



## OUR FIRM

At HOMAN & STONE, our focus is on our client. As one of California's pre-eminent defense and trial firms, we successfully resolve civil disputes through early dismissal, settlement or trial. For nearly 20 years we have prided ourselves in providing exceptional legal services in the civil litigation arena. We specialize in trial practice and the defense of general tort litigation, including, but not limited to, personal injury, premises liability, product liability, business litigation, entertainment, workers compensation and construction defect. We litigate cases throughout the state in both state and federal courts. Our attorneys have a proven history of success for our clients.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Workers' Compensation Committee Midwinter Seminar and Meeting**  
 March 14-16th, 2013  
 The Biltmore Hotel  
 Coral, Florida 33134

For further reading visit  
[www.Homan-Stone.com](http://www.Homan-Stone.com)

## NEWS ALERT

### ATTORNEY SPOTLIGHT



Trenier Wright  
 Senior Attorney

Trenier A. Wright started his legal career in 1984 at one of the largest workers' compensation firms in the State of California. Mr. Wright is currently a Senior Attorney in Homan & Stone's Workers' Compensation Department. His practice is 100% devoted to Workers' Compensation cases, and he regularly appears at the Workers' Compensation Appeals Boards. Mr. Wright represents self-insured employers, public entities,

and insurance companies, and Third-Party Administrators, both regional and national, relating to Workers' Compensation, including the defense of Labor Code Section 132a and Serious and Willful Misconduct claims. Mr. Wright obtained his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from the University of California, Los Angeles, and he received his Law Degree from the University of Nebraska.

## New California laws aimed at banning religious bias

California Gov. Edmund G. Brown has signed a bill banning religious discrimination in the workplace.

The Workplace Religious Freedom Act, A.B. 1964 sponsored by Assembly Member Mariko Yamada, D-Davis, strengthens existing law by clarifying that wearing religious clothing or a religious hairstyle as a belief or observance is covered by protections under the state's Fair Employment and Housing Act.

The bill that Gov. Brown signed into law on Saturday and that goes into effect on Jan. 1, 2013, also prohibits employers from segregating employees from customers and the public when accommodating religious beliefs and practices. "This bill is dedicated to all those who have suffered the indignities of ignorance and discrimination in the workplace because of the tenets of their faith,"



Governor Brown signs bill banning religious discrimination.

Ms. Yamada said in a statement. "No longer will it be legal to segregate a worker from public view because their appearance did not fit a corporate image."

Changing demographics in the state of California have resulted in an increase of workplace religious discrimination cases, particularly in the Sikh and Muslim communities, according to the statement.

### Revised curriculum

Gov. Brown on Saturday also signed S.B. 1540 sponsored by Sen. Loni Hancock, D-Berkeley, that requires California's Board of Education to consider adopting a revised curriculum for instructional materials in history and social sciences, with a focus on Sikhs and Korean Americans, among others.

A mass shooting on Aug. 5 at a Sikh temple in Oak Creek, Wis., left six people dead and four wounded.

"Sikh Americans are loyal citizens who have been targeted because of widespread ignorance of their religion and culture," Gov. Brown said in a statement. "The bills I sign today aim to ensure that Californians learn about our Sikh citizens as well as protect all of us from job discrimination based on religious observances."

SOURCE : WWW.BUSINESSINSURANCE.COM