

In Your Corner

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#### FALL 2011

### **Good News!**

### FOUND: Doctors Who Take Medicare

Dr. Tara Bishop, an internist and assistant professor of public health at Weill Cornell Medical College in New York decided to look into news reports and medical journal articles that reported doctors were refusing to accept Medicare patients. According to Dr. Bishop, the good news is, "There was a small decline in Medicare acceptance, but it wasn't very dramatic. Well over 90 percent of doctors, in all kinds of specialties, still take Medicare patients." To read the entire article, go to our website and click on Newsletter September 2011.

Span, Paula. "Found: Doctors Who Take Medicare." The New York Times. The New Old Age: Caring and Coping, July 6, 2011, http:// newoldage.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/07/06/ found-doctors-who-take-medicare/.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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# Regas & Haag Workers' Compensation UPDATE

Have you, or someone you know, been injured while on the job? Have you been forced to miss work due to an injury or disease from the job? Has a prior condition been substantially aggravated by an injury at work? The attorneys at Regas & Haag have years of experience in handling Workers' Compensation cases and work hard to obtain the maximum benefit for our clients.

Attorneys John Regas and Matthew Carona can help individuals who have been injured at work and are interested in applying for Workers' Compensation. They can also fight for people who have already been denied Workers' Compensation benefits.

The system provides statutory benefits to workers who are injured or diseased, as well as to the dependants of workers who are killed on the job. The Workers' Compensation system is designed to provide benefits for an employee injured at work, and may include wages, medical, and other benefits. The road to obtaining these benefits is often long and difficult – the attorneys at Regas & Haag are happy to help.

### **WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW** if you are injured on the job:

- **1** The first thing you should do is IMMEDIATELY report the injury to your employer.
- **2** Obtain medical treatment IMMEDIATELY. You should see a family doctor, emergency room, or other medical provider, as quickly as possible.
- **3** A company CANNOT legally retaliate against you if you file a Workers' Compensation claim.
- **4** Most Workers' Compensation benefits are NOT TAXED by either the state of Ohio or the federal government.

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A simple walk can bring many benefits. For the most part, it's free and most people can do it. If you're feeling down and out, get out and get some fresh air.

### WALKING MAY:

- 1. HELP with depression. (Also, see New York Times article link on our website – under the Newsletter tab)
- 2. BOOST morale, attitude and energy.
- 3. EASE some physical ailments and combat chronic diseases. (Also, see New York Times article link on our website – under the Newsletter tab)
- 4. IMPROVE mood.
- 5. HELP manage weight.
- 6. PROMOTE better sleep.

# Why D|D you Hire us? Why SHOULD you Hire us?

There are many law firms and attorneys who do what we do: represent individuals with claims for Social Security Disability and Workers' Compensation. The telephone book is full of them. Many of these firms and lawyers do a good job, and of course, some of them don't. Some are located in Ohio and others are located in California, New York and Utah. It can be confusing, often paralyzing, to decide on which firm should represent you in one of the most important legal matters you'll ever have in your life.

If you hired us, we thank you for your trust. If you are reading this and haven't hired us, we respectfully request that you consider hiring us. Here's why we feel we're the right choice:

We take your situation seriously. You are not just a number to us. We know the difference disability or workers' compensation income can make in your life. We understand and appreciate the trust you place in us.

When you hire us, you meet a lawyer who will be responsible for your claim from start to finish. If you don't meet a lawyer at your initial meeting or aren't told which lawyer is responsible for handling your case, then shouldn't you wonder if that firm is a good choice for you? At Regas & Haag, Ltd., we like to finish what we start. We believe our clients are better served working with the same lawyer from start to finish.

**We focus on disability and workers' compensation.** We don't dabble in other areas. We are not a full service firm. We focus on two areas and work every day at being the best we can be. You don't go to a heart doctor when you have back problems; likewise, you should hire an attorney who focuses on your issue. We focus on two things: social security disability and workers' compensation.

**We strive for exceptional client service:** Our goal is to return your call within 24 hours. Our legal assistants know that the quickest way to get into trouble is for a client to complain to a lawyer about bad service.

**We are experienced.** Regas & Haag, Ltd. was founded in 1998. We've handled thousands of claims in the past 13 years. There is very little that we see that we haven't seen before. We've been there, and we've done that.

**We consistently receive referrals from our clients.** We take pride in that fact, because we know we are referred to others for a reason.

Again, we thank you for the opportunity to represent you. We look forward to helping your family, friends and neighbors with their Social Security Disability and Workers' Compensation claims.

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At Regas & Haag the vast majority of our Workers' Compensation cases are handled on a contingent-fee basis. This means that there is no fee unless we are successful in obtaining benefits for you. We are also willing to meet with you for a free consultation to discuss your case and answer any questions you may have. We will be there every step of the way; ensuring that all proper paperwork gets completed and submitted, representing you at all hearings related to your Workers' Compensation claim, and making sure you receive exceptional legal services.

IF YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW, HAVE BEEN INJURED ON THE JOB, please do not hesitate to contact us to schedule a free consultation for your Workers' Compensation case. We are happy to meet with you to discuss your case or to help you get started. We can be reached at 330.649.9102 or toll free at 1.800.520.2200.

• **NeedyMeds:** The programs on this website help people of all ages, with and without insurance. This non-profit organization was founded in 1997 as a resource for people who need help with the cost of medicine. The free drug discount card helps you save up to 75% on prescriptions. Visit NeedyMeds.org for more information.

find the assistance you need

- The Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Stark County: A newly redesigned website is a comprehensive resource for mental health and recovery informational needs. Find out about community events, the Stark County anti-drug coalition, information on how tax dollars are used and so much more at www.starkmhrsb.org.
- United Way: The 2-1-1 program offers basic human service, physical and mental health resources, employment support services, support for senior citizens and persons with disabilities and programs for children, youth and families. Other services include enhanced public safety and crisis recovery efforts in the event of a national or local disaster. Just dial 2-1-1.
- The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services: Some services include help with unemployment issues, health care, cash and food assistance, child care, employment and training assistance, housing relocation, disaster assistance, and much more. The services they provide are wide reaching and valuable to many individuals in time of need. Visit the website at www.jfs.ohio.gov for more information.



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### HERE'S WHAT YOU WILL FIND!

Free or Low Cost Medical, Dental and Prescription Services

Community Resources such as Food Assistance, Clothing Assistance, and Personal Care Assistance

Directions to our Office and to the Mansfield, Cleveland, and Akron Hearing Offices

Commonly Asked Questions about Social Security Disability

Past Newsletters

Photos of our Employees

**e-blasts KEEP INFORMED!** Sign up online at bulldogattorneys.com to receive our twice monthly e-blasts.