



LARSON SERIES

Texas
Workers' Compensation
Handbook

An Essential Everyday Guide

New Feature! Bench Bar Book

2015 Edition

ALBERT BETTS, JR.
STUART D. COLBURN

 LexisNexis

LARSON SERIES

TEXAS WORKERS' COMPENSATION HANDBOOK

2015 Edition

Albert Betts, Jr.

Executive Director

Insurance Council of Texas

Austin, Texas

Stuart D. Colburn

Downs Stanford, P.C.

Austin, Texas



LexisNexis®

QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION?

For questions about the **Editorial Content** appearing in these volumes or reprint permission, please call:
Robin Kobayashi, J.D. at 1-800-424-0651 (ext. 3352)
Email: Robin.E.Kobayashi@lexisnexis.com
For assistance with replacement pages, shipments, billing or other customer service matters, please call:

Customer Services Department at (800) 833-9844
Outside the United States and Canada, please call (518) 487-3000
Fax Number (518) 487-3584
Customer Service Website <http://www.lexisnexis.com/custserv/>
For information on other Matthew Bender publications, please call

Your account manager or (800) 223-1940
Outside the United States and Canada, please call (518) 487-3000

ISSN: 1935-6498
ISBN: 978-1-6328-1303-9 (print)
ISBN: 978-1-6328-1304-6 (eBook)

Cite this publication as:
Texas Workers' Compensation Handbook § ____ (Matthew Bender)
Example:
Texas Workers' Compensation Handbook § 1.01 (Matthew Bender)

This publication is designed to provide authoritative information in regard to the subject matter covered. It is sold with the understanding that the publisher is not engaged in rendering legal, accounting, or other professional services. If legal advice or other expert assistance is required, the services of a competent professional should be sought.

LexisNexis and the Knowledge Burst logo are registered trademarks of Reed Elsevier Properties Inc., used under license. Matthew Bender and the Matthew Bender Flame Design are registered trademarks of Matthew Bender Properties Inc.

Copyright © 2014 Matthew Bender & Company, Inc., a member of LexisNexis. All Rights Reserved.
Originally published in: 2007

No copyright is claimed by LexisNexis or Matthew Bender & Company, Inc., in the text of statutes, regulations, and excerpts from court opinions quoted within this work. Permission to copy material may be licensed for a fee from the Copyright Clearance Center, 222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, Mass. 01923, telephone (978) 750-8400.

Editorial Offices
630 Central Ave., New Providence, NJ 07974 (908) 464-6800
201 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94105-1831 (415) 908-3200
www.lexisnexis.com

MATTHEW  BENDER

TABLE OF AMENDMENTS

Texas Administrative Code

<u>Section</u>	<u>Effect</u>	<u>Register</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Title 28:			
41.50	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 9593	4/1/2014
41.101	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 9593	4/1/2014
41.105	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 9593	4/1/2014
41.110	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 9593	4/1/2014
41.115	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 9593	4/1/2014
41.120	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 9593	4/1/2014
41.125	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 9593	4/1/2014
41.130	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 9593	4/1/2014
41.135	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 9593	4/1/2014
41.140	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 9593	4/1/2014
41.150	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 9593	4/1/2014
41.160	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 9593	4/1/2014
43.15	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8668	12/8/2013
43.20	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8668	12/8/2013
89.5	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.10	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.15	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.20	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.25	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.30	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.35	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.40	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.45	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.50	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.55	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.60	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.65	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.70	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.75	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.80	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.85	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.90	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.95	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.100	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.105	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.110	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.115	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.120	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013

TABLE OF AMENDMENTS

89.125	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.130	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.135	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.140	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.145	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.150	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.155	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.160	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.165	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.170	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
89.175	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
102.8	Amended	38 Tex. Reg. 8910	12/12/2013
103.1	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8911	9/1/2014
103.2	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8911	9/1/2014
103.3	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8911	9/1/2014
103.100	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8911	9/1/2014
103.101	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8911	9/1/2014
103.300	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.301	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.302	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.303	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.304	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.305	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.306	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.307	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.308	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.309	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.310	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.311	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.312	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.313	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.314	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.315	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.316	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.317	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.318	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.319	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.320	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.321	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.322	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
103.400	Repeal	38 Tex. Reg. 8912	9/1/2014
133.2	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 2095	3/30/2014
133.10	Amended	38 Tex. Reg. 9594	4/1/2014
133.240	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 2095	3/30/2014
133.250	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 2095	3/30/2014

TABLE OF AMENDMENTS

133.305	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 2095	3/30/2014
134.110	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 2102	3/30/2014
134.502	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 2102	3/30/2014
134.600	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 2102	3/30/2014
148.1	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.2	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.3	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5623	7/27/2014
148.3	New	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.4	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5623	7/27/2014
148.4	New	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.5	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5623	7/27/2014
148.5	New	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.6	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.7	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.8	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.9	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5623	7/27/2014
148.10	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.11	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.12	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5623	7/27/2014
148.13	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.14	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.15	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.16	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.17	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.18	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5623	7/27/2014
148.19	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.20	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.21	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.22	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.23	Amended	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
148.24	New	39 Tex. Reg. 5608	7/27/2014
149.1	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5624	7/27/2014
149.2	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5624	7/27/2014
149.3	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5624	7/27/2014
149.4	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5624	7/27/2014
149.5	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5624	7/27/2014
149.6	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5624	7/27/2014
149.7	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5624	7/27/2014
149.8	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5624	7/27/2014
149.9	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5624	7/27/2014
149.10	Repeal	39 Tex. Reg. 5624	7/27/2014

FOREWORD

Entering 2014, the Texas workers' compensation system seemed to be a model of stability; something that would have been impossible to imagine only ten years ago. There was little controversy in the system and no major administrative rule changes were needed. In fact, other states began to look at Texas as a model for a workers' compensation system that "works". But, of course, Texas workers' compensation can never stay quiet for too long.

In June 2014, Commissioner Rod Bordelon announced his upcoming retirement effective August 1, 2014. On July 28, 2014, Texas Governor Rick Perry announced the appointment of Ryan Brannan as the next Commissioner of Workers' Compensation. Commissioner Brannan assumed office on August 1, 2014. Norman Darwin, Employee Counsel for the Office of Injured Employee Counsel also retired as of July 31, 2014. As of the date this publication went to press, a new injured employee counsel has not been appointed.

During the summer of 2014, a series of news articles proclaimed that the Texas workers' compensation system was not working for some injured workers and alleged problems for workers employed by non-subscribers. In particular, the articles proclaimed that nearly half of all claims were being disputed by insurance carriers. Data from the Department of Insurance's Workers' Compensation Research and Evaluation Group (WCREG) did not support the articles' conclusions. According to data from the WCREG, the number of whole claim denials is down 43% since 2003, and the number and percentage of claims with dispute proceedings is at the lowest level since 2008. Also, according to the same data, for 2013, approximately 12% of reportable claims are initially denied/disputed by insurance carriers.

In April, a legislative committee raised questions about the number of Texas workers without workers' compensation insurance, estimated to be approximately 500,000, and heard from interested labor and worker groups about the need for increased scrutiny of non-subscriber employers. Expect this issue to continue to be a topic of discussion going into the 2015 Texas legislative session.

Updates and Enhancements to the Handbook

There were several court decisions of note in 2014. These cases and others are summarized in the Part II, Case Summaries, and covered in Ch. 14, § 14.06, and Ch. 15, §§ 15.02–15.04. In separate decisions, *Tillman v. Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital* and *West Houston Medical Center v. Shelley*, Texas appellate courts clarified that certain workplace injury claims against non-subscriber hospitals are subject to the Texas Medical Liability Act. The decision in *Davis v. Texas Mutual Insurance* dissected the nuances of whether certain activities while traveling could be considered to be within the course of scope of one's employment. In that case, walking and being hit by a bike the day before a scheduled work meeting was not considered to be within the course and scope of employment.

The courts also settled a question in the subrogation arena involving how the carrier can treat a recovery by multiple beneficiaries for purposes of the carrier's right to recovery. In *State Office of Risk Management v. Carty*, the Texas Supreme Court held that a carrier's right to treat a third-party recovery as an advance against future benefits in a case involving

FOREWORD

multiple beneficiaries of the same covered employee should be determined on a collective-recovery basis.

