

# BUSINESS REPORT

The official publication of the El Segundo Chamber

## Chamber Backs Robust Review of Workers' Comp Data

A review of 18 months of experience with the permanent disability rating schedule adopted to implement the workers' compensation reforms is a necessary precursor to considering whether changes are needed, the California Chamber of Commerce testified recently.

The 18-month review period is consistent with a lot of the thinking that went into discussions before the reforms were enacted and as the regulations to implement the reforms were adopted, said Dominic DiMare, Chamber vice president of government relations, at an informational hearing of the Senate Labor and Industrial Relations Committee in March.

An 18-month review also will provide at least a little time to allow the return-to-work provisions of the reforms to work.

Citing anecdotes of individual workers' experience with the new permanent disability rating system, some legislators and representatives of labor and applicant attorney groups are arguing that changes need to be made immediately.

The new permanent disability rating schedule went into effect at the beginning of 2005.

### Cost-Saving Reforms

The Chamber-supported reforms in the 2004 legislation, SB 899 (Poochigian; R-Fresno) made fundamental changes in the way the workers' compensation system determines the level of injury and the amount of disability assigned to an injury. The bill also allowed for the creation of new medical networks to provide quality, cost-effective care to workers. This package ensured that medical treatment follows nationally recognized guidelines and sets clear parameters for what is acceptable treatment for injured workers in the system, while also reducing excessive litigation.

New system incentives encourage employers to bring the injured workers back to work, while new medical guidelines encourage medical practitioners to discontinue medical procedures that have no merit.

*See Worker's Comp – page 2*

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## President's Message

Our Chamber's volunteer leadership is a great asset to this organization and the force that allows us to be "the voice of business" in El Segundo. It is through the vision, dedication and diligence of our volunteer leaders and the Committees on which they serve that your Chamber is strengthened, our business environment is invigorated and our interests are protected and fortified at the local, state and federal levels.

Beginning in this issue of the Chamber Business Report, there will be Committee updates of the important work they are undertaking to serve our Chamber, businesses and community. Please be sure to check out their activities and I encourage you to participate in those areas in which you have particular interest or expertise. I know you will find it rewarding to be part of this conduit for progress at the Chamber.

Please join me in acknowledging the efforts of our Committees who see to it that each of our members receives maximum benefit and value from their involvement in the Chamber. As the old saying goes, "Volunteers are not paid -- not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless." Thank you for your service and leadership.

Your Chamber staff is also working to increase the value of membership in the Chamber and enhance communication. Undoubtedly you noticed the new "Chamber Pak" that this month's issue of the Chamber Business Report came in. With the new packaging, a print version of our monthly report is delivered right to your mailbox. We also will continue to email an electronic version directly to your inbox. The combination of print and electronic editions of the Chamber Business Report will provide our members convenient options when it comes to catching up on the latest goings on at the Chamber.

Moreover, the poly sleeve provides our members the opportunity to insert their business or event flyers for



**Kim Krantz**  
*President, The El Segundo Chamber*

delivery with the Chamber Business Report to our entire membership. New members are offered a one-time opportunity to submit flyers for distribution – free of charge – within 90 days of joining the Chamber. Existing members can take advantage of this low-cost advertising benefit, too – insert up to 700 fliers for \$125. This is one of the most economical means of advertising available and I urge you to use it to your advantage. Please call Denise at the Chamber for details and deadlines for submittal.

A core benefit your Chamber offers its members is the opportunity to network with others in a friendly, fun and relaxed atmosphere. This month, the El Segundo and Manhattan Beach Chambers of Commerce present the 11th annual Chevron Mixer in the Park. Chevron will host the mixer at Chevron Employee Park on Wednesday, July 19, from 5:30pm – 7:30pm. Admission is free for members of the El Segundo, Manhattan Beach and Hawthorne Chambers and \$5 for non-members. I hope to see you there. And don't forget to bring plenty of business cards!

Kim Krantz  
Chamber President

### Contact Us

#### El Segundo Chamber of Commerce

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El Segundo, CA 90245  
Ph: (310) 322-1220  
Fax (310) 322-6880  
[www.elsegundochamber.org](http://www.elsegundochamber.org)

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**Workers' Comp continued from page 1**

DiMare commented that the reformed system has been an improvement from the employer's perspective, leading to significant premium reductions, enabling the business community to thrive and create jobs.

