

Workers' Comp Conference Speakers' Bios

Jay Shattuck, Executive Director Employment Law Council, Illinois Chamber of Commerce



Jay Shattuck formed Shattuck & Associates Consulting, Inc. in 1997 after twenty years of lobbying the Illinois General Assembly on behalf of various business organizations. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois with a Bachelors Degree in Political Science. Mr. Shattuck received his Certified Association Executive (CAE) in 1992 . Actively involved in a number of professional and civic organizations, he is a past president of the Illinois Society of Association Executives (ISAE), a past chairman of the Business and Industry for Economic Concerns (BIFEC) and past President of Project Safe Illinois. Mr. Shattuck served eight years as one of

three Illinois business leaders appointed by the Governor to the Illinois Industrial Commission Advisory Council (1992-2000). No stranger to the Illinois legislative process, Mr. Shattuck previously held high-profile, senior level lobbying positions with the Associated Employers of Illinois, Central Illinois Public Service Co. (now Ameren) and the Independent Insurance Agents of Illinois. Mr. Shattuck's Springfield team was recognized by the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) as a recipient of ASAE's prestigious Award of Excellence in Government Relations.

He is one of the state's most respected business lobbyist and association executives. His imprint is on many insurance, energy and employment law statutes and regulations considered by the General Assembly and Illinois state government for over thirty years.

Shuaib Ahmed, Owner and President, Illinois and California, ASA Law Group, LLC



Prior to forming ASA Law Group, LLC, Mr. Ahmed represented clients in personal injury and medical malpractice cases wherein he tried cases before the jury, the bench (judge), and at Arbitration. Thereafter, he served as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Illinois defending various state departments in workers' compensation cases. He then spent numerous years engaged in private practice aggressively defending self-insured clients in workers' compensation cases in his capacity as a Partner.

Mr. Ahmed formed ASA Law Group, LLC, located in Oak Brook, Illinois, with a mission to partner with employers in not only the defense of workers compensation and civil cases, but also as legal consultants in advancing the employer's overall mission and corporate goals. Based upon client needs, Mr. Ahmed scaled the firm into California, forming ASA Law Group, Inc., which services employers in the entire state of California in the defense of workers compensation and civil cases.

Mr. Ahmed has authored numerous articles for the Illinois State Bar Association, the Business Leader and is the author of the book *Get a Grip: An Employer's Manual on How to Get A Grip on a Workers' Compensation Case before it Spirals Out of Control*. Mr. Ahmed is also a faculty member for the Illinois Continuing Legal Education, the Illinois State Bar Association and he actively serves on the Illinois Chamber of Commerce Employment Committee and on the Business Advisory Board for the Illinois Chamber of Commerce.

Shawn Biery, partner, Keefe Campbell Biery & Associates



Shawn Biery received his JD from Thomas Jefferson School of Law in 2001. He was a founding member of Keefe, Campbell, Biery & Associates in 2003 after practicing in employment law and patent law firms prior. Shawn utilizes strategies similar to those he developed while an active duty member of the US Marines conducting desert warfare training. In addition to his work as a courtroom litigator, Shawn is also an adjunct law professor and regular speaker regarding workers' compensation and employment law issues.

John Campbell, partner, Keefe Campbell Biery & Associates



John Campbell received his JD from Chicago-Kent College of Law in 1999 and co-founded the Keefe, Campbell, Biery & Associates firm in 2003. John's area of concentration is in workers' compensation as well as employment and OSHA citation defense. John enjoys teaching as an adjunct professor of workers' compensation law as well. JD from Chicago-Kent College of Law in 1999 and co-founded the Keefe, Campbell, Biery & Associates firm in 2003. John's area of concentration is in workers' compensation as well as employment and OSHA citation defense. John enjoys teaching as an adjunct professor of workers' compensation law as well. In addition to his work as a courtroom litigator, John is also an adjunct law professor and regular speaker regarding workers' compensation and employment law issues.

Surbhi Saraswat Goyal, Partner, Brady Connolly Masuda P.C.



Surbhi Saraswat Goyal defends employers, insurers and third-party administrators in a variety of legal matters stemming from workers' compensation claims in Illinois. She is a sophisticated litigator who guides her clients through complex workers' compensation matters while also navigating the Medicare compliance process.