Texas courts, in *Davis v. American Casualty Co. of Reading, PA.*, and *Hopper v. Argonaut Insurance Co.*, continued to uphold the *Ruttiger* decision, making it clear that bad faith claims brought under the Insurance Code, and at common law, are no longer part of the workers' compensation system. In response, many plaintiffs' lawyers have pushed for reinstatement of bad faith as a cause of action in workers' compensation. This has led to speculation that the issue may be brought up for consideration in the 2015 legislative session as a new statutory cause of action. Others will likely be watching the Division of Workers' Compensation's response to allegations of carrier wrongdoing in claims handling decisions.

The law regarding challenging the first certification of MMI/IR changed dramatically causing an uproar and a change in practices for practitioners on both sides. In the past, successfully challenging a certification was as easy as alleging a new body part (or proving a body part was not included). Years of Appeals Panel precedent were overturned in two decisions that held the Rule 130.1 defenses no longer as a matter of due course render the first certification invalid. Failing to rate a sprain/strain does not meet the statutory definition of compelling medical evidence of significant error. The Appeals Panel clarified later that a herniated disc did meet the definition. More precedent will be forthcoming. See Part I, Ch. 5, § 5.05[8].

The former commissioner stated the biggest challenge left to his predecessor was the dispute resolution process. DWC leaders met with stakeholders including practitioners on both sides. New changes include the scheduling order now used by BROs if a second BRC is scheduled. DWC is placing even greater emphasis on making sure the parties are prepared and ready to resolve their disputes at these hearings. And the most common CCH issue by far is the extent, MMI, and IR. See Part I, Ch. 11, § 11.01[3].

For the first time, this handbook includes a bench bar book. The bench bar book provides guidance on what the hearing officer finds effective in pre-hearing motions, documentary evidence, examination of witnesses and argument. Although each hearing officer employs a different style, hearing officers are consistent when demanding polite, courteous, and professional behavior from the attorneys that practice before them. Hearing officers also seek more efficient presentation of cases (both evidentiary and testimonial) repeating a refrain given by many post-jury verdict interviews: "We got it the first, second, and third time." Practitioners would be well advised to read the bench bar book before trying a case in front of a hearing officer. See Part VI, Bench Bar Book.

The Road Ahead

And finally, in November 2014, the state elections will result in a new Governor and Lieutenant Governor, along with a new Attorney General, and numerous other statewide elected officials. It is unknown what effect these new office holders will have on the Department of Insurance and the Division of Workers' Compensation, in terms of appointment of both commissioners, legislative initiatives, and the overall direction of Texas government.

Texas continues to make progress in its workers' compensation system but changes in leadership, and ongoing discussion of contentious policy issues by interested stakeholders, means that observers, and system participants, should stay abreast of issues and events happening in the Texas system.

FOREWORD

Stuart D. Colburn
scolburn@downsstanford.com

Albert Betts, Jr.
abetts@insurancecouncil.org

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

ALBERT BETTS, JR.

Albert Betts, Jr. is the Executive Director of the Insurance Council of Texas in Austin, Texas. He is formerly a partner of Thompson Coe Cousins & Irons, L.L.P. where he focused his practice on representing the interest of clients before the Texas Department of Insurance and other regulatory agencies along with representing the insurance industry, insurance companies, and other clients before the Texas legislature and other government officials. Mr. Betts has extensive experience as a lawyer and public policy administrator including representing the Department of Insurance in litigation and the state's workers' compensation carrier in administrative proceedings. He has advised the state risk management board, the commissioner of insurance, and political leadership on insurance and workers' compensation matters. Most recently, he served as the Commissioner of Workers' Compensation for the State of Texas, and as Chief of Staff for the Texas Insurance Commissioner. He currently serves on the Larson's National Workers' Compensation Advisory Board for LexisNexis.

STUART D. COLBURN

Stuart D. Colburn is a shareholder who opened the Austin office of Downs Stanford, P.C. He manages the Board Representative Services. He attends Division and Legislative hearings and is a registered lobbyist. Mr. Colburn has extensive experience in all phases of dispute resolution before the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation and in district courts across the state. He is board certified in workers' compensation by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. He routinely handles workers' compensation, non-subscriber, subrogation, and bad faith litigation. Mr. Colburn has served as the Course Director of the State Bar of Texas Advanced Workers' Compensation Seminar (2007–2011) and the Texas Workers' Compensation Forum (2005–present). He also serves on the Larson's National Workers' Compensation Advisory Board for LexisNexis and blogs on workers' compensation issues. He founded and served as the Chair of the State Bar of Texas Workers' Compensation Section. He is extremely active in the education of both adjusters and employers and is certified by the Texas Department of Insurance as a continuing education provider. A sought-after speaker, Mr. Colburn has delivered more than five hundred speeches regarding workers' compensation around the country.

