



17TH ANNUAL

WORK INJURY CONFERENCE

Work Injury in a Down Economy: Exploring Recession  
Ramifications on the Workers' Compensation System

10.29.2009

10.29.09



i-Hotel

Champaign, Illinois

For 17 years, the Work Injury Prevention & Control Strategies Conference has been on the cutting-edge of Illinois Workers' Compensation issues.

Join the brightest minds in the industry who lead innovation in treating injured workers and improving the workers' compensation system.

Be a part of the solution in an interactive discussion of two simulated workers' compensation cases. Examine the reality of two cases and how it affects each stakeholder in the workers' compensation system. Gain insight on how these trends will affect you and future cases.

# CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

- Discuss the current issues facing the Illinois Workers' Compensation System and identify the key players who largely contribute to the success of the system.
- Provide an interactive forum that allows work injury leaders to be educated by experts and each other on the latest trends affecting our state's care of injured workers.
- Create networking opportunities for all participants in order to establish a better understanding of individual roles and how those roles generate positive change and improvement within the IWCC.
- Share new resources and technologies that will facilitate the management of workers' compensation claims and maximize recovery.
- Provide the employer with a framework that encourages work injury prevention at the corporate level while also suggesting the appropriate methods to use when responding to work injuries.
- Provide two case studies with solutions and recommendations for dealing with real vs. fraudulent chronic pain cases.
- Explore the impact or lack of the 2005 workers' compensation fraud provisions. How could we better identify objective-based workers' compensation?
- Educate attendees on recent trends in workers' compensation cases from the perspective of the petitioner and respondent attorneys.
- Understand the fundamental need for additional workers' compensation reform based on the viewpoints of the new acting chairman of the Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission (IWCC), Amy Masters.

Work Injury in a Down Economy: Exploring Recession  
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# FACULTY AND PLANNING COMMITTEES

**Ronald D. Bensyl, CWCA** – Senior Vice President, Workers' Compensation, *Behnke Insurance*

**Michael A. Champion, PhD, LP, HSPP, CPQ** – President, *Campion, Barrow & Associates*

**\*\*Nancy Davis, RN, CCM, CLCP, MSCC** – *NurseValue, Inc.*

**\*\*Theresa M. Delvo, P.T.** – President, *Midwest Rehabilitation, Inc.*

**\*\*David J. Fletcher, MD, MPH, FACOEM** (moderator) – Medical Director, *SafeWorks Illinois*

**John M. Furry, MD** – Director of Pain Medicine Center, *St. Mary's Hospital*

**Thomas Grey, CHCM** – President, *Grey & Associates*

**\*\*Michael J. Holt** – Attorney, *Hennessy & Roach, P.C.*

**Eugene F. Keefe** – Attorney, *Keefe, Campbell & Associates, LLC*

**Stuart C. King, MD** – Head of Spine and Pain Management, *Christie Clinic*

**Lawrence K.C. Li, MD** – Founder, *Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center*

**Amy J. Masters** – Acting Chairman, *Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission (IWCC)*

**Libby Nevins, RN, CCM** – *Medical Care Consultants, Inc.*

**Nicholas M. Schiro** – Attorney, *Tuggle, Schiro & Lichtenberger, P.C.*

**Toney Tomaso** – Attorney, *Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen, P.C.*

**Francis "Buzz" Walsh** – Supervisor, *IWCC, Fraud Unit*

**\*\*Michael L. Weber** – Risk Control Manager, *SuperValu*

**David N. Weis, M.A., L.C.P.C.** – Account Executive, *Chestnut Global Partners*

**\*\*Members also on planning committee**

## PLANNING

**Stacey Benson** – District Manager/Marketing Director, *SafeWorks Illinois – Champaign*

**Bruce Bonds** – Attorney, *Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen, P.C.*

**Todd Lee** – Director of Business Development & Government Relations,  
*Vermilion Advantage*

**Shelley Phillips** – District Manager/Director of Mobile Division, *SafeWorks Illinois – Decatur*

**Christie Volden** – Marketing Coordinator, *SafeWorks Illinois – Champaign*

# CONFERENCE REENACTMENTS

Chronic regional pain syndrome, otherwise known as reflex sympathetic dystrophy (RSD) is even more challenging and expensive in a down economy further depressed by layoffs.