Charles M. Maring, II, Brady Connolly Masuda P.C.



Mr. Maring has been practicing workers' compensation law since 2011. Mr. Maring has represented a wide array of transportation, manufacturing, retail and logistics clients, along with leading insurance companies and third-party administrators for both Illinois and Wisconsin claims.

Steve Murdock, Partner, Inman & Fitzgibbons, Ltd.



Steve Murdock is Vice President and Director of Operations at Inman & Fitzgibbons, but also continues to actively handle the defense of workers' compensation claims for clients in Illinois and in Missouri. He has been with the firm for almost 22 years. He attended the Northern Illinois University College of Law. He enjoys volunteering and fundraising for local charities, playing golf and weekends with his family.

Jynnifer Cotharn, Partner, Inman & Fitzgibbons, Ltd.



Jynnifer Cotharn has been with the firm since 2007 and practices in the areas of workers' compensation defense and general liability. Her practice includes client consultation on reporting and investigating claims as well as advising on strategic measures to reduce risk and liability for employers and insurance carriers. She represents clients at the arbitration, Commission and Circuit Court levels. Jynnifer received her Juris Doctor from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.

Brian S. Clay, MD, Physiatry, Interventional Pain Management, Illinois Bone & Joint Institute



Dr. Brian Clay is a physiatrist and interventional pain management specialist, fellowship trained in anesthesia pain medicine. As a physiatrist, Dr. Clay is a nerve, muscle and bone expert who treats injuries and illnesses that impact how the human body moves. Many of Dr. Clay's patients rely on him to manage painful arthritic conditions affecting peripheral joints and pain due to disorders of the cervical and lumbar spine. He also works with individuals who have suffered traumatic brain or spinal cord injuries. Another key area of expertise is outpatient sports medicine.

After earning an undergraduate degree in biochemistry and completing medical school, he concentrated his focus on physical medicine and rehabilitation. During his internship and residency at Northwestern University's McGaw Medical Center and the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, Dr. Clay was named chief resident. He has a passion for helping others. As a result, Dr. Clay is constantly exploring innovative practices and techniques such as genicular nerve ablation, a non-surgical procedure for relieving knee pain, and the use of Botox for migraine headache management.

Jeffrey A. Risch, Partner, SmithAmundsen, LLC



Jeff serves as the Chair of Smith Amundsen's expansive management-side Labor & Employment Practice Group headquartered in Chicago, Illinois. Jeff represents employers in jurisdictions and before administrative tribunals throughout the United States. Jeff provides employment and traditional labor law counsel to several trade associations, including the Illinois Chamber of Commerce. Jeff has also contributed to cutting edge stories produced by several recognized media outlets such as NPR, Fox News Chicago, CNNMoney.com, the Daily Herald, and the Chicago Tribune. He also helped write and edit THE leading resource manual on labor and employment law for Illinois employers published by the Illinois Chamber of

Commerce. Jeff is regularly recognized by his peers as a leading lawyer in the field of Labor & Employment Law on a local, regional and national basis.

Mark Pew, Senior Vice President, Product Development & Marketing, Preferred Medical



Mark Pew is a passionate **educator** and **agitator**. Known as the RxProfessor, he is focused on the intersection of chronic pain and appropriate treatment, particularly as it relates to the clinical and financial implications of prescription painkillers, non-pharma treatment modalities and the evolution of medical marijuana. He is a strong champion for the workers' compensation industry to #PreventTheMess and #CleanUpTheMess, movements he created to drive attention to the importance of individualized appropriate treatment for injured workers.

Mark is a vocal advocate of the BioPsychoSocialSpiritual treatment model. Since 2012 he has presented educational content more than 550 times to more than 43,000 people in 41 states and the District of Columbia. He is also an accomplished writer, regularly blogging and tweeting and with many articles published in national magazines. His blog was recognized in 2016, 2017 and 2018 as a WorkersCompensation.com "Best Blog." He serves on the IAIABC's Medical Issues Committee and SIIA's Workers' Compensation Committee. In addition, he serves as technical advisor to regulators and legislators in 20+ jurisdictions on subjects such as drug formularies, treatment guidelines, Opioid Task Force initiatives, encouraging support of non-pharma treatment options and the medicinal use of cannabis. Mark received the WorkCompCentral Magna Comp Laude award in 2016 and the IAIABC's Samuel Gompers Award in 2017.

