

General Information

The 67th Annual Workers' Compensation Educational Conference and the 24th Annual Safety and Health Conference will focus on national workers' compensation and safety industries. Particularly as it relates to workers' compensation, it has always been felt that each state, having different laws, had to deal with its own issues separate from other states. No longer is this the case. This emerging national conference has evolved into a gathering of all stakeholders, regardless of jurisdiction or state, to study and be educated on issues of common concern - issues that have no geographical boundaries. Regardless of your interests, your positions in these two important industries, and your role, this conference is designed to provide something of significance for everyone. The unprecedented number of breakouts and the quality of presenters representing states throughout the country truly make this a national event not to be missed.

Conference of Partnerships:

This nationally acclaimed annual conference remains the premier forum for the study of workers' compensation, workplace safety and health, and related issues primarily because of the continued partnerships of state and national associations, all being recognized as leaders within their particular interest areas. Partners within this group include The Safety & Health Institute, The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), The University of South Florida, Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, and The Workers' Compensation Institute. The National Underwriter Company and The National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI) continue sponsorship of The National Underwriter Award for Excellence in Workers' Compensation Risk Management. Other participating organizations include the Florida and National Associations of PEOs, The American Staffing Association, The Southern Association of Workers' Compensation Administrators (SAWCA), The Workers' Compensation Defense Institute, The Florida Orthopedic Society, The Florida Chiropractic Association, The Florida Association of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, The Florida Academy of Pain Medicine, The Florida Society of Interventional Pain Physicians, The Educational Research Centers at The University of South Florida, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and The Deep South ERC at The University of Alabama at Birmingham and Auburn University, The Professional Mediation Institute (PMI), The National Association of Workers' Compensation Judiciary, Inc. (NAWCJ), and the Medical Group Management Association. Leading providers have become prime sponsors and exhibitors of the conference and join the partnerships to create the most comprehensive workers' compensation and workplace safety conference in the nation. For the first time ever, we welcome Liberty Mutual Insurance Company as the sponsor of the new Center for Excellence in the Study of Medical Issues in Workers' Compensation.

Program:

This year's program offers creative and innovative speakers from throughout the United States. The hottest issues in workers' compensation and safety will be discussed. All aspects of workers' compensation and workplace safety will be the topics of discussion with breakouts for risk managers, regulators, safety professionals, health care providers, adjusters, insurance professionals, attorneys, medical case managers, professional employer organizations (employee leasing), temporary staffing, mediators, and medical office administrators. Ancillary sessions will be held on the Longshore and Harbor Workers Compensation Act, the Jones Act, the Defense Base Act, the OSHA 10-Hour General Industry Course, and First Aid, CPR, AED. In addition to subjects of general interest within the national workers' compensation and safety communities, state specific workers' compensation laws will be the subject of day-long breakouts and will include presentations featuring regulators and other experts on the laws of Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, Texas, Louisiana, and Kentucky. A live surgery will be performed for the benefit of conference attendees. A breakout will also be held on the Medicare Secondary Payer Act, the newest problematic aspect of dealing with workers' compensation and general liability cases. The National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH), The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), The Environmental Research Centers (ERCs) of The University of South Florida, The Deep South ERC at The University of Alabama at Birmingham and Auburn University & The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill ERC will sponsor segments of the conference dealing with safety and health issues of national concern.

New This Year:

2011 represented the 100th Anniversary of workers' compensation in America. It also represented a significant change in the Conference, a change that has seen the creation of a new interactive website and social media emphasis with a full-time online communications office and an emphasis on workers' compensation and safety on a National scale - www.wci360.com. For the first time ever, the Conference program has expanded to a fourth day (Thursday, August 23) with a full 2-day breakout for mediators. Significant expansions have been made in the Risk Management program to include prominent speakers throughout the country with this breakout being extended for a full 8-hours of presentations. Newly created is the Center for Excellence in the study of workers' compensation medical issues sponsored by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company with presentations from nationally prominent medical experts. In conjunction with the Southern Association of Workers' Compensation Administrators (SAWCA), an expanded "round table" regulatory program is presented allowing regulators throughout the country to discuss issues of common interest and allow for pre-scheduled selective personal conferences between attendees and regulators.

National Underwriter Award for Excellence in Workers' Compensation Risk Management:

The National Underwriter Company will present its fifth annual "Award for Excellence in Workers' Compensation Risk Management" at this year's conference. This award, sponsored by the National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI) in cooperation with the Workers' Compensation Institute, recognizes risk managers on a national scale that have done an outstanding job managing their workers' compensation risks. This award is an industry-wide recognition of truly outstanding risk management programs that serve as role models for their peers.

