

Top Reasons Behind Workers' Compensation Claim Denials in California

In the State of California, if you were injured as a result of a work-related accident, you may have the legal right to file a workers' compensation claim. Depending on the field of work you are employed for, or the size of your employer's company, certain employers are not legally required to carry workers' compensation insurance. Fortunately, the vast majority of California employers do, which will translate into the potential for eligibility of workers' compensation benefits for most employees in California.

Even with the opportunity to obtain workers' compensation benefits, many workers can be denied benefits for a multitude of reasons. As an employee in the State of California, it is important to be aware of a few of the most common reasons behind a claim denial. Being aware can offer the possibility of having a successful claims appeal.

If you have recently applied for workers' compensation benefits in the State of California that resulted in a claim denial, consider seeking the legal expertise of an workers' compensation attorney. With the legal advice of a specialized attorney, you could increase the prospect of having a successful appeal, which could set you on your path to better recovery both physically and financially.

Common Reasons Behind Claim Denials

Workers' compensation claims can be denied for many reasons and while some can be easily solved, others can prove to be more difficult. The following are some of the most common reasons behind claim denials.

Making the Mistake of Not Seeking Medical Attention

Following an injury in the workplace, it is very important to seek medical treatment shortly thereafter. Many workers can often make the mistake of failing to seek medical attention due to the inability to immediately calculate the severity of the injury. Seeking medical attention shortly after the incident has occurred is not only favorable for one's health, it is also a vital addition to a workers' compensation claim. It provides documented proof of the injury and starts your paper trail which is almost always a vital part of a claim.

Failing to Report the Injury

Work-related injuries should always be immediately reported. An issue some workers could face is failing to report the injury to the appropriate supervisor. Another common challenge is failing to report the injury in the available time frame workers have to report it. Workers in the State of California will have 30 days to report the injury with their employer. Failing to do so could prompt a denial of a claim, requiring the victim to initiate a claims denial appeal request.

Employer Dispute

There are several reasons why an employer may choose to deny a workers' compensation claim. The employer can dismiss the claim by stating that injury was inflicted outside of the employee's work-related duties. When it comes to a work-related illness, the employer can argue that the ailment was contracted for reasons outside of work. These are common, but worker negligence and other rebuttals could be offered by the employer, making it harder to have a workers' compensation claim immediately approved.

Appealing a Workers' Compensation Claim Denial

Workers in the State of California should know that they have the legal right to appeal a denied workers' compensation claim. As previously mentioned, some denied claims can have easy solutions, however, others can be a challenge to contest.

If you have recently been denied workers' compensation benefits, consider seeking the legal support of a knowledgeable attorney. A workers' compensation attorney can help you understand what options are available for you. With the help of an attorney, you can also avoid making potential mistakes in your appeal. Finally, with the legal support of a specialized attorney, you may be able to obtain benefits while you are in the process of appealing a denied claim.