The Fourth Annual

October 5-6, 2017

OKLAHOMA

 WORKERS’ COMPENSATION

Educational Conference



 Embassy Suites Norman Hotel & Conference Center

 2501 Conference Drive Norman, OK 73069

Co-Sponsored by International Workers’ Compensation Foundation (IWCF)

 **OKLAHOMA WORKERS’ COMPENSATION COMMISSION**

Educational Conference

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**Welcome**

Conference Attendees,

Thank you for attending the 2017 Fourth Annual Oklahoma Workers’ Compensation Educational Conference.

We hope this conference will provide an opportunity for up-to-date education, and for workers’ compensation leaders to network with our stakeholders and state officials.

Our presenters will address the current status of the Commission, challenges facing the Commission and any changes since the implementation of the new system.

The Oklahoma Workers’ Compensation Commission strives to assist truly injured workers, their families, and their employers by ensuring they receive needed treatment, are able to return to work as quickly as possible, and receive statutory benefits in a prompt and fair manner. We also regulate employers who seek to self-insure and enforce compliance of all entities required to secure compensation coverage.

I hope you will find the information presented over the next two days to be both helpful and inspiring as we move forward together to accomplish great things for the State of Oklahoma.

Sincerely,

Mark Liotta
Chairman

 **OKLAHOMA WORKERS’ COMPENSATION COMMISSION**

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**Chairman Mark Liotta most recently served as the Chief Deputy to the Tulsa Board of County Commissioners. He was appointed as a Commissioner to the Oklahoma Workers’ Compensation Commission effective May 27, 2015. He served seven years as an infantry officer in Oklahoma’s 45th Infantry Brigade as a Platoon Leader, earning two Oklahoma Commendation medals. From 1996 to 2006, Mark served in the Oklahoma House of Representatives where he held six different leadership positions, including Chairman of the Republican Caucus and Presiding Officer of the House Floor. He also served as Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government and Transportation where he was responsible for 20 state agency budgets. Commissioner Liotta graduated from Southern Nazarene University with a Bachelor of Science.**

**Governor Mary Fallin was elected Oklahoma’s first woman governor in 2010. She was re-elected in 2014 to her second term, carrying 71 out of 77 Oklahoma counties. Prior to serving as governor, Fallin represented the people of Oklahoma in a number of state and federal positions. She served two terms as a state representative before becoming Oklahoma’s first Republican and first woman lieutenant governor in 1995. After serving as lieutenant governor for 12 years, Fallin served two terms in the U.S. House of Representatives from 2007 to 2011. The governor is a graduate of Oklahoma State University. She is married to Wade Christensen, Oklahoma’s first First Gentleman. The couple has six children between them.**





**Commissioner Jordan Russell is an attorney who joined the Commission after serving three legislative sessions as policy director and counsel to Oklahoma Speaker of the House Jeffrey W. Hickman.  Prior to his time at the State Capitol, Jordan had a successful law practice in the downtown Oklahoma City office of Gungoll, Jackson, Box & Devoll, P.C.  Jordan also previously worked as a legislative assistant to Oklahoma’s U.S. Congressman Frank D. Lucas in his Washington, D.C. office where he worked on issues involving healthcare, labor, social security and disability and ERISA. Jordan was appointed to the Oklahoma Workers’ Compensation Commission by Governor Mary Fallin effective October 4, 2016. Commissioner Russell and his wife Jessica reside in rural Oklahoma County with their two children.**



**Commissioner** **Megan Tilly** **most recently served managing the multicounty grand jury unit of the state attorney general’s office, which is made up of attorneys, investigators and support staff. The grand jury investigates and prosecutes crimes across the state, including public corruption, white collar crime and government. She assisted the workers’ compensation, insurance, and Social Security fraud unit of the attorney’s general’s office in criminal fraud investigations through legal research and counsel. Before working for the state attorney general’s office, Tilly worked as an assistant district attorney in the Ninth District handling all felony drug cases in Payne County and prosecuting all types of felonies in Logan County. Tilly earned her bachelor’s degree from Washington and Lee University in Lexington VA., and her Juris Doctorate from the University of Oklahoma. Tilly was appointed to the Oklahoma Workers’ Compensation Commission by Governor Mary Fallin effective August 28th, 2017.**

