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CALIFORNIA LEGAL ALERT

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California’s Division of Occupational Safety and Health (“Cal-OSHA”) recently increased its penalties in response to Federal OSHA’s increased penalty hikes last year. These new penalties apply to all citations issued on or after **September 14, 2017**.

	<u>Previous Penalty</u>	<u>New Penalty</u>
Regulatory Violations	\$7,000 max	\$12,471 max per violation
General Violations	\$7,000 max	\$12,471 max per violation
Serious Violations	\$25,000 max	\$25,000 max per violation

- Regulatory Violations: permit, posting, record-keeping, and reporting violations.
- General Violations: violations that are not serious in nature, but relate to employees’ occupational safety and health.
- Serious Violations: violations that create a realistic possibility of death or serious physical harm to employees.

	<u>Previous Penalty</u>	<u>New Penalty</u>
Willful & Repeat Violations	\$5,000	\$8,908 minimum per violation
Willful & Repeat Violations	\$70,000	\$124,709 max per violation

New fines will also have a cost-of-living component that will entail annual increases starting January 1, 2018.

If you have any questions on whether you are complying with California’s Health and Safety codes, please contact Stokes Wagner.