



April 2016

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## BWC eBriefs

### BWC in the news

Listen to comments from Steve Buehrer as he departs BWC and state service in an interview with the Statehouse News Bureau, [Buehrer built reputation of involvement, outreach](#).

The Columbus Dispatch highlighted improvements to BWC's pharmacy management program in [BWC cutting opioid use by Ohio's injured workers](#).

### From the BWC Blog

## BWC's commitment to service remains amid leadership change

A familiar face today takes over leadership of BWC today following the departure of Steve Buehrer on April 15. Buehrer, head of the agency since 2011, announced on April 1 his departure for a position in the private sector and Governor John Kasich appointed Sarah Morrison Acting Administrator/CEO.

Buehrer led the agency with a focus on supporting economic growth while improving care for injured workers. Under his leadership, Ohio employers benefited from \$4.3 billion in rate cuts, rebates and credits, and the agency increased its commitment to workplace safety to protect Ohio's workers. Read more about BWC's progress over the last five years [here](#) and [here](#).

Kasich commended Buehrer's leadership and service.

"Ohio's business climate is much stronger today, thanks in no small part to his leadership running the state's workers' compensation system and continually reducing rates while increasing support for workplace safety," said Kasich.

We wish Steve Buehrer all the best in his new endeavors.

Morrison has been BWC's Chief Legal Officer since 2012, coordinating all legal activities, providing legal advice and assistance, and acting as chief ethics officer for the agency.

She was previously a partner at Taft Stettinius & Hollister, LLP in



Dr. Stephen Woods, BWC's Chief Medical Officer, blogs about improving care in workers' comp and last month's medical and health symposium in [Partnerships: the key to achieving high quality care in workers' comp](#)

## Safety Update

The April Safety Update is full of information and links to valuable resources covering the dangers of distracted driving, the dangers of exposure to heat and hot environments, state reports on health and workplace safety, and much more! Check it out [here](#).

Columbus, and she began her legal career as a law clerk with the Chester Wilcox & Saxbe law firm. She has specialized in all types of civil and commercial litigation, has argued before the Ohio Supreme Court and was a lecturer in the areas of professionalism, legislation and civil litigation. She earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the Ohio State University and a Juris Doctor from Capital University Law School.

"I'm excited to serve in this new role and I look forward to working with all of BWC's partners to continue on our path to becoming a world-class insurance carrier," said Morrison.

## MCO open enrollment begins May 2

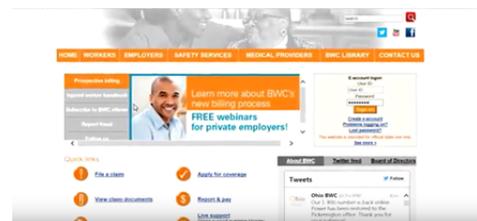
Every two years, BWC offers an open enrollment period that allows Ohio employers to evaluate the services of their current managed care organization (MCO) to determine if they would like to make a change. The MCO open enrollment period runs from May 2 to May 27 and is an opportunity to make an important decision that directly impacts the health and safety of your employees.

If you are satisfied with your MCO, you do not need to do anything. However, if you are considering a change, BWC produces the MCO Selection Guide and the MCO Report Card to help you make an informed decision. The guide contains MCO's contact information. We encourage you to call the MCOs you are considering choosing to find out more about their services and network providers. The report card provides an objective snapshot of how effectively each MCO manages injury reporting and returning injured employees to work. Use our MCO Report Card to compare the performance of MCOs.

The guide and report card will be available at [bwc.ohio.gov](http://bwc.ohio.gov) beginning April 25.

## Private employers: Look for your Notice of Estimated Annual Premium

On May 1, we will mail private employers their Notice of Estimated Annual Premium for the policy year that begins July 1, 2016.



You can also view policy year 2016 information by accessing the installment schedule through the [My Policy page](#). Once there you can view your estimated premium/payroll information. Additionally, you can view or change your payment installment schedule for the upcoming policy year. For more information on how to change your installment schedule, please view

this [video tutorial](#).

As a reminder, we base your estimated premium on payroll amounts that your company previously provided to us. Please review this information to make sure it seems accurate. If you believe the payroll amount is incorrect, or if you anticipate a change in operations that will affect your payroll for the policy period beginning July 1, 2016, please notify us at 1-800-644-6292.

Finally, the first-ever payroll true-up period is coming July 1. This new process requires employers to report their actual payroll for the previous policy year and reconcile any differences in premium paid. Even if your payroll for the year matches the estimate BWC provided or you had zero payroll, you must complete a true-up report.

The quickest and easiest way to true-up will be online with a BWC e-account. To create an e-account, go to [bwc.ohio.gov](http://bwc.ohio.gov) and click on the Create e-account link in the top right-hand corner of the home page. Please visit our website if you already have an e-account but don't remember your password. If you are otherwise unable to access your account, please contact our call center at 1-800-644-6292.

## Public employers: installment payment and payroll report deadline approaching

The deadline for public employers to submit payroll reports and make their first installment payment under the new prospective billing system is May 16.

As a reminder, BWC changed the way it bills public employers for workers' compensation coverage on Jan 1. Under prospective billing, BWC now requires employers to pay premiums in advance of coverage. A \$1.2 billion premium credit is being provided by BWC to eligible employers to avoid a double-billing of premium during the transition.

The premium credit to eligible public employers will include a 50-percent credit on the policy year 2015 payroll report and a 50-percent credit on the policy year 2016 prospective premium. You should have received your final payroll report for the 2015 policy year, and your **2016 Notice of Estimated Annual Premium**. However, to receive the transition credit, you must complete your payroll report and pay at least 50 percent of the premium due by May 16. Your second installment will be due Sept. 1.

Visit [bwc.ohio.gov](http://bwc.ohio.gov) for additional prospective resources and to complete your payroll report.



Questions? Call 1-800-644-6292  
[www.bwc.ohio.gov](http://www.bwc.ohio.gov)

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