



STOKES WAGNER

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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California Eases Workers Comp Claims

Yesterday California Governor Gavin Newsom signed [Executive Order N-62-20](#), creating a rebuttable presumption that employees who test positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of working contracted the virus at work. Employers will have 30 days to rebut the claim by proving the employee contracted the virus elsewhere. This order puts a significant burden of proof on employers.

The Executive Order will remain in place for 60 days after the lift of the statewide stay-at-home order [Executive Order N-33-20]. The Executive Order comes just as California prepares to enter “Stage 2” of the gradual reopening of the state this Friday.

The presumption is retroactive to claims filed **as early as March 19, 2020**.

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Questions? Contact Stokes Wagner.