

N E W S L I N E

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Division of Workers' Compensation Suspends Three Medical Providers for Fraud

The Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) has suspended three more medical providers from participating in California's workers' compensation system, bringing the total number of providers suspended this year to 49.

DWC Acting Administrative Director George Parisotto issued Orders of Suspension against the following providers:

- Samuel H. Albert of Tustin, psychiatrist, [pled guilty](#) in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California on June 20, 2016 to conspiracy to commit health care fraud. Albert had submitted over \$4.2 million in fraudulent claims to the Federal Office of Workers' Compensation Programs.
- Barry Julian Broomberg of San Diego, physician and owner of La Jolla Medical Associates, [pled guilty](#) in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California on September 4, 2013 to visa fraud, and surrendered his Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate on September 9, 2014. Broomberg knowingly made false statements under penalty of perjury on visa applicants' Report of Medical Examination and Vaccination Record forms (United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Form I-693) without performing the required tests and examinations.
- Robert E. Brizendine of San Diego, psychologist, [surrendered](#) his Psychologist's License to the California Board of Psychology on March 20, 2014.

AB 1244 (Gray and Daly), which went into effect January 1, introduced new changes to the workers' compensation system and requires the division's 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.

The Department of Industrial Relations' (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\(a\)\(1\)](#). The department recently added 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.