

TWO GREAT EVENTS COMBINED INTO ONE POWERFUL DAY OF LEARNING



WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND SAFETY CONFERENCE

\$409 member rate
\$459 nonmember rate

REGISTER BEFORE OCTOBER 6 & SAVE \$50

OCTOBER 9, 2024 | 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Doubletree Hilton Lisle | 3003 Corporate W. Drive | Lisle, IL 60532

7:00 a.m.–8:30 a.m.

Registration and Breakfast Networking – Expo is open

8:30 a.m.–9:00 a.m.

Opening Remarks and Introductions

- **Kassandra Silva**, Senior Associate, Michael Best Strategies
- **Adam Cox**, Executive Director, Illinois Self-Insurers Association
- **Gina Rossi**, President, Illinois Self-Insurers Association

9:00 a.m. – 9:55 a.m.

Panel Discussion - How Springfield Lawmakers View Illinois Workers' Compensation & What Changes to Expect in 2025

Legislators representing the party caucuses in the workers' compensation agreed bill process will provide their views on the politics of the agreed bill process and what changes to the Illinois Workers' Compensation Act could be considered in the 2025 Legislative Session.

Moderator – Lou Sandoval, President and CEO, Illinois Chamber of Commerce

Panelist – Illinois State Senator Seth Lewis

Panelist – Illinois State Representative Daniel Ugaste

Panelist – Illinois State Representative Marcus Evans

9:55 a.m.–10:15 a.m.

Morning Break & Visit Exhibitors

10:15 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.

Panel Discussion – Employer Workers' Compensation Costs, Transparency, and Management

Our panel of experienced workers' compensation professionals will discuss employer costs and trends nationally, how those compare to Illinois, provide a breakdown of what comprises ultimate medication costs and the benefits of bundled and unbundled third party administration arrangements. A must attend for those concerned about the rising costs of workers' compensation and methods for more efficient management of individual programs

Moderator – TBA

Panelist – Paige Bowling, Corporate Pharmacy Services

Panelist – John Brown, Convergent Claim Services

Panelist – Mike Burnett, Assurance/Marsh & McLennan

Panelist – Mark Walls, Safety National

11:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

Workshop #1: Primer on Subrogation Rights and Strategy

Timothy O’Gorman, Keefe, Campbell, Biery & Assoc.

Tim O’Gorman of Keefe, Campbell, Biery, & Assoc. will lead a lively discussion regarding the intersection between civil litigation and workers’ compensation. We will explore the effect Section 5 of the Illinois Workers’ Compensation Act has on decision making when a negligent 3rd party causes a work injury.

Workshop #2: The Modern Investigator’s Toolbox

Ben Friederich, Abacus Research

This will be a more interactive presentation covering the ever changing and evolving tools of the insurance defense investigations process.

Workshop #3: The Great Obliteration: How the Death of Chevron Deference Could Change Workers’ Compensation Claims Forever

Amy Bilton, Nyhan, Bambrick, Kinzie, & Lowry, P.C.

The Supreme Court recently overruled Chevron deference in a case involving the EPA’s fishy practice of requiring herring fishermen to pay the costs of third-party observers aboard their vessels. This session will explain how that case could directly impact workers’ compensation claims all over the country, not just in Illinois, as concerns Medicare’s likely overreaching actions in workers’ compensation cases.

12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Visit Exhibitors & Lunch Buffet

12:30 – 1:00 p.m.

2023 Legislative Developments and Illinois Workers’ Compensation Commission Update

Michael Brennan, Chairman, Illinois Workers’ Compensation Commission

1:00 – 1:50 p.m.

General Session - Lisa Azoory-Keller and Adam Cox, Nyhan, Bambrick, Kinzie, & Lowry, P.C.

Case Law Update

Adam J. Cox and Lisa Azoory-Keller discuss some of the Appellate Court cases issued over the past year, the issues and scenarios analyzed, and the impact going forward for workers’ compensation claims.”

1:50 p.m. -2:10 p.m.

Afternoon Break & Visit Exhibitors

2:10 p.m – 3:00 p.m.

General Session -Work Comp Spine Surgery: Fact or Fiction

Kern Singh, MD, Midwest Orthopaedics at Rush

Dr. Singh has built a reputation for his groundbreaking and cutting-edge use of minimally invasive and endoscopic outpatient surgical procedures. Hear all about these techniques, as well as the facts and fiction of spinal surgery in Illinois Workers’ Compensation.

3:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Panel Discussion – Illinois Workers’ Compensation Drivers...what they are and what changes are needed to make the system work better for all stakeholders

This panel of employers familiar with their WC cost drivers and a surgeon who advocates quality of care for injured workers will be discussing what are the cost drivers in the system and their thoughts as to what changes in the law will help make the system work for employers and injured workers.

Moderator – Bill Lowry, Nyhan, Bambrick, Kinzie, & Lowry, P.C.

Panelist – Al Gapinski, CEO, NHRMA Mutual Insurance Company

Panelist – Marci Rodriguez, UPS

Panelist – Frank Totton, Caterpillar

Panelist – Preston Wolin, MD, Center for Athletic Medicine

3:45 p.m.

Exhibitor Introductions, Drawings for Prizes & Closing Remarks for adjournment