

# Eye on SAFETY



## CAL/OSHA VISITS AND POST-ACCIDENT NOTIFICATION

### CAL/OSHA VISITS

A Cal/OSHA compliance officer can and often will arrive without notice. In this event, managers need to know to contact the store owners immediately. The compliance officer may not begin an inspection without approval from a designated store representative, such as the owner or store manager. At this time, you should verify the identification of the compliance officer by either asking for their government identification, or phoning the Cal/OSHA office.

The inspection should start with an opening conference. Here, requests may be made for documentation such as your safety manual, safety inspection and/or maintenance records. These documents must be readily available and provided at the time of the request.

During the inspection of the facility, the inspector may ask employees questions and take notes and pictures. Upon completion of the inspection, the compliance officer will conduct a closing conference, where any issues will be reviewed. If clarification is needed regarding potential violations, questions should be raised; however, this is not the time to argue with the compliance officer. The inspector will then explain the next procedural steps, which will include preparation of a written report and the potential issuance of citations. A visit from a compliance officer will most likely follow a notification of a serious injury.

### CONTACTING CAL/OSHA AFTER AN ACCIDENT

Employers must call Cal/OSHA within eight hours of a serious injury or within eight hours of when they should have known about the injury. Serious injuries are

those which require the employee to be admitted to the hospital. If an employee is taken to the emergency room and released the same day, or if they are admitted for observation only, notification is not necessary.

To find the nearest Cal/OSHA office, go to the following website and search by zip code: [www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/districtoffices.htm](http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/districtoffices.htm). For more information, see the "Injury and Illness Reporting and Investigation" section of your HISIG IIPP.



### Are You in Compliance?

Contact Michelle Kelly ([mkelly@pomsassoc.com](mailto:mkelly@pomsassoc.com)) or Tim Karcz ([tkarcz@pomsassoc.com](mailto:tkarcz@pomsassoc.com)) at [800] 578.8802. We can review your audit, programs, and discuss any concerns you may have.