

# NEVADA WORKERS' COMPENSATION CHRONICLE

Department of Business & Industry  
A Publication of the Workers' Compensation Section

Division of Industrial Relations Winter Edition  
(December 2017 - February 2018)

This newsletter is not intended to provide legal advice to the reader. Legal opinions or interpretations of statutes and regulations referenced should be sought from legal professionals.



## Forms, Forms, Forms . That's All I See

Forms are an integral part of most industries in today's fast-paced world. Their usefulness is undeniable as a means of communicating information efficiently and uniformly. However, they also require periodic revision to remain current with contemporary business processes, an essential component of maintaining their usefulness. Forms utilized by those involved with Nevada's workers' compensation system must balance the technological capabilities of a variety of users (including the WCS) while still supporting communication and data exchange between parties. It is a tightrope balancing act, indeed.

Many people are aware of and are becoming increasingly familiar with the Workers' Compensation Section's (WCS) new computer program, CARDS. Part of the impetus for CARDS development was to improve the efficiency of data collection and retrieval. CARDS allows the WCS to expand our abilities to receive information electronically. With an eye toward transitioning the process of requesting a rating physician/chiropractor to an electronic format, the request form itself, commonly known as a D-35 Form, had to be revised. The new, sleeker D-35 Form, released in October and available at <http://dir.nv.gov/WCS/home/>, boasts a cleaner, less cluttered appearance while boosting capacity to document multiple body parts and provide limited instruction. Drop down boxes make recording body codes and injury side faster and easier. We've also added a "Comments" line in the third section allowing users to add clarification and additional information that may be helpful.

The perfect workers' compensation form is yet to be designed. Perfect for one user does not generally translate to perfect for every other user. One of the difficulties the WCS frequently encounters with forms is that required fields may be left blank or not completed properly. We ask that anyone preparing to submit a D-35 Form to the WCS, take a moment to ensure all the fields are completed accurately. Please take note that the name of the insurer/TPA is completed as well as the employer. Sometimes a self-insured employer may be listed, however, the name of the TPA administering claims is missing. This leads to delays that lead to frustration – not a pleasant situation for anyone. Some of these issues may be corrected when the D-35 submission process becomes completely electronic, from start to finish. And that may entail further tweaks and revisions to the D-35 Form. However, as my parents used to remind me, one step at a time.

The new D-35 Form will not solve world hunger, fight terrorism or even solve all your workers' compensation challenges. We do hope it is helpful for people requesting a Nevada rating physician/chiropractor to do so in a more expeditious fashion.

**Katherine Godwin, RN**  
*Medical Supervisor*

## The C-2 Mystery Solved



In our last issue we shared with you a question that came up during the Education Conference in August about what happened to the C-2 form. Over that past several months we asked many different people in the industry if they had any recollection of a C-2 Form. The responses were all over the place. Some folks denied the C-2 Form ever existed while others had reasonable explanations but those could not be confirmed. Then there were those few elaborate accounts of the C-2 form that rival stories like those about aliens and Area 51. The search was entertaining to say the least but we finally have the answer... or at least some of it.

We know the C-2 Form did exist. In fact, we found an actual copy from an injury claim that happened in 1974! We know this particular form was revised in 1972 when the Nevada Industrial Commission (NIC) handled workers compensation claims in Nevada. that occurred and was to be mailed to the Las Vegas NIC office within 5 days of the accident.

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## Holiday Closures

Christmas Day  
Monday December 25,  
2017

New Year's Day  
Monday January 1, 2018

Martin Luther King, Jr.  
Day  
Monday January 15, 2018

President's Day  
Monday February 19,  
2018

## Training Sessions

### SOUTHERN NEVADA

1301 North Green Valley Parkway  
Suite 200, Henderson, Nevada 89074

✉ [krissi.garcia@business.nv.gov](mailto:krissi.garcia@business.nv.gov)

☎ (702) 486-9019

### NORTHERN NEVADA

400 West King Street  
Suite 400, Carson City, Nevada 89703

✉ [kawilliams@business.nv.gov](mailto:kawilliams@business.nv.gov)

☎ (775) 684-7265



### Medical Fee Schedule

2/15/2018 at 9:30 am & 1:30 pm

### C-4 Processing & CVS

1/12/2018 at 9:30 am

### Medical Billing

1/12/2018 at 1:30 pm

## Recent Legislative Changes to Safety and Health

One of the many changes enacted by the recent Nevada Legislature has to do with your requirements to report accidents, injuries, and fatalities. In short, the new requirements are:

“Any accident or motor vehicle crash occurring in the course of employment which is fatal to one or more employees must be reported by the employer orally to the nearest office of the Division *within 8 hours* after the time that the accident or crash is reported to any agent or employee of the employer.