David J. Fletcher, MD MPH, Medical Director and CEO, Safeworks Illinois



Safeworks Illinois is a private occupational medicine practice located in Champaign, Illinois, and a member of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Fletcher graduated from Rush Medical College in 1980 and is board-certified in occupational and preventive medicine, is a certified Medical Review Officer, a certified Substance Abuse Professional, and a Senior Federal Aviation Administration Medical Examiner.

In October 2017, the National Association of Occupational Health Professionals selected Dr. Fletcher as the first Frank Leone Award recipient for national leadership in the occupational

health field.

Dr. Fletcher is a leading medical expert on the Illinois Workers' Compensation system. He has taken care of more than 19,000 individual Illinois workers hurt on the job since 1985 serving as the primary gatekeeper from the time that the patient was hurt until when the injured worker has reached maximum medical improvement. Since 2011, Dr. Fletcher has served as the senior physician representative on the Workers' Compensation Research Institute Illinois Advisory Committee. He served on the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission (IWCC) Medical Fee Advisory Board from 2016-2018. Since 2014, Dr. Fletcher has been a leading representative for the Illinois State Medical Society before the Illinois State Legislature and the IWCC.

Michael J. Brennan, Chairman, Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission



Michael J. Brennan was appointed as Chairman of the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission by Governor JB Pritzker on March 15, 2019. He previously served as a Public Member Commissioner since 2013.

He co-chaired a Rules Committee which resulted in the first comprehensive review and modification of the IWCC Rules of Practice in decades. Revised Rules were unanimously approved by the Legislature and Commission in October of 2016.

Mr. Brennan earned both his Bachelor of Arts and Juris Doctorate Degrees at De Paul University. He has practiced law in Illinois and has litigated numerous cases reported by the Illinois Appellate Court, the Illinois Supreme Court and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mr. Brennan was engaged in private law practice from 1991 through 2013, with an emphasis on Workers' Compensation. He previously served as an Assistant Attorney General, from 1977 through 1991, where he prosecuted Civil Revenue and Criminal Medicaid Fraud cases, before becoming the Chief of the then Industrial Commission Division.

He was among the principal authors of the Larson's Illinois Workers' Compensation Handbook, and has published numerous articles dealing with Illinois Workers' Compensation issues for Quinlan's, Thomson West and Reuters. He has been qualified and testified as an expert on Workers' Compensation matters and has lectured extensively on the topic.

He is a member of the Chicago Bar Association and Workers' Compensation Lawyers' Association. He has been elected by his peers as a Martindale-Hubbell Rated AV Preeminent Attorney for over Twenty Years, an Illinois Super Lawyer, an Illinois Leading Lawyer, named as among the Best Lawyers of America and among the Top Attorneys in Illinois by Chicago Magazine.

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



Amy E. Bilton, Esq., is a shareholder, workers' compensation defense trial attorney, and Medicare Secondary Payer professional at the Chicago law firm of Nyhan, Bambrick, Kinzie & Lowry. She received her B.A. from the University of Michigan and J.D. from DePaul University College of Law. She has been licensed to practice law in Illinois since 1998 and has her Medicare Secondary Payer Consultant certification (MSCC) through the International Commission on Health Care Certification and Certified Medicare Secondary Payer Fellow (CMSP-F) certification.

Ms. Bilton is a frequent lecturer in workers' compensation and all aspects of Medicare Secondary Payer compliance, as well as in the intersection of the opioid epidemic with both of these areas of law. She serves on the boards of: the National Alliance of Medicare Set-Aside Professionals, for which she is the current President and also the co-chair of the Evidence-Based Medicine committee; the International Commission on Healthcare Certification, for which she serves on the Board of Commissioners for the Medicare Set-Aside Consultant Certified (MSCC) certification; and the Illinois Workers' Compensation Medical Fee Advisory Board. She is also a member of the Chicago Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association, Illinois Workers' Compensation Lawyers Association, American Bar Association, California Coalition on Workers' Compensation, DRI and the National Council of Self-Insureds.