

CalOSHA Issues Nine Citations and Penalties Against the Department of General Services for Health and Safety Violations at the State Capitol Park – July 2, 2018

On June 28, 2018, CalOSHA responded to an IUOE, Unit 12, Local 39 Health and Safety complaint with nine separate citations and penalties against the Department of General Services.

Back on March 15th we filed a complaint with CalOSHA against the Department of General Services for forcing our Groundskeeper members to clean up homeless encampments at the state capitol park without the proper training and protective gear. It is not uncommon for there to be splattered blood, feces, urine and used feminine hygiene products in these encampments.

The Division of Occupational Safety and Health conducted an inspection and determined the following:

1. The employer failed to use the CalOSHA 300 form for recordable injuries and illnesses.
2. The employer failed to maintain a Sharps injury log.
3. The employer failed to verify that the required workplace hazard assessment had been performed through a written certification.
4. The employer's exposure plan was out of compliance with the Bloodborne Pathogen standard.
5. The employer failed to review and update their exposure plan at least annually.
6. The employer failed to have employees who decline to accept the hepatitis B vaccination offered, sign the statement in Appendix A.
7. The employer failed to provide annual training to employees on bloodborne pathogens.
8. The employer failed to provide training that included a copy and explanation of the Bloodborne Pathogen standard.
9. The employer failed to develop, implement and maintain at the workplace a written hazard communication program for employees using chemicals.

The total of the fines came to \$3,270.00.

UNION STRONG!

Steve Crouch
Director of Public Employees