



CompWest Insurance / Special Investigation Unit

Since 1994, the Department of Insurance has mandated that every insurance carrier maintain a Special Investigation Unit dedicated to the fight against insurance fraud. The Department of Insurance mandates that all "suspected fraudulent claims" be reported to the Department of Insurance, Fraud Division.

The Special Investigation Unit is headed by Janina Lopez, SIU Manager. Under her leadership and extensive experience in claims and investigation, Ms. Lopez' has developed a successful SIU program. To report a suspected fraud claim, please email Ms. Lopez at:

JLopez@CompWestInsurance.com.

2007 FRAUD CASES:

- **14 Applicant Fraud Cases referred to the Department of Insurance and District Attorney**
- **One Provider Fraud Case referred to the Board of Chiropractic Examiners**
- **One Provider Fraud Case referred to the State Medical Board**
- **4 Cases currently open for investigation by the Department of Insurance / DA Office**
- **3 Cases open pending a status from the Department of Insurance / District Attorney**

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- **Arrested and Convicted...a case of fraud.**
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Arrested and Convicted

CompWest obtained its first arrest and conviction for workers' compensation fraud on July 5th, 2007

Injured Worker (IW) Gutierrez was employed as a maintenance person by a CompWest Insured in Santa Barbara County. The IW alleged a left hand injury from painting. There were no witnesses to the incident.

The claims examiner detected red flag indicators and assigned the case for a standard **AOE/COE** investigation.

The IW was removed from work and placed TTD until March 28th, 2006. He was scheduled to return to work on March 29th, 2006, but did not because the treating doctor kept him off work pending another evaluation.

On March 30th, 2006, the insured, contacted the **PTP** to explain that there was modified duty available for the IW such as answering phones and other light work. The PTP then released the IW to return to work under modified duty.

The insured was not able to reach the IW to tell him it was okay to return to work. It was later discovered that the IW had a second job at a nearby ranch and he had been working there for some time. It was said the IW's spouse also worked at the ranch.

The insured went to the ranch and was greeted at the door by the IW's spouse. The IW was inside the residence vacuuming and when he saw the insured, the IW attempted to hide in a closet. The IW later came to door as he was attempting to put on his hand brace.

The IW denied working at the ranch and said he was trying to repair the vacuum cleaner. The IW subsequently voluntarily resigned.

CW SIU was notified of the case and sought to interview the owner of the ranch. The IW's employment was verified as having worked there for several years.

The IW was collecting Temporary Disability Benefits while receiving another source of income which he previously denied.

One of the critical pieces of evidence was the verbiage that CW prints on the reverse side of the TTD checks in accordance with Insurance Code Section 1871.8. It reads,

"You are required to report to your employer or the insurance company / administrator any money that you earned for work during the time covered by the temporary disability payment and before cashing any temporary disability check. If you do not follow these rules, you may be in violation of the law and the penalty may be jail or prison, a fine and loss of benefits."

CW SIU referred this case to



the Department of Insurance and to the Santa Barbara County District Attorney Office in May 2006. Almost one year later, in April 2007, the IW was

arrested and charged with:

- **One count of Insurance Code Section 1871.4**
- **Insurance fraud**
- **One count of Penal Code Section 550(b)(3)**
- **Filing a false insurance claim**
- **One count of Penal Code Section 487, grand theft.**

In July 2007, the IW pled guilty to one count of Insurance Code Section 1871.4, Insurance Fraud. He paid restitution in full in the amount of \$4,169.15.

This case resulted in a successful prosecution due in part to an alert claims examiner, a diligent SIU investigation and an involved employer. All three are necessary components for a successful SIU program. ■



The following list of medical doctors covers disciplinary issues by the California State Medical Board during the month of

November and December, 2007. As always, should you see a Doctor's name that may match one of your files, please notify us.