**7:00 a.m. Registration and Breakfast –**

University Ballroom

 ***General Session***

Ballroom F – J

**8:10 a.m. Opening Remarks**

*Mark Liotta, WCC Chairman*

**8:30 a.m. Keynote**

*The Honorable Governor Mary Fallin*

**9:00 a.m. World of Workers’ Compensation**

*Carla Townsend, NCCI*

**10:00 a.m.** **Legislative, Judicial, and EDI Update**

 *Mark Liotta, WCC Chairman*

 *Shane Curtain, Chief ALJ*

 *Kim Bailey, WCC Executive Director*

 *Eric Russell, WCC Legal Operations Director*

**11:00 a.m.****Telemedicine**

 *Jill Allen, CEO Consumer Health Connections, L.L.C.*

**12:00 p.m. LUNCH**

***Thursday – October 5, 2017
Morning***

***Thursday – October 5, 2017
Afternoon***

**1:30 p.m. Breakout I – Ballroom F**

**WC 101***Jerry Whorton, CEO Consolidated Benefits Resources
Marilyn Jones, Compensation Specialist Oklahoma County*

*Steven Darr, Director of Risk Management Reasor’s Grocery*

**Breakout II – Ballroom G-J**

**ACA Update**

*Brandon Long, Attorney at Law*

 ***BREAKOUT SESSIONS***

**2:30 p.m. Breakout III – Ballroom F**

**Disputed 101**

*Clark Bushyhead, Attorney at Law*

 *Mitch Maurer, Attorney at Law*

**Breakout IV – Ballroom G-J
OSHA Reporting/Workplace Safety**

*Betsey Kulakowski, OK Safety Council
Lisa Robinson, Our Driving Concern Program Manager*

**4:00 p.m. Breakout V – Ballroom F
Hearing Video** *Mike Egan, ALJ*

**Breakout VI – Ballroom G-J
Medical Evidence Panel***Dr. Jay Cannon, WCC Medical Director
Tara Inhofe, ALJ
Blair McMillin, ALJ*

*Dr. Randall Hendricks, M.D.*

**3:30 p.m. Break and Vendor Visitation**

**5:00 p.m. Reception**

**7:30 a.m. Breakfast**

***Friday – October 6, 2017***

 ***GENERAL SESSION*** Ballroom F-J

**8:00 a.m. Workplace Violence** *Jim McBride, Adjunct Instructor Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security*

**9:00 a.m.Premium Audits**

*Mark Gruber, VP Insurance Operations CompSource
Stan Anderson, Premium Audit & Billing Manager, CompSource*

**10:00 a.m.Break**

**10:05 a.m. Alternatives to Pain Management Panel**

*Dr. C. Shane Hume, D.O.
Terri White, ODMHSAS Commissioner*

*Dr. Blake Christensen, D.O.*

*Dr. James Rhodes II, D.C.*

**11:05 a.m.Ethics**

*Commissioner Ryan Brannan, Texas Commissioner of Worker’s Compensation*

**12:05 p.m.Vendor Awards and Sponsor Recognitions**

**12:15 p.m. Adjournment**

***PRESENTERS***

**Jill Allen, R.N. M.S.** is the Founder and CEO of Consumer Health Connections, LLC. Jill Allen is an accomplished healthcare executive with progressive experience in directing complex operations, developing innovative solutions and leading high performance teams to advance key initiatives. Jill is a registered nurse and holds both a Bachelor of Science in business management and a Master of Science in health service administration. Jill provides exceptional and accessible healthcare services that result in the betterment of her clients’ lives.

**Stan Anderson, CPA** is the premium audit & billing manager for CompSource Mutual Insurance Company. He has been a Certified Public Accountant since 1993, and has been employed in the field of workers compensation and by CompSource for the past 23 years. During this time Stan has worked as a staff CPA, financial reporting manager, premium auditor, premium audit supervisor, and 10 years in the premium audit manager’s position. Stan holds various degrees in business and fine arts as well as a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from Oklahoma State University.

**Kim Bailey, J.D.** was an assistant attorney general, serving as the general counsel for the Oklahoma Workers’ Compensation Commission prior to becoming executive director. She has been with the Commission since February 2014. She began her legal career at McAfee and Taft, specializing in employee benefits and employment law. She is also a business owner of two franchise restaurants since 1996. She obtained her Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Oklahoma and her Bachelor of Science degree in finance and international management from Georgetown University.