Safety:

This is the 24th anniversary of the existence of the Safety & Health Conference. Originally created as a stand-alone "Governor's Conference on Safety," the Safety & Health Institute partnered with the Workers' Compensation Institute to establish one of the most comprehensive national safety and health conferences in the United States. In conjunction with NIOSH, CDC, and sponsoring Universities, these educational offerings provide an educational opportunity unsurpassed by other conferences within the safety and health industry. Breakouts are designed for front line safety professionals at reasonable prices. In addition to the usual breakouts on safety, a 10-hour General Industry course will be presented. An OSHA completion card will be issued to those who complete the full 10 hours of instruction. Registration for this special course offering is required. Refer to page 12 to register.

Multi-State Workers' Compensation Laws and Regulations:

Realizing that many workers' compensation and safety professionals deal with more than one state, these Conference breakouts are designed to provide information on multi-state workers' compensation laws. Sponsored by the Workers' Compensation Defense Institute, this unique program offers presentations on the workers' compensation laws of the states of North Carolina, Mississippi, Georgia, Tennessee, South Carolina, Alabama, Florida, Texas, Virginia, Louisiana, and Kentucky. Handouts for these sessions will include flash drive copies of the laws of the various jurisdictions. Regulators from each of these jurisdictions will be present to discuss each state's laws and regulations.

Medicare Secondary Payer Act and Supplemental Security Income/Medicaid:

This year's conference will feature an all-day breakout on the Medicare Secondary Payer Act and related subjects. One of the most difficult areas to deal with in handling workers' compensation and general liability matters in the current environment is understanding and dealing with the serious pitfalls that this expanding law presents. This comprehensive breakout will seek to clarify what has become an extremely complicated process, creating enormous issues for the workers' compensation industry, soon to further expand into the general liability area.

Industry Keynote Speaker:

The industry keynote speaker this year focuses on medical issues within the workers' compensation industry, the most significant cost driver in the system. Joe Paduda is a nationally recognized expert, speaker, media source and author on managed care in group health and workers' compensation. He has a Master's of Science in Health Management from American University and is the principal in Health Strategy Associates based in Madison, CT. He writes the popular weblog Managed Care Matters attracting more than 1500 unique visitors a day.

Keynote Speaker:

"Switching gears" and following the tradition of past conferences in featuring a keynote speaker that has nothing to do with the oftentimes seriousness of conference discussions, WCI this year features comedian Kathleen Madigan. In her 22 year career, Kathleen Madigan has never been hotter. With her new Showtime special "Gone Madigan" in constant rotation and her DVD-CD topping the Amazon and iTunes charts, Madigan has her entire year booked with over 100 theater gigs across the country. She recently returned from her second Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff's USO Tour in Iraq and Afghanistan. She frequently appears on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno," the "Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson," "The Green Room with Paul Provenza," and "The Joy Behar Show in New York." She has won the American Comedy Award for "Best Female Comedian" and remains the only comedian in the history of NBC's "Last Comic Standing" to go unchallenged by any other comedian - meaning no other comedian would say they are funnier.



Entertainment:

Lynyrd Skynyrd is an American rock band best known for popularizing the Southern Rock genre beginning during the 1970s and continuing even today. Originally formed in 1964 in Jacksonville, Florida, the band has risen to worldwide recognition on the basis of its driving live performances and signature tune, "Free Bird." Lynyrd Skynyrd was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2006 and continues to be a cultural icon that appeals to all generations. With a catalogue of over 60 albums and sales beyond \$30 million, this legendary rock band returns with its newest album "God and Guns" due out September 29, 2012 on Loud and Proud/Roadrunner Records.



Jill's Cashbox, otherwise known as JCB, a band from Central Florida that specializes in getting folks on their feet, moving and grooving to the music, is the front band for the Monday night entertainment. Though their original music is country, they cover a ton of entertaining rock and pop songs.