DECISIONS

ACCUSATIONS AND/OR PETITIONS TO REVOKE PROBATION FILED

BAEZ, Alfonso M., M.D.
Gardena, CA
License number: A-35887
Stipulated decision effective: 11/13/2007
1 additional year added to existing probation

BLUM, Mitchell Edward H., M.D.
Carmichael, CA
License number: G-25010
Stipulated decision effective: 11/21/2007
Public Reprimand issued.

BULLIAS, Bruce Alan, M.D.
Murrieta, CA
License number: G-27217
Stipulated decision effective: 10/29/2007
Revoked, stayed, 3 years probation.

DJORDJEVIC, Borko, M.D.
Palm Desert, CA
License number: A-31228
Stipulated decision effective: 10/08/2007
Revoked, stayed, 7 years probation with 3 months actual suspension.

DONALDSON, Brian Robert, M.D.
Healdsburg, CA
License number: G-32428
Decision effective: 10/08/2007
Revoked, stayed, 5 years probation.

DORSEY, Thomas Reid
Bonita, CA
License number: G-54664
Stipulated decision effective: 10/26/2007
Surrender of License.

FISCHBEIN, Stuart James, M.D.
Los Angeles, CA
License number: G-52027
Decision effective: 10/10/2007
Revoked, stayed 7 years probation.

FLEISS, Paul M, M.D.
Los Angeles, CA
License number: A-28858
Stipulated decision effective: 10/08/07
Revoked, stayed, 35 months of probation.

FRANCK, Elizabeth Reddan
San Francisco, CA
License number: G-81179
Stipulated decision effective: 10/12/2007
Revoked, stayed, 7 years probation, 1 year's actual suspension.
License revoked: 10/17/2007

HARRIS, Richard I.
Los Angeles, CA
License number: G-29416
Decision effective: 11/26/2007

License revoked.

HUGHES, Derek Patrick, M.D.
Yuba City, CA
License number: A-61410
Stipulated decision effective: 11/19/2007
Revoked, stayed, 3 additional years added to existing probation.

JAHANPANA, Fereshteh, M.D.
El Cajon, CA
License number: G-65104
Stipulated decision effective: 10/29/2007
Public Reprimand issued.

KHAN, Shagufta Parvin, M.D.
San Diego, CA
License number: A-29687
Stipulated decision effective: 10/24/2007
Revoked, stayed, additional 7 years added to existing probation.

KOLKOW, Stephen Gene
San Diego, CA
License number: A-79480
Stipulated decision effective: 10/24/2007
Surrender of License.

LEE, James Edward
Davis, CA
License number: G-66831
Decision effective: 11/08/2007
License revoked.

LEE, Thomas Tuan-Tong, M.D.
Montclair, CA
License number: A-37294
Stipulated decision effective: 10/25/2007
Public Reprimand issued.

LOWE, Isaac Edwin, M.D.
Oxnard, CA
License number: G-55370
Stipulated decision effective: 11/26/2007
Public Reprimand issued.

LUNDAHL, Gerald Dale, M.D.
Chino Hills, CA
License number: A-28772
Stipulated decision effective: 10/26/2007
Revoked, stayed, 3 years probation

MALKOFF, Lori L.
Encinitas, CA
License number: G-57705
Stipulated decision effective: 10/25/2007
Surrender of License.

MCLAUGHLIN, Barbara Elaine, M.D.
Paradise, CA
License number: G-13975
Stipulated decision effective: 04/16/2007
Public Reprimand issued: 10/24/2007

MOAYED, Ali
Los Gatos, CA
License number: G-84380
Stipulated decision effective: 10/22/2007
Surrender of License

MOORE, Caroline Ruth
Yucca Valley, CA
License number: G-19522
Stipulated decision effective: 10/24/2007
Surrender of License.

MORIARTY, Sarah Alice, M.D.
Stockton, CA
License number: A-93218
Stipulated decision effective: 11/05/2007
Revoked, stayed, 5 years probation.