Also in March, the Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau recommended another double-digit decrease — 16.4 percent — in workers' compensation premiums renewing or beginning on July 1.

**Return to Work Experience**

Analyzing the impact of the new permanent disability rating schedule

means looking both at the benefit payments and the ultimate impact of the injury on the injured worker's wages — the wage loss ratio.

Carrie Nevans, acting director of the state Division of Workers' Compensation, said the division doesn't yet have a good body of statistics showing how the reform incentives for returning injured workers to work are affecting the wages of those workers. An 18-month review period (that is, one ending June 30 of this year), she said, would permit a follow-up look one year later at the experience of injured workers who filed claims

during the first six months after the new permanent disability rating schedule went into effect at the beginning of 2005.

DiMare cited researcher comments indicating that it could take 18 to 48 months of experience with the new rating schedule to accumulate acceptable data on how it is working. In light of those comments, DiMare said, 18 months is not an unreasonable time frame for gathering the data on the impact of the new permanent disability rating schedule before determining if modifications should be made.

**Membership Anniversaries - June 2006**

The El Segundo Chamber of Commerce wants to acknowledge and send its appreciation to the following Chamber members for their commitment to the community and region through their membership. We are proud of them and appreciate the business you, our readers, give them.

**15 YEARS**

*Hi-Tek Transmissions*

**14 YEARS**

*Expeditors International*

**13 YEARS**

*Team One Advertising  
Time Warner Cable*

**12 YEARS**

*Summerfield Suites by Wyndham  
Travelodge LAX South  
C.C. Layne & Sons, Inc.*

**9 YEARS**

*El Segundo Women's Club  
South Bay Workforce  
Investment Board*

**7 YEARS**

*United Methodist Church  
of El Segundo*

**6 YEARS**

*OBC Publishing Co., Inc.  
Playa Vista*

**5 YEARS**

*Raytheon Company  
The Boeing Company  
Duhaney Home Health Care, Inc.  
Full Moon & High Tide Studios, LLC*

**4 YEARS**

*FedEx Kinko's  
Advantage, Inc.*

**2 YEARS**

*707 LLC  
Aubry's Enterprises, Inc.  
The UPS Store*

**1 YEAR**

*ALPI USA Pacific  
Mosaic  
Indian Summer  
Xerox Federal Credit Union  
ADP Small Business Services  
American Lamprecht Transport, Inc.*

**For Information on  
Chamber Membership  
Call (310) 322-1220**

**Calendar of Events**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
<b>JULY</b>			
7/06/06	7:00 p.m.	Dodger Day	Dodger Stadium
7/11/06	8:30 a.m.	Ambassador Committee Meeting	Residence Inn El Segundo
7/12/06	8:00 a.m.	Downtown El Segundo Inc. Committee Meeting	E.S. Chamber of Commerce
7/18/06	7:30 a.m.	Board of Directors Meeting	Hacienda Hotel
7/19/06	8:00 a.m.	Military Affairs Committee Meeting	E.S. Chamber of Commerce
7/19/06	5:30 p.m.	Chevron Mixer	Chevron Park
7/20/06	5:00-8:00 p.m.	Pacific Physical Therapy Open House	14650 Aviation Blvd., Hawthorne
<b>AUGUST</b>			
8/09/06	8:00 a.m.	Downtown El Segundo Inc. Committee Meeting	E.S. Chamber of Commerce
8/16/06	8:00 a.m.	Military Affairs Committee Meeting	E.S. Chamber of Commerce
TBD	11:30 a.m.	Aerospace Outlook Luncheon	Location to be determined

## Ribbon Cutting



The Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf celebrated its grand opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony on June 22. Conveniently located at the ground floor of the high-rise office building at 909 N. Sepulveda, Blvd. in El Segundo, the new store offers coffee- and tea-based beverages, fresh pastries and prepared sandwiches and salads.