Give Kids the World:

WCI is a non-profit organization with all of its proceeds used to either enhance future conferences or promote other charitable causes. For years, scholarships have been created for children of injured workers who, because of a workplace injury to a parent or guardian, might be prevented from further training or education because of financial reasons. Last year, we "adopted" "Give Kids the World" as the special project in Orlando, Florida we wanted to support. More can be learned about this week-long camp for children with life threatening illnesses by referring to their website www.gktw.org or accessing a special video on the WCI website at www.wci360.com/conference/kids-world. Conference attendees are urged to provide support for this very worthy cause by participating in a service project on Saturday before the conference begins (August 18, 2012). Buses will be leaving from the Marriott Hotel at 7:00 am and returning at noon. Special hotel rates of \$99 for Friday and Saturday nights will be given to those coming to the conference early to participate in this event. Pre-registration is needed and can be accomplished by referring to the WCI website at www.wci360.com/conference/kids-world. We promise you that you can have no greater fulfilling experience. Sponsors for this event are Wells Fargo Insurance Services, The Orlando World Center Marriott, and The Workers' Compensation Institute.

Registration:

Registration for the conference can be accomplished by completing the enclosed registration form and returning it to the Workers' Compensation Institute at P.O. Box 200, Tallahassee, FL, 32302, faxing the completed form to WCI at fax # 850.521.0222, or registering on-line, via the WCI website, www.wci360.com. The physical address of the Institute is: 1709 Hermitage Boulevard, Suite 100, Tallahassee, FL 32308. The cost of registration is \$240.00 if the registration form is received on or before July 31, 2012 and \$275.00 if received thereafter or at the conference site. Registration entitles each participant to the 2012 Workers' Compensation Reference Manual (provided on flash drive), admission to the Monday night reception, briefcase and access to conference materials, a chance to win several major prizes in the exhibit area, and for those participants in designated safety breakouts, access to printed safety materials as noted in the program. Deadline for the refund of registration fee is August 7, 2012. **No refunds will be provided after August 7, 2012.** All refunds must be requested in writing, via email or fax. All who register prior to July 10, 2012 will have their names included in the conference roster distributed to all conference participants and will be included on the WCI website. Registration at the Conference is available on Sunday afternoon, August 19, 2012, at the Marriott. Avoid the lines on Monday morning by registering on Sunday, between 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. **(Please note on the conference registration form that separate registration is required for the 10-Hour General Industry Safety Course, First Aid, CPR & AED, First Aid, CPR & AED - Train the Trainer, Golf Tournament and Advanced Mediation Techniques Breakout.)**

Shuttle:

Host Hotel: The shuttle service will be provided between the Marriott and the overflow parking lot on **Monday and Tuesday. Adequate parking is available at the Marriott on Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday.**

Overflow Hotel: The Conference overflow hotel will provide parking and shuttle to its guests Sunday through Wednesday. See page 86 for details on overflow parking. **Transportation will be provided for those who need assistance.**

Golf Tournament:

The annual golf tournament will be held this year on Sunday, August 19, 2012 with an **8:00 a.m.** shotgun start. The tournament will be at Hawks Landing Golf Club, conveniently located at the Orlando World Center Marriott. The field is limited to the first 100 players. The cost is \$165.00 per person. Entry fees include: Golf cart, green fees, range balls, lunch, and a chance to win prizes. Arrive early to purchase mulligans and raffle tickets, and receive "golfer goodies." Refreshments will be available on the course. Lunch and an awards presentation will be held in the Florida Ballrooms (located in the North Tower) Harbor Beach and Marco Island meeting rooms following play. Contact Shirley at (850) 425-8156 for information. To register for the golf tournament, complete the enclosed registration form and return it as provided or register online at www.wci360.com/conference/golf. For the last several years, there has been a waiting list for participation in the golf tournament. Accordingly, you are encouraged to register as early as possible. Late registration will be from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. at the Cart Staging Area, at the golf course, if space is available. See page 9 for information on becoming a sponsor for this event.

Hotel Accommodations:

The host hotel is The Orlando World Center Marriott, 8701 World Center Drive, Orlando, FL 32821. Room rate is \$166.00 single/double. Cancellation policies apply. Reservations must be made via website at www.wci360.com/conference/hotels or call (800) 621-0638 and ask to be transferred to Passkey reservations.

For those desirous of having special meetings or functions in conjunction with the annual conference and would like to be recognized in conference handouts as having your meeting or function at the conference, contact Kathy Shelton at (850) 425-8116; or email kathy@wci360.com. Unless otherwise advised by your group, meetings and functions will be posted on the Auxiliary Meetings List and television monitors throughout the host hotel. NOTE: Adequate parking at host hotel for all Conference attendees on Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday. Shuttle from Marriott to overflow available only on Monday & Tuesday. See page 86 for shuttle schedule.



