questions about continuing education, email [WCSeminar@dol.ks.gov](mailto:WCSeminar@dol.ks.gov).



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Department of Labor

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