Any accident or motor vehicle crash occurring in the course of employment which results in the inpatient hospitalization of *one or more employees*, the amputation of a part of an employee's body or an employee's loss of an eye must be reported by the employer orally to the nearest office of the Division within 24 hours after the time that the accident or crash is reported to any agent or employee of the employer.”

*Stephen Rogers*

*SCATS-Program Coordinator*

## Nevada Participates in IAIABC Convention

In October, the Nevada Workers' Compensation Section participated in the International Association of Industrial Accident Boards and Commissions (IAIABC) 103<sup>rd</sup> Convention held in Portland, Oregon. The IAIABC Convention brings together workers' compensation administrators, regulators, and leader to discuss major policy and regulatory issues affecting workers' compensation systems around the world. WCS staff attended sessions for the Regulation, Medical Issues and Research and Standards Committees, participated in the Heads of Delegation Forum and the meeting of the Western Association of Workers' Compensation Boards (WAWCB). Session topics included uninsured funds, medical marijuana, PEOs, the use of AMA Guides for evaluation impairment, independent contractors and shared economy, to name a few. Additionally, Nevada sits on the Research & Standards Committee which is currently working on a project to develop system benchmarks across jurisdictions.

The next IAIABC conference will be the Forum, April 16-19, 2018 in Atlanta, GA. For more information, visit [www.iaibc.org](http://www.iaibc.org).

*Ruth Ryan, Chief, Research and Analysis Unit*



## REPORTING REMINDERS

There is a lot of new information relating to Insurer and TPA Reporting....

**TPA Information Form** and the **Insurer Information Form** are now required to be completed within the CARDS portal. The forms will no longer be available on the WCS web site and will not be accepted in the old format.

**TPA Information Form** - This form is now available only in our CARDS system and must be completed online using the CARDS web form. TPAs must be registered in CARDS and given rights to access the **TPA Information Form**. WCS will require this form to be updated within 30 days of any changes and reviewed and submitted at least once per year. We will send a reminder with a due date for the annual submission. NOTE: The "Claims Handled" section of the form is not on the CARDS web form. This data will be requested in a separate email data call.

**Insurer Information Form** - This form is now available only in our CARDS system and must be completed online using the CARDS web form. Insurers must be registered in CARDS and given rights to access the **Insurer Information Form**. WCS will require this form to be updated within 30 days of any changes and reviewed and submitted at least once per year. We will send a reminder with a due date for the annual submission. The **Insurer Information Form** in CARDS is how insurers "link" to their Nevada TPAs, allowing them to submit claims data (D-38) and perform other tasks on their behalf.

For more information on the CARDS portal, visit our CARDS webpage: <http://dir.nv.gov/WCS/cards/>.

**OD-8 Occupational Disease Claim Report (NRS 617.357)** forms for claims reportable in calendar year 2017 are due by December 31, 2017. The **Occupational Disease Claim Report Statement of Inactivity** form is due by January 5, 2018. All insurers that submitted zero OD-8 forms in calendar year 2017 must file a **Statement of Inactivity** for calendar year 2017. The statement of Inactivity, OD-8 and instructions can be found on our web site at [http://dir.nv.gov/WCS/Insurer-TPA\\_Reporting/](http://dir.nv.gov/WCS/Insurer-TPA_Reporting/). Watch for an expanded OD-8 form in 2018 to capture data per AB 267 (2017) relating to appeals for heart and lung claims.

**Coming soon!** The **FY17 WCS Workers' Compensation Claims Activity Report** pursuant to NRS 616B.009 and NAC 616B.016. Projected due date for this report will be late January 2018. Links to the blank form and instructions will be updated in the coming weeks on our web site at [http://dir.nv.gov/WCS/Insurer-TPA\\_Reporting/](http://dir.nv.gov/WCS/Insurer-TPA_Reporting/) and an email notification will go out to all workers' compensation insurers and TPAs.

Failure to submit the required reports may result in administrative fines.

Questions may be directed to WCS Research and Analysis at (702) 486-9080 or to [wcsra@business.nv.gov](mailto:wcsra@business.nv.gov).