**Commissioner Ryan Brannan** is the Commissioner of Workers’ Compensation at the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers’ Compensation. He was appointed in August of 2014 by Governor Rick Perry and re-appointed by Governor Greg Abbott. He is responsible for strategic planning and operation of the workers' compensation system. He has expanded efforts to improve outreach to injured workers and introduced transparency measures, while streamlining operations to reduce costs for employers. He has re-purposed existing resources to increase compliance from carriers and providers to ensure better outcomes for both employers and employees within the system.

Before his appointment as Commissioner of Workers’ Compensation, Mr. Brannan served as a policy advisor to Governor Rick Perry, where he provided strategic and operational advice to the Governor on a variety of issues related to the budget, planning, and policy of the State. Prior to his service at the Governor’s Office, Mr. Brannan spent several years as a policy analyst where he received recognition and publication in at least 16 periodicals, including the *Wall Street Journal*, *Texas Lawyer*, the *Dallas Morning News*, the *Houston Chronicle*, and the *Austin-American Statesman*.

Mr. Brannan has extensive experience both as a licensed attorney and as a business owner. He has represented clients on insurance matters in private practice and served as the Director of a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

He is a current member of the Insurance Law and the Workers Compensation sections of the State Bar of Texas.  Mr. Brannan serves on the board of the Texas Workers’ Compensation Self-Insured Guaranty Association, vice-president and executive committee member of Southern Association of Workers’ Compensation Administrators, and is an advisory committee member of the Workers’ Compensation Research Institute. He received a B.A. and M.B.A. from Southern Methodist University and a law degree from the University of Oklahoma. He currently lives in Austin with his wife and two daughters and is active in the Austin Baptist Church.

***PRESENTERS***

**Clark P. Bushyhead, J.D.** joined McGivern & Gilliard in November of 2012. Mr. Bushyhead received his Bachelor of Science in political science from Oklahoma State University. He also received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Tulsa - College of Law in 2010 and is admitted to practice in the State of Oklahoma. While in law school, Mr. Bushyhead served as an articles editor for the Energy Law Journal and was also employed as a legal intern at the Cherokee Nation Attorney General's office where he handled various aspects of litigation related to Native American law and indigenous rights. Following his admission to the Oklahoma Bar, he worked as a solo practitioner dealing primarily in the fields of business transactions, corporate formations, labor and employment law, and estate planning. Mr. Bushyhead now handles various aspects of Workers' Compensation litigation for the firm.

**Jay Cannon, M.D.** serves as medical director of the Workers’ Compensation Commission, graduated from the University of Oklahoma - College of Medicine in 1970 and completed residency in general surgery at the OU Health Sciences Center in 1975. He served on the faculty in general surgery for nine years before going into private practice. While on the faculty he served as interim chief of staff at the Oklahoma City Veterans Administration Hospital, chair of the board of the University Hospital and medical director of the University Hospital. Dr. Cannon practiced general surgery in Oklahoma City for forty years with an interest in endocrine surgery. He spent the last six years prior to becoming medical director of the Commission as the chief of staff of Integris Baptist Medical Center.

**Blake Christensen, D.O.** is a board certified, fellowship trained physician specializing in interventional pain management with a focus on interventional techniques and medical management of complex pain syndromes. Blake is a fifth generation Oklahoman from the Deer Creek/Edmond area. Blake graduated with his undergraduate degree from the University of Oklahoma and graduated with his medical degree from the Oklahoma State University – College of Osteopathic Medicine. Blake completed his fellowship with the John H. Stroger Hospital of Cook County an affiliate of Rush Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. Blake is a member of the American Medical Association, American Osteopathic Association, and many other medical societies.

**Judge T. Shane Curtin** is the chief administrative law judge of the Workers’ Compensation Commission. Prior to becoming an ALJ, Judge Curtin spent 23 years in private practice specializing in workers’ compensation defense. Judge Curtin obtained his Juris Doctorate from the University of Oklahoma in 1991. Judge Curtin earned his undergraduate degree in human resource management from University of Central Oklahoma in 1988.

**Steven P. Darr** is the Director of Risk Management for Reasor’s, an Oklahoma-based retail grocery chain operating since 1963. Reasors currently employs nearly 3,000 people in Oklahoma. As a native of Tulsa, he attended Tulsa Jr. College and completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Tulsa in 1979. He then returned in 1988, acquiring his M.A. in industrial/organizational psychology. Prior to joining the family at Reasors in 1992, he was 1st incumbent in the role of human resources/safety director at Farm Fresh, a co-op grocery chain here in Oklahoma. Today, Steven has been a key part in the growth of Reasors since his joining the company. His objective to initiate an HR department has assisted the growth from six stores to now 18 stores. He enjoys live music, record collecting, fishing, and domestic travel. Steven and his wife, Deborah have two children.

