



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

General Counsel Division - Legal Section (MS-4D)

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memo

To: Texas Workers' Compensation System Participants

From: Emily McCoy, Associate General Counsel, Office of General Counsel

Date: April 12, 2017

RE: Amending Plain Language Notices

The Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (TDI-DWC) is accepting public comments on revisions to plain language notices PLN01 through PLN12, as well as new PLN13 and PLN14. To help establish a possible effective date for the new and revised notices, **TDI-DWC specifically requests that stakeholders consider and comment on how much time may be necessary for implementation.**

TDI-DWC's goal is to improve the notices insurance carriers use to communicate with injured employees. Generally, the purpose of the revisions is to provide consistency in language and formatting and to provide an emphasis on plain language. The revisions apply to both the English and Spanish versions of the forms. In addition, the PLN03, which has historically been used to report up to five different benefit scenarios, has been divided into three different notices. After review, TDI-DWC determined that the separation of different benefit scenarios helps ensure only necessary information is being relayed to the injured employee in a simple and easy to understand manner. Therefore, new PLN13 and PLN14 are also available for comment.

If you want to comment on the proposed revisions to the forms, submit your written comments by 5:00 p.m. Central time on May 12, 2017. Send written comments by email to Rulecomments@tdi.texas.gov or by mail to:

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The draft plain language notices are available on the TDI-DWC website at www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/rules/drafts.html. A current version of each plain language notice is also available on the TDI-DWC website at www.tdi.texas.gov/forms/form20numeric.html.