## The C-2 Mystery Solved

(Continued from page 1)

The C-2 Form was titled Report of Injury or Occupational Disease and Workman's Claim for Benefits and was to be completed by the employee, physician and the employer. The form included a bit of information about the employer, employee and the accident.

We are not sure exactly why the C-2 form was phased out but could come to some reasonable conclusions including the logistics of having all parties complete the one form and mail it within the required 5 days. The current C-3, Employer's Report of Injury and C-4, Employee's Claim for Compensation forms have more detailed information that would prove useful in making a determination for benefits. These two forms made their debut in July of 1975. They have changed over the years but are still the current forms used by the industry for workers compensation claims. The mystery of the C-2 form is solved!



*Stephanie Canter,*  
**WCS CARDS Project Manager**

### WCS MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Workers' Compensation Section is to impartially serve the interests of Nevada employers and employees by providing assistance, information, and a fair and consistent regulatory structure focused on:

Ensuring the timely and accurate delivery of workers' compensation benefits.

Ensuring employer compliance with the mandatory **coverage provisions**.

**Questions about Workers' Compensation?**  
**Click Here!**



**[WCSHelp@business.nv.gov](mailto:WCSHelp@business.nv.gov)**



## The positives in the neighborhood

### Veteran's Village

The DIR team collected can food and personal products in the month of November for Nevada's veterans. Two car loads of canned goods and personal products were delivered on November 21, 2017 to Veterans Village in Las Vegas, Nevada. Veterans Village has been caring for the needs of our homeless veterans for the last five years and has recently opened their second location. Last year the DIR also provided can food and personal products to Veterans Village. The DIR plans to continue helping our veterans throughout the coming year.



*Kristine Garcia and Lupe Manzo, delivering canned goods, and personal products to Veterans Village*

### Robin Hoodie Project

During the month of December The DIR team is collecting hoodies to help the students at Myrtle Tate Elementary School. Myrtle Tate Elementary School is an at-risk elementary school with an impoverished population. Many of the students do not have sweaters or jackets, so they freeze on the playground or on their walk to and from school during the winter months. Last year the DIR collected over eighty (80) hoodies for the students at Myrtle Tate Elementary School. This year our goal is to collect a hundred (100) or more hoodies for the students. Santa Claus will be delivering the hoodies to the students before their winter break on Decem-



## Kids' Chance of Nevada has Arrived

Kids' Chance of America is a national organization which was established to provide post-secondary educational scholarships to children of parents who have been catastrophically or fatally injured in a work-related accident. The workers' compensation community of Nevada acknowledged that there is a need in our state and established Kids' Chance of Nevada. Governor Brian Sandoval issued a proclamation on November 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 to recognize Kids' Chance of Nevada and Kids Chance Awareness Week.

As the leading workers' compensation insurance carrier with a rich heritage in Nevada, EMPLOYERS® understands the catastrophic financial and emotional toll workplace injuries and fatalities can take on workers and their families. Through our partnership with Kids' Chance of Nevada, we can help alleviate these burdens and give kids the resources and opportunities they need to pursue higher education. In an effort to help establish this organization in Nevada EMPLOYERS® will match one dollar for every dollar donated up to \$100,000, between December 1, 2017 through July 1, 2018. All donations may be sent to Kids' Chance of Nevada P.O. Box 750532 Las Vegas, NV 89136

In addition to donations, Kids' Chance of Nevada is asking the workers compensation legal community to take a look at its files and if you know of a child that could benefit from this program, please direct them to our website [kidschanceofnevada.org](http://kidschanceofnevada.org).

Nationally, Kids' Chance of America has collectively awarded over 6,000 scholarships totaling over \$18 million dollars.

*Jim Werbeckes*

*V.P. Government & Regulatory Affairs, EMPLOYERS*



## Hails and Farewells and Promotions

Welcome **Layce Roberts!** A Carson City native, coming from the Nevada Department of Health & Human Services, where she worked as a processor for the Medical Marijuana Registry for a little over a year and a half. She also has a background in catering, Medical coding and has worked in the Mission District in San Francisco for the American Indian Film Institute. She enjoys playing/watching video games on all platforms, party planning, being home alone or with family enjoying good soul food! Layce is thrilled to start her new journey as an Administrative Assistant II with the Carson City WCS team.



