To our Contractor Partners,

On May 6, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-62-20. This Order creates a rebuttable presumption that an employee’s COVID-19-related illness arose out of the course of employment; for workers’ compensation purposes, if the employee tests positive or is diagnosed, “within 14 days after a day that the employee performed labor or services at the employee’s place of employment at the employer’s direction.”

Employees will qualify for workers’ compensation if they meet either of these requirements: (1) test positive for COVID-19 within 14 days after performing work; or (2) be diagnosed with COVID-19 by a licensed physician within 14 days after performing work, and have that diagnosis confirmed by further testing within 30 days of the diagnosis.

Employees working from home would not qualify.

This will apply to all such injuries taking place between March 19, 2020, and July 5, 2020.

Such claims are "rebuttable" because evidence may be submitted that the infection did not occur in the workplace. The claims will be subject to certain timelines and such evidence should be submitted as soon as it is discovered. In the absence of such evidence there will be a "presumption" that the injury occurred in the workplace.

Fraternally,

Dan Langford
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters