

Responding to Employee Accommodation Requests for Stress, Depression, and Anxiety

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Agenda

- 1. Relevancy and Applicable Laws
- 2. Recognizing a Duty to Respond
- 3. Responding to Leave Requests
- 4. Responding to Accommodation Requests
- 5. Direct Threats
- 6. Medical Evaluations
- 7. Holding Employees Accountable
- 8. Key Strategies and Takeaways

Relevancy and Applicable Laws

• Trends and statistics

- Mental health versus physical health
- Across all industries
- Applicable Laws
 - ADA
 - FMLA

Recognizing a Duty to Respond

- Is this a disability?
- What types of incidents trigger a response?

Responding to Leave Requests

- What law applies?
- Intermittent leave
- Long term leave

Responding to Accommodation Requests

- Evaluating potential accommodations
- Responding to unreasonable accommodations

Direct Threats

- Individualized assessment
- Factors: duration, nature/severity, likelihood of harm, timing of potential harm

Medical Evaluations

- Fitness for duty examinations
- Second opinions
- Confidentiality
- Return to work

Holding Employees Accountable

- Discipline
- Fraudulent requests



Key Strategies and Takeaways

- 1. Preventative measures
- 2. Job descriptions
- 3. Training
- 4. Policies
- 5. Procedures
- 6. Interactive process
- 7. Consistency and tracking
- 8. Document everything
- 9. Involve legal

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