***PRESENTERS***

**Judge Michael T. Egan** is an administrative law judge of the Oklahoma Workers’ Compensation Commission. He graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1980 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism and from Oklahoma City University in 1984 with a Juris Doctorate. He is a former managing attorney of the Oklahoma State Insurance Fund. Judge Egan is a member of the Oklahoma Bar Association and the Oklahoma Bar Association Workers’ Compensation Section.

**Mark Gruber** serves as the vice president of insurance operations at CompSource Mutual Insurance Company, the leading provider of workers’ compensation insurance in Oklahoma, and holds more than 20 years of industry experience. His exceptional leadership and industry knowledge have been vital in leading his division to achieving the highest premium in the company’s 81 year history. Throughout his time in the industry, he has held executive leadership positions at several other successful organizations, including American International Group (AIG), Great American Insurance Companies, and First Comp Insurance Company. Mark has a proven track record of success in developing highly effective teams, increasing revenue, creating strong business relationships, and leading companies through times of growth and change.

**Randall L. Hendricks, M.D.** served as a clinical assistant instructor in the Division of Orthopedic Surgery at Baylor College of Medicine from 1985-86. He is currently a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery and Rehabilitation at the University of Oklahoma - College of Medicine, Tulsa Campus. Dr. Hendricks has made several presentations on topics related to spinal disorders and has been published in the Journal of Spine. Dr. Hendricks graduated from the University of Kansas - College of Health Sciences School of Medicine in 1980 and graduated with his undergraduate degree from Emporia State University in 1976. Dr. Hendricks and his family live in Tulsa. Dr. Hendricks volunteers as the team physician for area high schools.

**C. Shane Hume, D.O.** is a board-certified, fellowship-trained orthopedic spine surgeon specializing in adult cervical, thoracic, and lumbar spinal disorders. His philosophy is to use a multi-disciplinary approach to treat spinal conditions. Dr. C. Shane Hume is an alumni of Duncan Senior High School graduating in May 1990. Dr. Hume graduated with his undergraduate degree in pre-pharmacy and his Doctorate of pharmacy from the University of Oklahoma and graduated medical school from Oklahoma State University – College of Osteopathic Medicine in May of 2003. Dr. Hume completed an internship with St. Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City, completed residency with Integris Southwest Medical Center and with St. Anthony Hospital. Dr. Hume completed a fellowship with the Texas Back Institute – Orthopedic Spine Surgery in 2010.

Since December of 2015, Dr. C. Shane Hume has been employed by Oklahoma Sports Science & Orthopedics (OSSO). He belongs to many professional organizations such as the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, the American Osteopathic Association, and others.

**Judge Tara A. Inhofe** is an administrative law judge of the Oklahoma Workers’ Compensation Commission. Judge Inhofe graduated from Tulsa University with a Bachelor of Arts in 1988. She attended Tulsa University Law School and obtained her Juris Doctorate in 1991. Judge Inhofe’s primary practice area since graduating from law school has been workers' compensation. She has worked both as a claimants’ attorney and respondents’ attorney. Before being appointed in May 2014, she was as staff counsel for The Hartford.

***PRESENTERS***

**Marilyn Jones** is a workers’ compensation specialist/safety coordinator for Oklahoma County, working there since 1988. As a native of Tulsa, she graduated from Booker T. Washington High School and graduated from Langston University. After graduating college, Marilyn gained insurance knowledge by working for PepsiCo and Marsh & McLennan in Tulsa. Moving to Oklahoma City, she became a claims adjuster working for Continental Insurance. Marilyn and her husband Mike have 3 sons and 4 grandchildren. She enjoys spending time with her family and traveling.

