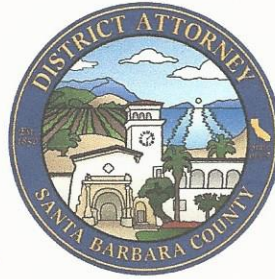


OFFICE OF THE
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
JOYCE E. DUDLEY
District Attorney



DA 05-244

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APPROVED BY *Joyce E. Dudley*, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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May 7, 2014

Re: Workers' Compensation Insurance Public Awareness Campaign

Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce Dudley announced this week the launch of a public awareness campaign designed to educate employers, employees, and the public about Workers' Compensation Insurance.

California law requires all businesses and employers to have workers' compensation insurance for all of its employees. Failure to do so is a misdemeanor that can carry a maximum penalty of one year in jail and a minimum fine of \$10,000.

Last week, the District Attorney's Office mailed an informational flyer to approximately 7,500 businesses throughout the county. The flyer seeks to educate employers about the benefits of acquiring worker's compensation insurance coverage and the fact that California law requires all employers to secure workers' compensation for their employees.

The goal of the public awareness campaign is to encourage compliance with the law. "We would rather have local businesses purchase workers' compensation insurance than use their money to pay fines and court costs," District Attorney Dudley said.

Every year half a million California employees file workers' compensation claims. A business or employer who does not have workers' compensation insurance coverage can be devastated financially by one or two uninsured claims. More importantly, a worker who suffers a legitimate injury on the job at an uninsured employer may not get medical treatment or the temporary disability benefits he is entitled to. This can delay the employee's return to work and ability to earn a living."

The following link will direct you to the Workers' Compensation Insurance Brochure which is located in the Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office website:

http://www.countyofsb.org/da/msm_county/documents/WorkersCompensationBrochure.pdf.

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