

N E W S L I N E

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DIR and Division of Workers' Compensation Suspend Fermin Iglesias, Steven Rigler for Fraud

The Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) and its Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) have suspended two more medical providers from participating in California's workers' compensation system. DWC Acting Administrative Director George Parisotto issued Orders of Suspension for the following providers:

- Fermin Iglesias, a provider of durable medical equipment based in Glendale, [pled guilty](#) to federal charges of participating in a fraud scheme in which injured workers were referred to specific doctors in exchange for kickbacks.
- Steven Rigler, a chiropractor in San Diego, was one of the providers participating in Iglesias' kickback scheme. He [pled guilty](#) to fraud charges in federal court.

AB 1244 (Gray and Daly) requires the DWC Administrative Director to suspend any medical provider, physician or practitioner from participating in the workers' compensation system in cases in which one or more of the following is true:

- The provider has been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor involving fraud or abuse of the Medi-Cal or Medicare programs or the workers' compensation system, fraud or abuse of a patient, or related types of misconduct;
- The provider has been suspended due to fraud or abuse from the Medicare or Medicaid (including Medi-Cal) programs; or
- The provider's license or certificate to provide health care has been surrendered or revoked.

DIR's [fraud prevention efforts](#) are posted online, including frequently updated lists for physicians, practitioners and providers who have been issued [notices of suspension](#), and those who have been [suspended pursuant to Labor Code §139.21\(a\)\(1\)](#). Recently added is a new web page with information on [lien consolidations and the Special Adjudication Unit](#).

DIR protects and improves the health, safety and economic well-being of over 18 million wage earners, and helps their employers comply with state labor laws. DIR's [Division of](#)

[Workers' Compensation](#) monitors the administration of workers' compensation claims, and provides administrative and judicial services to assist in resolving disputes that arise in connection with claims for workers' compensation benefits.

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The [California Department of Industrial Relations](#), established in 1927, protects and improves the health, safety, and economic well-being of over 18 million wage earners, and helps their employers comply with state labor laws. DIR is housed within the [Labor & Workforce Development Agency](#). For general inquiries, contact DIR's Communications Call Center at 844-LABOR-DIR (844-522-6734) for help in locating the appropriate [division or program](#) in our department.