DEDICATION

To my beautiful and incredible wife who suffered innumerable nights and weekends alone and my daughter who endured many hours typing on my behalf.

—*Stuart D. Colburn*

This is dedicated to my loving and supportive wife and children. They are my continuing inspiration.

—*Albert Betts, Jr.*

REFERENCE DIRECTORY

FOR ASSISTANCE ON HOW TO READ AND USE THIS HANDBOOK:

Contact Robin Kobayashi, J.D., Practice Area Editor at Matthew Bender, 1-800-424-0651, ext. 3352, Robin.E.Kobayashi@lexisnexis.com, with questions about:

- Location of analysis of specific workers' compensation topics
- Location of statutes and regulations covered in this edition
- Coverage of recent workers' compensation legislation
- Case summaries
- Tables and charts
- Index entries
- Permission to reprint parts of this edition

FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE REGARDING INTERPRETATION OF THE LAW AND WORKERS' COMP PROCEDURE, CONTACT:

- **Office of Injured Employee Counsel**
7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100, MS-50
Austin, TX 78744-1609
1-866-EZE-OIEC (393-6432)
Fax: 512-804-4181
website: www.oiec.state.tx.us
email: OIECInbox@oiec.texas.gov
- **Division of Workers' Compensation Central Office**
7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100
Austin, TX, 78744-1645
(512) 804-4000
- **Abilene Field Office**
Counties Serviced: Baylor, Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Foard, Hardeman, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Taylor, Throckmorton, Wilbarger
1290 S. Willis, Suite 102
Abilene, TX 79605-4064
(325) 695-4992
FAX (325) 695-9789
- **Amarillo Field Office**
Counties Serviced: Armstrong, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Collingsworth, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Gray, Hall, Hansford,

Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham,
Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, Wheeler

7112 IH-40, West, Bldg. D

Amarillo, TX 79106-2503

(806) 351-1222

FAX (806) 351-1444

- **Austin Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Bastrop, Blanco, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Fayette,
Gonzales, Hays, Lavaca, Lee, Llano, Milam, Travis, Williamson

4616 West Howard Lane, Suite 130

Austin, Texas 78728-6303

(512) 933-1899

FAX (512) 928-4875

- **Beaumont Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Jefferson, Orange

Concord Square Office Park

6430 Concord Rd.

Beaumont, TX 77708-4315

(409) 899-5589

FAX (409) 899-5207

- **Corpus Christi Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Aransas, Bee, Calhoun, Goliad, Jim Wells, Kleberg,
Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, Victoria

5155 Flynn Parkway, Suite 218

Corpus Christi, Texas 78411-4316

(361) 883-2551

FAX (361) 881-8631

- **Dallas Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Dallas, Kaufman, Rockwall

1515 W. Mockingbird, Suite 100

Dallas, TX 75235-5078

(214) 350-9299

FAX (214) 350-3750

- **Denton Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Clay, Collin, Cooke, Denton, Fannin, Grayson, Hunt,
Montague

Dallas Dr. Tech Center

625 Dallas Dr., Suite 475

Denton, TX 76205-5299

(940) 380-1400

FAX (940) 380-1408

- **El Paso Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis,

Presidio

El Paso State Office Building

401 East Franklin Avenue, Suite 330

El Paso, Texas 79901-1250

(915) 351-5260

FAX (915) 351-5272

• **Fort Worth Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Archer, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Jack, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Tarrant, Wichita, Wise, Young

Walton Building

6900 Anderson Blvd., Suite 200

Fort Worth, TX 76120-3030

(817) 446-4488

FAX (817) 446-5060

• **Houston-East Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Parts of Harris County, Jackson, Matagorda, Wharton

Elias Ramirez Building

5425 Polk Street, Suite 130

Houston, TX 77023-1454

(713) 924-2200

FAX (713) 514-0713

• **Houston-West Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Grimes, Liberty, Madison, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, Parts of Harris County, Washington

