

**13TH ANNUAL VIRTUAL**

# **WORKERS' COMPENSATION AND SAFETY CONFERENCE**



**Wednesday, November 4, 2020 | 8:30am - 12:00pm**

## **AGENDA**

<b>8:30 – 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Log-in and Virtual Networking – Virtual Expo is open</b>
<b>9:00– 9:10 a.m.</b>	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Jay Shattuck</b>, <i>Executive Director Employment Law Council, Illinois Chamber of Commerce</i></li></ul>
<b>9:10 – 9:25 a.m.</b>	<b>Update from the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission – <i>Michael Brennan</i>, Chairman, Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission</b>
<b>9:25 - 9:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Impacts of COVID-19 on Workers' Compensation Claims – A WCRI Study – <i>John Ruser</i>, President and CEO of the Workers' Compensation Research Institute</b>
<b>9:50 – 10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Break from computer screen –</b>
<b>10:00 – 11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Panel Discussion – COVID-19 and Workers Compensation</b> <b>Moderator – Jay Shattuck</b> , <i>Exec. Dir., Employment Law Council, Illinois Chamber of Commerce</i> <b>Panelist – Sen. John Curran</b> , <i>Illinois State Senator, 41<sup>st</sup> District</i> <b>Panelist – Michael Brennan</b> , <i>Chairman, Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission</i> <b>Panelist – John Ruser</b> , <i>President and CEO, WCRI</i> <b>Panelist – Dr. Scott Cole</b> , <i>Director of Medical Operations, Concentra</i>
<b>11:00 – 11:50 a.m.</b>	<b>General Session – Impact of Today's Job Market on Workers' Comp Compensation Cases in Illinois – <i>Shuaib Ahmed, ASA Group</i></b> Given today's unprecedented economic challenges due to COVID-19, Shuaib Ahmed, Owner and President of ASA Law Group in IL and CA, will discuss the impact and challenges on today's job market and workers compensation in Illinois.
<b>11:50am – 12pm</b>	<b>Description of workshops, Drawings for Prizes &amp; Closing Remarks</b>
<b>12:00 pm</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>

All workshops and the virtual expo will be available to all paid attendees for six months following the conference via our virtual conference platform – Continuing education credits (HRCI, SHRM, CLE are pre-approved) are available through the platform when you complete viewing of each workshop or visit all virtual exhibitors.

# **Workshops – Available on Workers' Comp Conference website to be released soon**

## **Workshop A – Advances in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome – Presented by Dr. Andrew Zelby and Dave Rusch, Vice President of Business Service Development, Ovation Hand Institute**

The presentation provides an overview of what is carpal tunnel syndrome, who does it effect, what industries and job duties are most susceptible to CTS and what is the economic burden of CTS on U.S. businesses.

What are the traditional treatment care pathways for a patient with CTS, how the Ovation Technique has proven to be a superior alternative and how the Ovation Technique impacts employers, both financially and minimizing absenteeism due to CTS.

## **Workshop B – Medical Marijuana in the Workplace – Presented by AJ Sheehan, MVP Law**

Medical and recreational marijuana are now both legal in the state of Illinois which brings new challenges for employers working to keep their employees & workplaces safe. During this workshop, topics including drug free workplaces, medical marijuana in workers' compensation and the impacts of medical marijuana on the ADA, FMLA and unemployment benefits will be discussed.

## **Workshop C – The Covid-19 Rebuttable Presumption – What is it and What Does it Mean for You? – Presented by Peter Stavropoulos, Brady Connolly and Masuda**

Join BCM Partner Peter Stavropoulos for an in-depth look at the new Illinois law covering COVID-19 exposure in the workplace. He will cover new changes to the Occupational Disease Act under HB 2455, how to avoid potential COVID-19 claims, and how to address any claims that arise under the changes to the Act.

## **Workshop D – 2020 Workers Compensation Case Law Update – Presented by Shawn Biery and John Campbell, Keefe Campbell Biery & Associates**

Join John Campbell & Shawn Biery of Keefe, Campbell, Biery & Associates for updates on recent cases which help guide employers in navigating the Workers' Compensation system which at times is akin to being in the wilderness, especially in these trying times. We will review cases which impact all employers and give some tips on when and how to join those who are bold enough to accept the challenge and seek recourse via Arbitration and appeal when you cannot reach the most favorable conclusions via leveraged compromise negotiations. Questions will be taken to assist in your real life scenarios after case studies. All attendees should take away some ideas on critical thinking in managing Workers' Compensation claims in Illinois and in general.

## **Workshop E – Snakes, Leaches, and Tobacco Enemas – The Case for Evidence-Based Medical Treatment Guidelines - Presented by Patrick Robinson, Vice President, Government Affairs, ODG, an MCG Health Company**

A discussion of the process and purpose of evidence-based medical treatment guidelines in workers' compensation, in the context of historical medical practices widely used by physicians of the time, but ultimately shown to be useless and in some cases, harmful to patients.

## **Workshop F – OSHA Updates for 2020 and Beyond – Presented by Matthew Horn, SmithAmundsen LLC**

The presentation will provide practical tips and advice for how to effectively avoid and manage an OSHA inspection. It will also cover a number of important updates relating to OSHA, including enforcement trends for 2020-21 and how it is handling COVID and COVID-related inspections.