*On hand for the festivities were (left-right) Katie Adams, West Enterprises; Maria Lacson, Operations Accountant; Roger Aube, Lead Engineer; Sandra Gonzalez, Asst. Building Manager; Julie Walker, Team Member; Councilmember Carl Jacobson; Mayor Kelly McDowell; Joan Specman, District Manager; Councilmember Bill Fisher; Brian Yang, General Manager; Tony Kathol, Building Manager; and Denise Wellington, El Segundo Chamber.*

## Education Committee Announces Scholarship Awards



**Jillian Berry**



**Jasmine Tulikihifo**

This year's Benson Scholarship recipients are Jillian Berry and Jasmine Tulikihifo, both graduating seniors from El Segundo High School. They each will receive \$1,000 toward their college expenses. Jillian will be attending UC Berkeley and Jasmine will be attending BYU.

## New Member Profiles

### ARCHSTONE PLAYA DEL REY

8700 Pershing Drive  
Playa del Rey, CA 90293  
Contact: Tony Perkins  
Phone: (310) 301-6120  
Fax: (310) 301-6133

Email: mgr-pdr@archstonesmith.com  
Web: www.archstoneplayadelrey.com

#### Business Category:

#### Apartment/Homes

Archstone Playa del Rey is a new apartment building with 355 apartments, 24-hour gym, and junior Olympic swimming pool. Each unit comes with a washer/dryer and all appliances. Parking is included. Only two blocks to the beach.

### EL SEGUNDO FISH COMPANY

210 E. Grand Avenue  
El Segundo, CA 90245  
Contact: Allen Shadgoo  
Phone: (310) 648-7222  
Fax: (310) 648-7227

Email: esfishco@gmail.com

#### Business Category: Restaurant

El Segundo Fish Company is a fast-dining seafood restaurant providing fresh grilled fish, tasty salads and savory clam chowder. With spacious seating, our restaurant can accommodate corporate lunch meetings as well as family style dinners. We also provide an extensive wine and beer menu, ample parking and delivery service.

### EMBRY RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY

5001 Airport Plaza Drive #150  
Long Beach, CA 90815  
Contact: Darcy Vernier  
Phone: (562) 627-5870  
Fax: (562) 627-5871

Email: darcy.vernier@erau.edu

Web: www.erau.edu/la

#### Business Category:

#### Schools/College – University

ERAU is a fully accredited university offering BS and MS degrees in aviation/aerospace management. The LA center is one of 136 campuses worldwide.

### FRIENDS OF THE SOUTH BAY YOUTH PROJECT

320 Knob Hill  
Redondo Beach, CA 90245  
Contact: Dan Smith  
Phone: (310) 318-0639  
Fax: (310) 792-8187

Email: dan.smith@redondo.org

#### Business Category: Non-Profit

Friends of the South Bay Youth Project is a support group for the South Bay Youth Project.

### LAX BUSINESS CENTER

360 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Suite 1010  
El Segundo, CA 90045  
Contact: Richard Seeker  
Phone: (310) 640-0236  
Fax: (310) 322-0753

#### Business Category:

#### Real Estate – Property Management

LAX Business Center offers office space.

### PACIFIC PHYSICAL THERAPY

14650 Aviation Blvd. #100  
Hawthorne, CA 90250  
Contact: Kathy McElroy  
Phone: (310) 725-8505  
Fax: (310) 725-8509

Email:

kmcelroy@pacificphysicaltherapy.com

Web: www.pacificphysicaltherapy.com

#### Business Category:

#### Physical Therapy

Pacific Physical Therapy provides physical therapy and sports medicine. We have been serving the South Bay for 13 years. Our caring, experienced staff provides one-on-one treatments in state-of-the-art facilities. Medicare certified, workers comp, and PPO provider for all major insurance plans.

### THE COFFEE BEAN AND TEA LEAF #189

909 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Suite 135  
El Segundo, CA 90245  
Contact: Brian Yang  
Phone: (310) 535-5596  
Fax: (310) 535-9173

Email: 50189@coffeebean.com

Web: www.coffeebean.com

#### Business Category: Restaurant

The Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf offers coffee- and tea-based beverages, fresh pastries and prepared sandwiches and salads.

