

SURVEILLANCE

Monthly Newsletter – May 2017

- Workers' Compensation fraud costs top out at \$7.2 billion per year nationally. (claimsjournal.com)
- Surveillance can be an expensive, but it is an invaluable tool.
- Social Media can help by identifying the claimant or documenting the activities of the claimant.
- Hours spent waiting for a claimant to be spotted can increase costs, but a thorough investigation completed prior to surveillance can cut costs.
- Any suspicions that arise, where the cause of the claim or cause of the injuries become questionable, should be reported to our office as soon as possible.



Examples

-Business Administrator brings upcoming vacation of injured employee to our attention. Surveillance of the employee lifting luggage, running errands and preparing to go away allows us to Section 20 the claim saving almost \$11,000 in related costs.

-Business Administrator advises us that the employee is rumored to be working a second job. Surveillance found the employee working as a siding contractor. This information was shared with the treating physician who discharged him and returned him to work. The claim was settled via Section 20, saving over \$26,000 in permanency awards and \$4,600 in continuing wage replacement.

-Employee's supervisor informs us that the employee has a catering business and the fellow employees feel that the claimant appears to be in pain when they are around her, but, from a distance, she does not appear to be in pain. Surveillance found the employee attending festivals with her food cart. She was seen lifting cases of drinks and food. This case has yet to settle, but the surveillance should allow it to resolve under a Section 20.