350 North Sam Houston Parkway East, Suite 110

Houston, TX 77060-3318

(281) 260-3035

FAX (281) 272-1089

• **Laredo Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Brooks, Dimmit, Duval, Edwards, Jim Hogg, Kinney, LaSalle, McMullen, Maverick, Val Verde, Webb, Zapata, Zavala

5420 Springfield Avenue

Laredo, TX 78041-3605

(956) 718-2040

FAX (956) 725-8771

• **Lubbock Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Bailey, Cochran, Cottle, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Garza, Hale, Hockley, King, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Terry, Yoakum

22 Briercroft Office Park, Suite A

Lubbock, TX 79412-3089

(806) 744-4569

FAX (806) 740-0092

- **Lufkin Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Angelina, Hardin, Houston, Jasper, Leon, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, Tyler

310 Harmony Hill Drive, Suite 100

Lufkin, TX 75901-5953

(936) 639-6425

FAX (936) 639-6406

- **Midland/Odessa Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Andrews, Borden, Crane, Dawson, Ector, Gaines, Glasscock, Howard, Loving, Martin, Midland, Pecos, Reagan, Reeves, Upton, Ward, Winkler

Executive Office Park

4500 West Illinois Avenue, Suite 315

Midland, TX 79703-5486

(432) 699-1281

FAX (432) 699-7309

- **San Angelo Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Coke, Concho, Crockett, Irion, Kimble, McCulloch, Mason, Menard, Schleicher, Sterling, Sutton, Terrell, Tom Green

State of Texas Services Center

622 S. Oakes, Suite M

San Angelo, TX 76903-7035

(325) 657-0404

FAX (325) 659-8536

- **San Antonio Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Dewitt, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Medina, Real, Uvalde, Wilson

9514 Console Drive, Suite 200

San Antonio, TX 78229-2043

(210) 593-0070

FAX (210) 593-0062

- **Tyler Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Anderson, Bowie, Camp, Cass, Cherokee, Delta, Franklin, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Hopkins, Lamar, Marion, Morris, Panola, Rains, Red River, Rusk, Smith, Titus, Upshur, Van Zandt, Wood

3800 Paluxy Drive, Suite 570

Tyler, TX 75703-1665

(903) 534-6250

FAX (903) 534-5276

- **Waco Field Office**

Counties Serviced: Bell, Bosque, Brazos, Coryell, Falls, Freestone, Hamilton, Hill, Lampasas, Limestone, McLennan, Mills, Navarro, Rob-

ertson, San Saba
 Raleigh Building
 801 Austin Ave., Suite 840
 Waco, TX 76701-1937
 (254) 755-7011
 FAX (254) 755-7499

- **Weslaco Field Office**

Counties Served: Cameron, Hidalgo, Kenedy, Starr, Willacy
 1108 West Pike Blvd.
 Weslaco, TX 78596-4651
 (956) 447-4416
 FAX (956) 447-4775

TEXAS WORKERS' COMP PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Comp Connection for Health Care Providers**
 1-800-372-7713
 Email: MedicalBenefits@tdi.texas.gov
- **Designated Doctor Scheduling**
 (512) 804-4380
 Email: DDScheduler@tdi.texas.gov
- **Employee/Employer Seminars**
 512-804-4683
 Email: TEDTraining@tdi.texas.gov
- **Fraud Hotline**
 800-252-3439
 Online form (insurance companies):
<https://wwwapps.tdi.state.tx.us/inter/asproot/fraud/rptfrd/siufraud.asp>
 Online form (consumers):
<https://wwwapps.tdi.state.tx.us/inter/asproot/fraud/rptfrd/confraud.asp>
 Email: FraudUnit@tdi.texas.gov
- **Injured Employee Hotline (local field offices)**
 1-800-252-7031 or (512) 804-4000
 Email: WorkersCompCustomerServices@tdi.texas.gov
- **Medical Fee Dispute Resolution**
 512-804-4812
 Email: MDRInquiry@tdi.texas.gov
- **Open Records Requests**
 (512) 804-4434
 Email: WCOpenRecords@tdi.texas.gov
- **Self Insurance Regulation**
 (512) 804-4775
 Email: SelfInsurance@tdi.texas.gov