



E-Brief • August, 2021

This E-Brief is a summary of activities for the Fire Agencies Self Insurance System (FASIS). Updates from the Board of Directors meetings, as well as other pertinent information, will be communicated to our members electronically and posted on our [website](#) for future reference. Please contact us at (800) 541-4591 if you have questions regarding the contents of this bulletin.

Program Updates

****FDAC EBA & FASIS BOARDS APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ****

The Boards of the FDAC EBA and FASIS have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Letter of Intent to continue their direction towards a merger/consolidation of the programs with a targeted effective date of January 1, 2022.

An Advisory Committee comprised of members of the FDAC EBA and FASIS Board of Directors will work with staff to identify, develop, and implement a merger/consolidation plan of action.

****ACCESS PROGRAM GOVERNING, COVERAGE, AND FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS ****

The Board of Directors approved the 2021/22 program year governing, coverage, and financial documents at the June 24, 2021, meeting. These documents may be accessed on the FASIS [website](#). If you need assistance accessing documents, please contact Stacey Brock at stacey.brock@sedgwick.com.

Staff Updates

Vicky Quintrall retired as Senior Accountant in May—we wish her great enjoyment in her retirement! Ashten Bennett succeeds Vicky as Senior Accountant with the continued support of Liz Kokhanets assisting members with invoices and various other accounting services.

Important Risk Control News

AB 2146 – Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment for Fire Fighters

For the past six years Cal/OSHA has been working to update **Article 10.1**, *Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment (PPE) for Firefighters*. The following is background and overview of the proposed standard.

On September 29, 2014, Governor Brown signed AB 2146: *Occupational Safety: Fire Fighters: Personal Protective Equipment*. Advisory committee meetings were convened by the OSHA Board to compare California's existing safety orders to National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards. The Committee determined an update to the standard was necessary due to the following: (1) The description of PPE as written in Article 10.1 is outdated; and (2) PPE technology has advanced in response to the changing fire environment, but the California safety orders have not. The proposed changes provide firefighters with more advanced PPE designed to meet the demands of modern firefighting and the changing climate. The PPE prescribed in the proposal requires compliance with NFPA standards, which provide a baseline or a minimum level of safety for all firefighters. The proposal also creates a new requirement to purchase quality standards for structural and proximity firefighting to ensure that employers purchase PPE that is of a certain quality to meet the demands of today's structural and proximity firefighting needs.

The last day for public comment was March 18, 2021, and the proposal is now awaiting a vote by the Standards Board. Once adopted by the Board, the regulation will be sent to the Office of Administrative Law for approval and submittal to the Secretary of State. Staff will continue to monitor the proposal process and will keep members updated.

Important Contacts

Jennifer Jobe
Administrator
(916) 244-1141

jennifer.jobe@sedgwick.com

VACANT
Asst. Administrator/Analyst

Stacey Brock
Administrative Assistant
(916) 290-4621

Stacey.brock@sedgwick.com

Sarah Centeno
Workers' Compensation
Manager
(916) 244-1142

sarah.centeno@sedgwick.com

Lee Sorenson
Risk Control Manager
(916) 244-1168

lee.sorenson@sedgwick.com

Nancy Broadhurst
Interim Finance Manager
(916) 244-1120

nancy.broadhurst@sedgwick.com

Ashten Bennett
Senior Accountant
(916) 244-1133

ashten.bennett@sedgwick.com

Liz Kokhanets
Staff Accountant
(916) 290-4623

liz.kokhanets@sedgwick.com

Athens Administrators

Andrew Morehead
(866) 482-3535 x1139

amorehead@athensadmin.com

Occu-Med

Cristal Meza
(559) 435-2800

cmeza@occu-med.com

Workers' Compensation News

Athens Claim Portal and Application

Effective April 16, 2021, Athens Administrators launched the Claim Portal and Application (App). Member districts can access the portal to view claim information, report new claims, and contact their district's assigned claims examiner.

If you would like to request employer portal access, please do so by completing an [online application](#). Upon approval of registration, members may access the portal [here](#).

Once a member district has access to the Athens Portal, they will also have access to the Athens App. The app may be downloaded from your cellular phone's app store. Member districts will have access to their account via secured digital login from anywhere, at any time. The app features quick links to examiner contact information and general, limited claim information.

Claimants will also have individualized access to the Athens App via secure digital login. Claimants may review their claim information, access history of payments, and message their assigned claims examiner. Claimants will receive notice of access to the Athens App via a flyer that will be included with initial claim correspondence.

Reminder: COVID-19 Positive Case Reporting

Effective September 17, 2020, SB 1159 requires that any employer who knows or reasonably should know that an employee or covered volunteer has tested positive for COVID-19 shall report the positive test to their claims administrator in writing via electronic mail or facsimile within three business days. Employers are required to report all positive cases for individuals who have physically reported to the employer's worksites, regardless of the employee's intent to file for workers' compensation benefits.

Member districts may submit positive case data to Athens via the online portal or via email, as instructed within the FASIS COVID-19 Manual.

If you need any further information on the Athens Portal and Application or the COVID-19 Positive Case Reporting requirements please contact Sarah Centeno, Workers' Compensation Manager, at (916) 244-1142, or email sarah.centeno@sedgwick.com.

Firefighter Mental Health & Wellness

Employee Assistance Program

Participating Member Districts have access to an employee assistance program through Managed Health Network Services.

Firestrong

All Member Districts have access to an online resource offering anonymous mental, emotional, and physical support. Visit www.firestrong.org and select "FASIS" from the drop-down menu to access services.

Username: FASIS

Password: FASIS1750

Upcoming Important Dates

August 15, 2021

2nd Quarter Payroll
Reporting Deadline

October 28, 2021

FDAC EBA & FASIS
Combined Board of Directors Meeting

HEALTH & WELLNESS PROGRAM

We are excited to report the Board of Directors approved an expansion of the pre-placement and annual exams services available to member districts.

The Health & Wellness Program includes continued access to Occu-Med, Inc. and has been expanded to include two new service providers—Pinnacle Training Systems and 1582. As contracts are finalized, both service providers will begin marketing services to the member districts.

The long-term goal of this program is to not only expand the number of members participating, but provide member districts with service provider options.

Please contact Jennifer Jobe at jennifer.jobe@sedgwick.com or (916) 244-1141 with any questions.

Results of Board and Officers' Elections

Congratulations to the following Officers and Board Members on their recent election and appointments:

Officers:

President: Chief Howard Wood, Vacaville FPD
Vice President: Chief Steve Akre, Sonoma Valley FD
Treasurer: Gloriann Sasser, Moraga-Orinda FPD

Board Member Positions:

Gloriann Sasser, Moraga-Orinda FPD
Chief Jason Weber, Ross Valley FD
Chief Richard Pearce, Tiburon FPD
Chief Bill Tyler, Novato FPD

LAWCX Board Representatives:

Chief Howard Wood, Vacaville FPD
Thomas Perazzo, Southern Marin FPD (Alternate)