Overflow Hotel Accommodations:

In order to ensure that attendees are properly accommodated, the conference has reserved hotel space at the Caribe Royale (8101 World Center Drive, Orlando, FL 32821), one block from the Orlando World Center Marriott, the conference host hotel. Special rates of \$130.00 queen/double, \$130 standard king, \$150 king deluxe, \$255 Villas, and \$330 Executive have been established for conference attendees. For reservations, call toll free (800) 823-8300, (407) 238-8000, or make your reservations on-line by clicking on the Caribe Royale link on WCI's website at www.wci360.com/conference/hotels. The cut-off for reservations is July 26; check-in is 3:00 p.m., check-out is 11:00 a.m. Cancellation policies apply.

Transportation from the overflow hotel to the Marriott conference hotel will be provided for your convenience. Boarding for shuttle to the Marriott begins Sunday, August 19 at 12:00 noon.



Parking:

Orlando World Center Marriott valet parking is available at the main entrance of the hotel for hotel guests. There is a daily fee. Self-parking is available on the property of the hotel to hotel guests for no fee.

Complimentary self-parking is also provided at the overflow hotel for hotel guests, with complimentary shuttle service to the Orlando World Center Marriott, beginning Monday, August 20. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR OFFSITE PARKING. TRANSPORTATION TO THE CONFERENCE FACILITIES FROM OFFSITE PARKING RUNS CONTINUOUSLY ON MONDAY, AUGUST 20 AND TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, AND WILL BE PROVIDED TO ATTENDEES AT NO CHARGE.

THERE IS ADEQUATE PARKING AT THE MARRIOTT ON SUNDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY. REFER TO THE ENCLOSED MAP AND BUS SCHEDULE ON PAGE 86.

Accommodations for Special Needs:

The Orlando World Center Marriott and the overflow hotel represent and warrant that, as a place of "public accommodation," they are in compliance to the extent applicable with the provisions of Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Hotel facilities, including meeting space, restrooms, dining areas, other common areas and sufficient guest rooms shall be reasonably accessible and usable by persons with special needs. If you require special accommodations for activities related to your hotel stay, please consult with hotel staff. If you require accommodations to participate fully in activities of the conference, please indicate your special needs in the space provided on the registration form or contact WCI. We will make any reasonable accommodation possible.

WCI Website:

The newest addition to WCI is the greatly expanded website www.wci360.com. Designed by and specifically for the many stakeholders in the workers' compensation and safety industries, this interactive website is designed to provide a "one-stop" source of information and breaking news of interest to all. Advertising opportunities are available as well as the ability to create a dialogue with others on issues of common concern. Resources available on the website include the statutes and rules of every state's workers' compensation laws, individual state's regulatory contact information, and other valuable data for those professionals having a need for in-depth information related to workers' compensation and workplace safety. Website general editor Joan Collier, a nationally known commentator on workers' compensation, can be reached at joancollier@comcast.net. For advertising opportunities, contact Cathy Bowman at cathy@wci360.com or refer to the website at www.wci360.com and click on About Us/Advertise With Us.

National Workers' Compensation Judiciary College:

The National Workers' Compensation Judiciary College is held in conjunction with the Conference. The College is sponsored by the National Association of Workers' Compensation Judiciary, Inc. (NAWCJ) and is designed to provide educational opportunities for judges that preside over workers' compensation matters. The college focuses on issues that are unique to the field of workers' compensation and includes judges both at the trial and appellate levels. Consult your program for further details related to the Judiciary College. The Association's website is www.nawcj.org. Visit the site to become a member or associate member, review newsletters and register for the College. This is the only College in the Nation that is created exclusively for workers' compensation adjudicators.

Hold the Dates for 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016:

The dates for our future conferences are August 18-21, 2013, August 17-20, 2014, August 23-26, 2015, and August 21-24, 2016. Please mark these dates on your calendar. As always, there will be a limited number of sleeping rooms available at the host hotel and we encourage you to make your reservations at the close of this year's conference. **Make hotel reservations for the 2013 conference in advance electronically at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/WCI2013>.**

For More Information:

Visit our website at www.wci360.com. If additional information is needed about any aspect of the conference, please contact the Workers' Compensation Institute (WCI) at (850) 425-8156, email Shirley Kendall at shirley@wci360.com, or mail your inquiry to P.O. Box 200, Tallahassee, FL 32302-0200, or physical address 1709 Hermitage Boulevard, Suite 100, Tallahassee, FL 32308, FAX (850) 521-0222.

Many new and exciting things are occurring in workers' compensation and safety almost on a daily basis. We look forward to sharing these events with you at this year's educational conference.

James N. McConnaughay, General Chairman