



Steven Tudor
Attorney

Steven Tudor is an Associate Attorney with the law firm of Homan & Stone. Steven concentrates his practice in the areas of workers' compensation defense and lien resolution throughout California. His clients include carriers, employers, self insureds and servicing agents on local, regional and national levels. Steven has comprehensive knowledge of California Workers' Compensation laws and has made numerous appearances before the WCAB. His attention to detail, sharp judgment and WC experience is exactly what employers and insurance companies appreciate in him.

The locations of the April 12 QME Exams are as follows:

Northern California
South San Francisco
Conference Ctr.
255 South Airport Blvd.
So. San Francisco, CA 94080
650-877-8787

Southern California
Irvine Marriott Hotel
18000 Von Karman Ave.
Irvine, CA 92612
949-553-0100

Future of lien activation fees in question.

Written by: Steven Tudor

On November 15, 2013 the California Department of Workers Compensation announced that it would no longer be collecting lien activation fees in response to a ruling issued by the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California in the matter of Angelotti Chiropractic, Inc., et al. v. Baker, et al.

Under Senate Bill 863, which was passed on Aug. 31, 2012 and signed into law by Governor Brown on Sept. 18, 2012, all Lien Claimants were required to pay a \$100 lien activation fee in order to appear at a hearing or file a Declaration of Readiness to Proceed (DOR) regarding a lien. Starting January 1, 2013 any lien claimants that failed to pay the lien activation by the start of a lien conference could be dismissed by the Worker Compensation Judge on the motion of Defense counsel. SB 863's lien activation requirements lead to countless lien claimants being dismissed for failing to pay this lien activation.

The proponents in Angelotti Chiropractic, Inc., et al. v. Baker, et al are arguing that the liens "constitute a vested property right" that is being taken illegally by the WCAB when liens are dismissed for failing to pay the fee. For now, the preliminary injunction prevents the WCAB from dismissing liens for failing to pay the lien activation; however the fate of all the liens dismissed for failing to pay lien activation will not be determined until Angelotti Chiropractic, Inc., et al. v. Baker, et al. is decided in full. An update will be given once the case is decided.



CA DWC Medical Unit Accepting Applications for Upcoming QME Examination on April 12

San Francisco, CA – The Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) is now accepting applications for the Qualified Medical Evaluator (QME) examination on Saturday, April 12. QMEs are independent physicians certified by the DWC Medical Unit to conduct medical evaluations of injured workers. The application and exam packet can be downloaded from the DWC website (PDF).

Please note that Section 10 of the application requires the applicant to initial each of four boxes affirming the statements listed. The exam packet (which includes the Registration form, \$125 Fee Notice, \$15 Physicians Guide order form, 12 Hour Report Writing Provider list and the Reference List) may be downloaded here (PDF). The deadline for filing the exam applications is February 27, 2014.

For more information please contact Joanne Van Raam at 510-628-2004 or Francine Wooley at 510-628-2038.

For further reading visit www.Homan-Stone.com

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