Visit the El Segundo Chamber's website  
[www.elsegundochamber.org](http://www.elsegundochamber.org)  
"The Voice of Business"



# Government Affairs Committee

## Legislation Summary as of June 22, 2006

Bill Name	Bill Summary	El Segundo Chamber Position	Status
<b>AB 1882</b> <b>Los Angeles World Airports Peace Officers</b>	Extends the authority of peace officers employed by the Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) to any place in California without restrictions as to arrest powers and authority to carry specified firearms.	SUPPORT - Bill provides the LA Airport Police with the authority needed to support its mission as mandated by federal, state and local law.	Set for hearing in Senate Public Safety Committee 06-27-06.
<b>AB 1950</b> <b>Personal Finance Instruction</b>	Permits school districts to provide instruction to 7 <sup>th</sup> through 12 <sup>th</sup> graders in economics courses related to the understanding of personal finances, including budgeting, savings, credit, and identity theft.	SUPPORT - Opportunity for school districts to provide instruction on how to handle personal accounting. Would prepare students to better handle financial matters as young adults.	Set for a second reading in Senate Education Committee 06-22-06.
<b>AB 1965</b> <b>Deferred Deposit Transactions</b>	Allows a service member, or his or her spouse, to defer payment on any deferred deposit transaction agreement entered into by the service member or his or her spouse prior to the service member's deployment.	SUPPORT - Bill would prohibit garnishment of service members' wages to pay back payday loans.	Senate Banking, Finance and Insurance Committee postponed hearing to week of 06-26-06.
<b>AB 2032</b> <b>Research and Development Tax Credits</b>	Amends the existing credit for research expenses for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2007. Credit would increase from current rate of 15% to 20% to conform to the federal credit.	SUPPORT - Bill would give companies that carry out research and development in California more incentive and opportunity to continue doing so while spurring investment in new technologies and encouraging innovation.	Set for second hearing before Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee. Bill is currently held under submission.
<b>AB 2033</b> <b>Joint Strike Fighter and Crew Exploration Vehicle Tax Credits</b>	Extends the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) wage and property credits to the Crew Exploration Vehicle (CEV), and to taxable years beginning on or after 01-01-06 and before 01-01-11. Wage credit equals 10% of qualified wages paid or incurred in connection with an initial contract or subcontract to manufacture property for ultimate use in a JSF or CEV. The property credit equals 10% of the qualified property placed in service in California.	SUPPORT – Tax program provides incentives to move production projects to California.	Set for second hearing before Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee. Bill is currently held under submission.
<b>AB 2987</b> <b>Cable Franchise Bill</b>	Creates a mechanism for a state-issued franchise for the provision of cable and video service in California. Would also authorize local entities to establish a fee to support public, educational, and governmental access channel facilities.	WATCH – The Chamber supports the increased competition within the cable industry that this bill represents but is concerned that it may preempt local authority over cable franchises.	Set for hearing before Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee 06-27-06.

## Education Committee to Launch Teacher Mini-Grant Program

The Chamber's Education Committee is once again leading an effort to provide mini grants to teachers from El Segundo and Wiseburn schools. The Teacher Mini-Grant Program provides the opportunity to enhance the education experience by enabling teachers to purchase materials and resources for the classroom that are not allocated in school budgets.

The Teacher Mini-Grant Program is funded exclusively by Chamber members and donations in

any amount are welcome. This an excellent opportunity for both small and large businesses to support education in El Segundo.

A selection committee will review teacher applications and allocate funds based on greatest need and other specific criteria. Grants will be awarded to teachers in Fall 2006.

All participating donors in the Teacher Mini-Grant Program will be recognized at the Annual Salute to Businesses Supporting Education

event on November 16, 4 p.m. at the Flight Path Learning Center.

The Education Committee invites Chamber members to participate in the 2006/2007 Teacher Mini-Grant Program. Information regarding the Teacher Mini-Grant

Program will be sent to Chamber members the first week of August. For more information, please contact Jill Brunkhardt at 310-336-6515 or at [jill.a.brunkhardt@aero.org](mailto:jill.a.brunkhardt@aero.org), or Shirley Hoffmann at 310-646-5742 or at [shoffmann@lawa.org](mailto:shoffmann@lawa.org).

### Salute to Businesses Supporting Education Event

*Save the date for the Salute to Businesses*

*Supporting Education event:*

**November 16, 4 p.m., at the Flight Path Learning Center.**