

What is workers' compensation fraud?

BWC defines workers compensation fraud as:

An intentional act or series of acts resulting in the payment of benefits to a person or entity that is not entitled to receive those payments or benefits.

BWC's special investigations department takes on several types of fraud committed against the Ohio State Insurance Fund. Cases can include fraud committed by health-care providers, injured workers, attorneys and employers. In addition, the special investigations department works closely with managed care organizations (MCOs) to ensure criminal and administrative cases are investigated fully, quickly and professionally.

**see it,
report it,
STOP IT!**

Workers' compensation FRAUD



Fraud identification: The role of the MCO

You play a significant role in identifying and reporting fraud, and in providing information and records to investigators. You are contractually obligated to report suspected fraud and comply with BWC requests in a timely manner. With help from MCOs, the special investigations department has successfully prosecuted hundreds of fraud cases.

Fraud can be exposed by anyone with access to provider bills or claims-related material. Common examples include false bills submitted by health-care providers and bogus injured worker claims. You are often the first to receive these falsified documents. As a result, you often find yourself on the frontlines of the battle against fraud.

When fraud is found and the case is referred to a prosecutor, BWC investigators must track the crime back to its origin. By providing requested documentation in an accurate and timely manner, you can help BWC and criminal prosecutors bring workers compensation fraud perpetrators to justice.

The special investigations department handles a variety of cases, including:

- Forgery (prescription and check);
- Working while receiving total disability benefits;
- False claims;
- Provider billing for services not rendered;
- Provider upcoding services;
- Employer fraud;
- Cyber crime.

Fighting fraud: Methods and tactics

Not only does the special investigations department investigate workers compensation fraud, it takes appropriate action, refers cases for prosecution and gets results. The department can help with:

- Surveillance;
- Undercover operations;
- Witness/subject interviews;
- Data analysis;
- Records audits;
- Public record searches.

Stopping fraud: Maintaining communication

An open line of communication between BWC and MCOs helps expedite the fraud prosecution process. With this in mind, special investigations personnel are always available to meet with MCO representatives and facilitate an improved working relationship. For additional information, visit ohiobwc.com, or call 1-800-OHIOBWC.

To report fraud,
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or call
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