A big welcome to Linda Torres, our new Medical Administrative Assistant replacing Kristine Garcia. Linda comes to us from SCATS and looks forward to gaining experience and working with the medical team here in WCS. Linda is a San Diego native where she received her B.A. from the University of San Diego. She and her husband moved to Las Vegas in 2006. When she's not at work, she enjoys spending time with her husband, family and Corgi, Cinnabon.



## Hails and Farewells and Promotions

We are pleased to announce the promotion of **Alma Johnson** to Compliance/Audit Investigator! Alma began her DIR career just 4 years ago in OSHA, and was promoted a short time later to WCS as an Administrative Assistant III. As an AAI, Alma played a key role during the transition and development of our new Web site and as the coordinator of our annual Workers' Compensation Educational Conference attended by hundreds of industry stakeholders each year. Alma brings enthusiasm and a wealth of experience to her new role in the Employer Compliance and Research and Analysis Units, where she will be able to showcase and build on her attention to detail and strong organizational skills. Congratulations, Alma!



### Online Resources

[www.centerforloss.com](http://www.centerforloss.com)

[www.willowgreen.com](http://www.willowgreen.com)

[www.compassionatefriends.org](http://www.compassionatefriends.org)

[www.centering.org](http://www.centering.org)

[www.bereavedparentsusa.org](http://www.bereavedparentsusa.org)

[www.aplacetoremember.com](http://www.aplacetoremember.com)

### Locally

<https://bridgecounseling.org/>

<http://ourlittleworldtx-center.webs.com/>

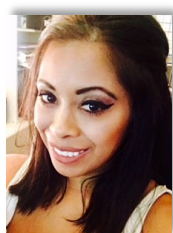
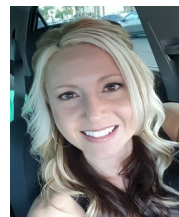
<https://www.cccofsn.org/>

<http://www.redrockph.com/>



Congratulations to **Annie Wong** who was promoted to Compliance Audit Investigator I in the Insurer/TPA Unit of WCS. She previously worked in the Employer Compliance Unit as an Administrative Assistant. Her background ranges from medical malpractice insurance claims to personal injury law. She earned dual B.A. degrees in Public Administration and Psychology from California State University, Fullerton. She also interned for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, D.C. and County of Orange Procurement Office in Southern California.

We are happy to welcome **Cindie Kusko**, a new addition to DIR/WCS Employer Compliance Unit as an Administrative Assistant II. Cindie began her career with the State in 2013 and has worked with several agencies including LCB and The Division of Child and Family Services. Prior to working with the State of Nevada she worked for 10 years in procurement. When she's not at work, she loves cooking with her two sons, who are 9 and 13. Her nine year old already plans on going to culinary school! She also enjoys doing outdoor activities with family and friends.



Congratulations to **Kristine Garcia**, who has recently been promoted to the position of Administrative Assistant III to the Research and Analysis Unit. Kristine began her career with the WCS in May of 2017 as the C-4 Coordinator in the WCS Medical Unit where she oversaw the C-4 Verification Team which conducted an average of 80 C-4 investigations per month. These investigations helped ensure the timely delivery of benefits to Nevada's injured employees. Her background, along with her enthusiasm and commitment to assist and educate others, will ensure her success in her new role, which will include creating the quarterly WCS newsletter, training and educational materials and website content.

Peter Wahlquist retired on November 30, 2017 with 28 years of State service. Peter worked in the Employer Compliance Unit of the Workers' Compensation Section as an Enforcement Investigator. Despite the inherent challenges and confrontational nature of the job, Peter worked diligently to ensure employer compliance and employee safety while conducting thousands of investigations during his career. Enforcement will not be the same without him, but morning coffees will finally be what they are meant to be for him – relaxing and de-stressing. WCS is really going to miss Peter. May Peter have a relaxing retirement, knowing that his life's work has made a difference!



### CONTACT WCS

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[WCSHelp@business.nv.gov](mailto:WCSHelp@business.nv.gov)



After 22 years of state service, **Joan Hutchings**, retired in November as an Administrative Assistant II. She looks forward to traveling without an agenda, sewing, working on different crafts and fixing up her home while listening to Elvis Presley. Her contagious laugh and friendly smile will be greatly missed. Retirement will surely offer Joan many new opportunities which she will embrace wholeheartedly. With her love of Elvis we can formally say ladies and gentlemen, "Joan has Left the Building!" and with our Elvis voices "Thank You Very Much!"

