



# WORKERS' COMPENSATION IN TEXAS

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The Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) resides within the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI). Responsibility for administration is vested in one full-time commissioner, appointed by the Governor.

The primary duties of DWC are to regulate and administer the workers' compensation system in Texas and ensure that the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, the Texas Labor Code (TLC), and other laws regarding workers' compensation are implemented and enforced.

The basic goals of the Texas workers' compensation system are:

- Each employee shall be treated with dignity and respect when injured on the job
- Each injured employee shall have access to a fair and accessible dispute resolution process
- Each injured employee shall have access to prompt, high-quality medical care within the framework established by the TLC
- Each injured employee shall receive services to facilitate the employee's return to employment as soon as it is considered safe and appropriate by the employee's health care provider

For more information please visit the TDI-DWC website at:

<http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/indexwc.html>



## **Ryan Brannan**

### **Commissioner of Workers' Compensation**

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Ryan Brannan is the Texas Commissioner of Workers' Compensation, overseeing the Division of Workers' Compensation for the Texas Department of Insurance. He was appointed Commissioner in August 2014 and confirmed by the Texas Senate during the 84th Texas Legislative session.

Commissioner Brannan has led efforts to improve workplace safety and outreach to injured employees while streamlining processes and reducing costs within the Division of Workers' Compensation. He also has strengthened fraud investigations and enforcement efforts to make sure insurance carriers and health care providers comply with state regulations and provide accurate data to the Division. One goal of this sharpened enforcement focus has been to obtain better results for both employers and employees within the system.

He served as a policy advisor to former Governor Rick Perry, providing strategic and operational advice on issues such as workers' compensation, property and casualty insurance, life insurance, health insurance, health care, and land use management districts. He also advised the Governor on legal issues including tort reform, property rights, and eminent domain.

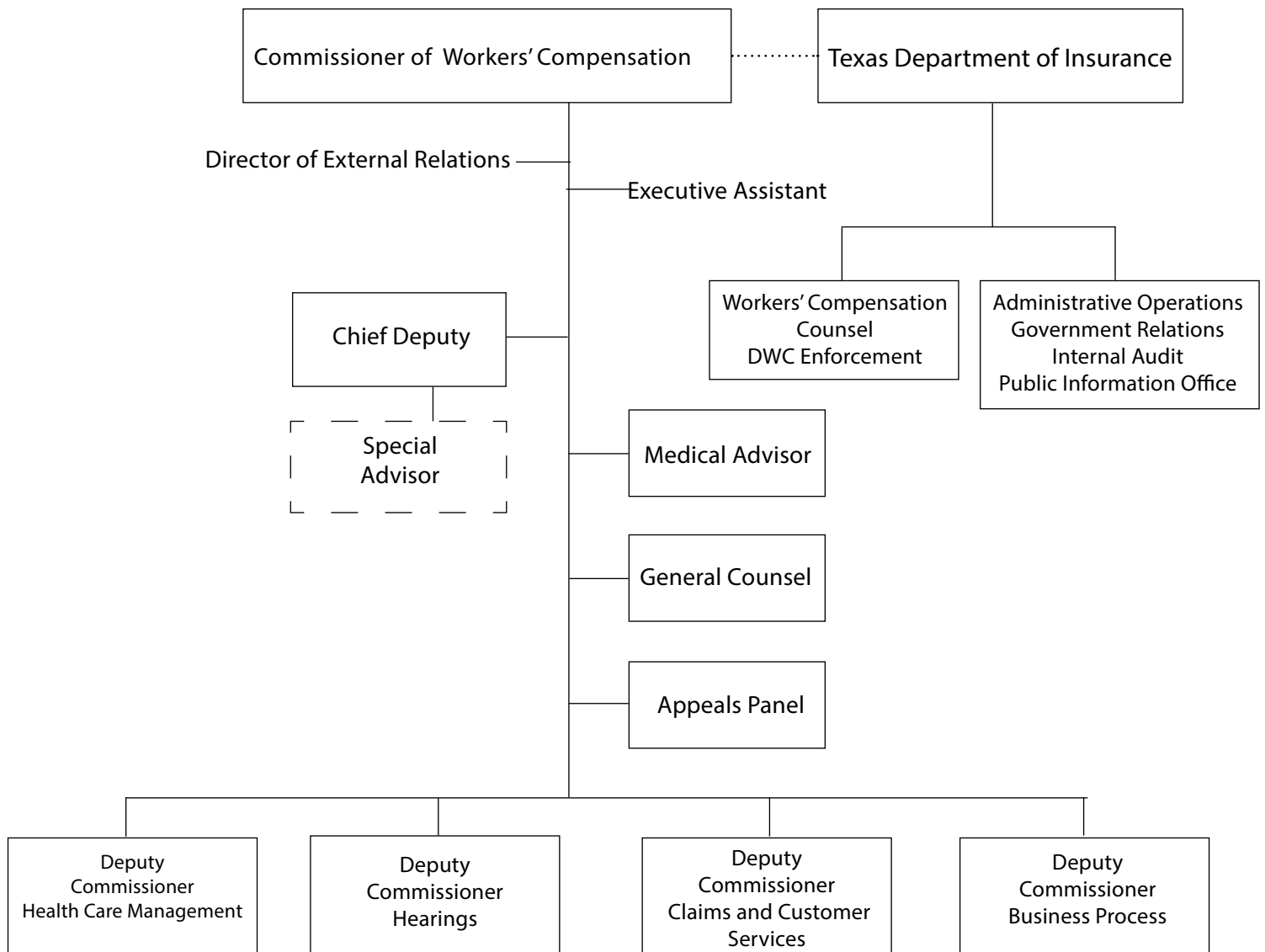
Commissioner Brannan spent several years as a policy analyst on issues including property and casualty insurance, health insurance, workers' compensation, health care, tort reform, eminent domain, energy, electricity, and telecommunications.

Before his years of public service, Commissioner Brannan founded and served as the Director of the Dallas Philanthropic Society where his management duties included personnel, strategic planning, fundraising, and marketing.

Commissioner Brannan is a licensed attorney. In private practice, he handled cases involving medical malpractice insurance, and workers' compensation law. He also represented clients in all aspects of commercial litigation, including research and writing, preparation of pleadings, motions, discovery, and settlement agreements.

He is a member of the Insurance Law and the Workers' Compensation sections of the State Bar of Texas, the Austin Bar Association, and a former member of the Oklahoma Bar Association. He serves on the board of the Texas Workers' Compensation Self-Insured Guaranty Association and on the executive committee of the Southern Association of Workers' Compensation Administrators. He received a bachelor's degree and Masters of Business Administration from Southern Methodist University, and a law degree from the University of Oklahoma. He is active in the Austin Baptist Church.

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



# RESOURCES

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## **TEXAS WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT**

Texas Labor Code Title 5. Workers' Compensation

<http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/act/index.html>

## **TEXAS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE**

Title 28, T.A.C., Part 2

[http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?tac\\_view=3&ti=28&pt=2](http://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=3&ti=28&pt=2)

## **FORMS**

<http://www.tdi.texas.gov/forms/form20.html>

## **INJURED EMPLOYEE RESOURCES**

<http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/employee/index.html>

## **EMPLOYER RESOURCES**

<http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/employer/index.html>

## **HEALTH CARE PROVIDER RESOURCES**

<http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/hcprovider/compconnection.html>

# KEY CONTACT LIST

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