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DWCNewsline

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Division of Workers' Compensation Medical Unit clears qualified medical evaluator panel request backlog

The Division of Workers' Compensation Medical Unit has successfully cleared the qualified medical evaluator (QME) panel request backlog by processing 31,622 over a two month period of time between April and June, 2010. The unit announced that during the two month period they processed the equivalent of 41% of the total number of represented panels (76,542) processed during the entire year of 2009.

"We saw our backlog growing and knew we had to meet the challenge," says DWC Medical Unit Manager Sue Honor. "When we started the push we were processing requests from December 2009 and as of today we are processing requests at 21 calendar days,"

Regulations require that a panel be issued in 30 calendar days upon requests from injured workers, claims administrators and workers' compensation judges.

Staff worked some Saturdays to accumulate compensation time or straight pay and the bulk of the panels were processed during normal work hours. The Medical Unit has processed more than 1,150,000 panel requests since 1991.

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