## Case Study A

Injured Worker A suffers a crushing soft tissue injury to his left foot that leads to a three-year nightmare of chronic pain. He develops bona-fide RSD and peripheral nerve entrapment condition that is unremitting despite aggressive care, including extensive physical therapy, nerve decompression surgery, and installation of peripheral nerve stimulator. He overwhelms his first two nurse case managers before settling down with the third NCM who works to gain his trust to guide him on a path to recovery and dealing with a future that includes managing his chronic pain but offers hope.

## Case Study B

Injured Worker B does not report any injury to his employer in 2002. He goes to the local ER with complaints that he injured his neck and shoulder trying to lift something. He is evaluated by the company physician who finds no objective findings and documents extensive symptom magnification with inconsistent FCE testing, psychological testing, and consultations with other specialists, who confirm there is nothing wrong with him. Despite nearly \$500,000 in medical treatment, his subjective complaints have not improved after eight years and he has not returned back to work.

► How will these cases come to resolution?

# WORK INJURY CONFERENCE AGENDA

## Work Injury in a Down Economy: Exploring Recession Ramifications on the Workers' Compensation System

Dr. David J. Fletcher – SafeWorks Illinois, Moderator

7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.	<b>Registration</b>
8:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	<i>Introduction</i> Dr. David J. Fletcher
8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	<i>Update on IWCC System</i> Amy J. Masters, Acting Chairman
9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.	<i>Ask the Chairman - question &amp; answer</i>
9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	<i>How to identify RSD: overview of profile cases</i> Dr. David J. Fletcher, Dr. Lawrence K.C. Li, Theresa Delvo
9:45 a.m. - 10:35 a.m.	<i>How should these two cases be medically managed?</i> <i>Employer/safety perspective</i> Michael L. Weber and Thomas Grey
10:35 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.	<b>BREAK</b>
10:50 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	<i>How should these two cases be medically managed?</i> <i>Legal/insurance perspective</i> Michael J. Holt and Ronald D. Bensyl
11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<i>When is it appropriate to assign a Nurse Case Manager and what should the employer expect?</i> Nancy Davis and Libby Nevins
12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.	<b>LUNCH</b>
1:15 p.m. - 1:55 p.m.	<i>When is a psychological intervention appropriate in chronic pain patients?</i> Michael A. Champion and David N. Weis
1:55 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	<i>Approach to chronic pain management: pain device utilization i.e. dorsal column stimulator</i> Dr. Stuart C. King and Dr. John M. Furry
2:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	<b>BREAK</b>
2:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	<i>When and how should you report workers' compensation fraud?</i> Francis "Buzz" Walsh and Eugene F. Keefe
3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	<i>Petitioner vs. respondent: how should the arbitrator rule? A mock trial</i> Nicholas M. Schiro and Toney Tomaso
4:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	<b>Conference Wrap-Up</b>
4:30 p.m.	<b>Reception at Houlihan's</b>

# REGISTRATION

**COST:** \$120 per person. Includes continental breakfast, lunch and conference materials.

## REGISTER:

**@** [www.safeworksillinois.com](http://www.safeworksillinois.com) and send your check to:  
**SafeWorks Illinois c/o Work Injury Conference**  
**Attn: Dawn Austin**  
1750 E. Lake Shore Drive, LL  
Decatur, IL 62521

**☎** **Stacey Benson** or **Christie Volden, 217.356.6150** to pay by credit card

**All pre-registrations with payment must be received no later than Thursday, October 15, 2009.**

- On-site registrations will be accommodated upon seating availability.
- **If you have any questions, please contact:**  
Stacey Benson at 217.356.6150 or [sbenson@safeworksillinois.com](mailto:sbenson@safeworksillinois.com) or  
Christie Volden at 217.356.6150 or [cvolden@safeworksillinois.com](mailto:cvolden@safeworksillinois.com)
- CEU credits available  
CLE/CCM credits applied for

[www.safeworksillinois.com](http://www.safeworksillinois.com)

## Mark Your Calendar. Coming to Chicago!

The Work Injury Conference will make its first debut in Chicago on February 11, 2010 at the Conference & Learning Center at U.S. Cellular Field. Seating is limited. Call 217.356.6150 for more information.

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Join the brightest minds  
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