MURPHY, Douglas Peter, M.D.
Morro Bay, CA
License number: A-65282
Stipulated decision effective: 11/05/2007
Revoked, stayed, 5 years probation.

OMIDI, Julian
Los Angeles, CA
License number: A-71181
Decision effective: 10/26/2007
License revoked.

PETITT, John Charles, M.D.
Santa Maria, CA
License number: G-52812
Decision effective: 10/18/2007
Revoked, stayed, 3 years probation

PILOVETZKY, Pierre
Burbank, CA
License number: A-52249
Decision effective: 10/24/2007
License revoked.

PRAKASH, Om, M.D.
Apple Valley, CA
License number: A-39024
Stipulated decision effective: 11/02/2007
Revoked, stayed, 18 months probation.

RAYMOND, Frederick, M.D.
Pasadena, CA
License number: G-32652
Decision effective: 11/16/2007
Revoked, stayed, 5 years probation

RODIBAUGH, David Leonard, M.D.
Santa Ana, Ca
License number: C-33122
Stipulated decision effective: 10/19/2007
Public Reprimand issued.

RYLL, Erich D.
Carmichael, CA
License number: G-13357
Stipulated decision effective: 11/16/2007
Surrender of License.

SANDERS, Edward Wayne, Jr.
Sausalito, CA
License number: C-29998
Stipulated decision effective: 10/04/2007
Surrender of License.

SCHWARTZ, George Robert
Santa Fe, NM
License number: G-23732
Stipulated decision effective: 10/24/2007
Surrender of License.

SEE, Darryl Matthew
Buena Park, CA
License number: G-61569
Stipulated decision effective: 10/30/2007
Surrender of License.

SHARP, Frank Ray
Sacramento, CA
License number: G-30991
Stipulated decision effective: 10/04/2007

Surrender of License.

SKOGERSON, Kent Edward, M.D.
Wofford Heights, CA
License number: A-39437
Stipulated decision effective: 11/14/2007
Public Reprimand issued.

STOCKARD, Charles Geer, Jr., M.D.
Hacienda Heights, CA
License number: C-42444
Stipulated decision effective: 10/04/2007
Revoked, stayed, 4 years probation.

SURI, Rajesh Sam, M.D.
Fremont, CA
License number: A-50486
Stipulated decision effective: 11/14/2007
Revoked, stayed, 5 years probation.

UMANSKY, Charles, M.D.
La Jolla, CA
License number: G-9683
Stipulated decision effective: 10/25/2007
Revoked, stayed, 3 years probation.

VANMEURS, Dirk Hendrik, M.D.
Albany, CA
License number: G-40574
Stipulated decision effective: 10/15/2007
Revoked, stayed, 5 years probation.

VARAKIAN, Lusik S.m M.D.
Glendale, CA
License number: A-39856
Stipulated decision effective: 11/01/2007
Revoked, stayed, 7 years probation.

VITKOVA, Miluse, M.D.
Santa Clara, CA
License number: C-50745
Public Letter of Reprimand issued: 11/19/2007

ZANDER, Alla, M.D.
Laguna Hills, CA
License number A-61985
Stipulated decision effective: 10/26/2007
Revoked, stayed, 7 years probation.

ACCUSATIONS AND /OR PETITIONS TO REVOKE PROBATION FILED PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS

AHDOOT, Roben Dan, M.D.
Los Angeles, CA
License number: A-62395
Accusation filed: 11/15/2007

ALLEN, John Warner, M.D.
El Cajon, CA
License number: C-37706
Accusation filed: 10/29/2007

BAHNA, Mamdouh Sadek, M.D.
Los Angeles, CA
License number: A-26744
Accusation filed: 10/29/2007

BOHEE, Sumner T., M.D.
Los Angeles, CA
License number: C-17942
Accusation filed: 11/29/2007

Complete listing available at www.medbd.ca.gov