

**Workers' Compensation
January 1, 2011 Benefit Rates**

June 2010

The U.S. Department of Labor has reported California's State Average Weekly Wage (SAWW) for the period ending March 31, 2010, at \$979.90. This represents a decrease of 0.5% from last year's SAWW of \$984.83. Therefore, effective January 1, 2011, there will be no change to workers' compensation benefit rates.

Effective for dates of injury on or after January 1, 2011:

- The minimum weekly Temporary Total Disability (TTD) rate will remain at \$148.00. This means that employees with weekly earnings below \$222.00 will be entitled to the minimum TTD rate.
- The maximum weekly TTD rate will remain at \$986.69. This means that employees with weekly earnings of \$1,480.04 or higher will be entitled to the maximum TTD rate for dates of injury on or after January 1, 2011.

TEMPORARY DISABILITY WEEKLY RATES				
Effective Date	Average Weekly Min Earnings	Minimum Weekly TD Rate	Average Wkly Max Earnings	Maximum Average TD Rate
1/1/08	\$206.17	\$137.45	\$1,374.49	\$916.33
1/1/09	\$215.55	\$143.70	\$1,437.01	\$958.01
1/1/10	\$222.00	\$148.00	\$1,480.04	\$986.69
1/1/11	\$222.00	\$148.00	\$1,480.04	\$986.69
1/1/12	\$222.00 + the percent increase in the SAWW	\$148.00 + the percent increase in the SAWW	\$1,480.04 + the percent increase in the SAWW	\$986.69 + the percent increase in the SAWW

Under Labor Code section 4659(c), injured workers with dates of injury on or after January 1, 2003 who are receiving life pensions (permanent disability between 70% and 99%) or Permanent Total Disability (PTD) benefits are also entitled to have their weekly Life Pension (LP) or PTD rate adjusted based on changes in the SAWW. However, due to the decrease in the SAWW, no increase will be due on Life Pension or Permanent Total Disability and therefore these benefit rates will also remain the same.

If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this *Briefing*, please feel free to contact your Account Executive, Claims Analyst or Carmella Claridy, Sr. Director, at 310-212-0363 x3738 or cclaridy@keenan.com.

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