**Betsey Kulakowski** is the training and development manager for the Oklahoma Safety Council. Betsey spent 28 years at the Oklahoma Department of Labor where she served in the OSHA Consultation Division, conducting over 1,000 on-site safety and health consultations in a variety of industries. In 2012, she assumed the role of assistant director for the Public Employees Occupational Safety & Health Division (PEOSH). Betsey transitioned to the Oklahoma Safety Council in September of 2016, bringing her vast experience in training and education to the OSC Team. She holds three professional certification: a CSHO (certified safety & health official) in general industry and a CSHO in construction from TEEX, a certification in industrial hygiene management from Columbia Southern University, and is only one of five people in the State of Oklahoma to have completed the Oklahoma Office of Emergency Management’s Emergency Management Certification Course. Betsey has also served as an instructor at the OSHA National Training Institute, teaching evaluation of Safety & Health Management Systems, and Betsey is currently working on completing her degree in emergency management at Rose State College in Midwest City.

**Brandon Long, J.D. L.L.M** is an experienced AV preeminent-rated employee benefits attorney. He represents regional and national clients with thousands of employees, including large publicly traded corporations and governmental entities. His clients seek his advice for practical, creative solutions to complex problems, as well as his ability to make highly technical concepts understandable to executives, employees and other lawyers. His achievements have earned him inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America (employee benefits/ERISA law) and Oklahoma Super Lawyers. Brandon serves as leader of the firm’s employee benefits and executive compensation group, overseeing one of the Southwest’s largest and most experienced teams of employee benefits lawyers. He also serves on the executive committee of the SouthWest Benefits Association, the region’s premier organization for benefits professionals. Brandon’s practice is focused on matters involving qualified retirements plans, health and welfare plans, executive compensation, and subrogation. Since the passage of the Affordable Care Act, Brandon has counseled clients of all sizes on the interpretation and implementation of key compliance issues and cost-containment strategies. Brandon is a frequent speaker on various employee benefits issues before state, regional, and national audiences. A portion of his practice has been devoted to complex litigation, including ERISA litigation.

**Mitchell C. Maurer, J.D.**  joined McGivern & Gilliard on December 30, 2002. Mr. Maurer graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1985 with a Bachelor of Science in journalism. He worked as a reporter for the *Tulsa World* for ten years. He received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Tulsa in 1995. He began work that same year as an insurance defense lawyer. He has worked almost exclusively in workers' compensation for the past several years. Mr. Maurer is a member of the workers' compensation section of the Oklahoma Bar Association and is admitted to practice in the United States District Court, Northern District.

***PRESENTERS***

**Jim McBride** was in law enforcement for almost 35 years, most of which was with the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, before retiring as a captain in 2008.  He worked various road assignments with the OHP and was also assigned to the bomb squad and the tactical team.  It was as a member of the tactical team that Jim was one of the first responders to the Oklahoma City bombing in April 1995.  Later he spent ten years in the special operations unit, six years as the troop commander.  He also served 26 years as a member of the Oklahoma Army National Guard retiring as a lieutenant colonel. Jim now serves as an adjunct instructor for the Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security for Southern Nazarene University, and for FEMA’s Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD.

 **Judge P. Blair McMillin** is an administrative law judge of the Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Commission. She received her bachelor’s degree in journalism and public relations from Oklahoma State University with honors. She graduated from Oklahoma City University School of Law, cum laude. Judge McMillin has been practicing law since 2006. For the past six years, her experience has been focused on workers’ compensation, both in general litigation and in claimants’ practice. Judge McMillin is a member of the Oklahoma Trial Lawyers Association, Oklahoma County Bar Association, and Workers’ Compensation Section. Her professional licenses include the Oklahoma State Bar, the United States District Court, Western District of Oklahoma, the Supreme Court and all other Courts of the Chickasaw Nation.

**James Rhodes, D.C.** is a Chiropractor, practicing in Davis, Oklahoma since 1998. Prior to 1998, he practiced with his father in Tulsa from 1993 to 1998. James attended the University of Oklahoma and graduated from the Cleveland Chiropractic College - Kansas City. James has served on the Oklahoma Chiropractic Association board and is involved in the Davis Chamber of Commerce and Davis Kiwanis Club. James was appointed by Speaker Charles McCall to serve on the Oklahoma Workers’ Compensation Physician’s Advisory Committee.

**Lisa Robinson, CFLE**, is a senior program manager for the National Safety Council's Employer Traffic Safety Programs. Lisa works with employers to support traffic safety within their safety culture, by increasing employer’s resources and knowledge on driver behavior, distracted driving, drowsy driving, impaired driving, and other traffic safety concerns. She works with employers on implementing employer policies to decrease their liability. Lisa received her B.S. degree from Oklahoma State University and holds the designation of certified family life educator from the National Council on Family Relations. She has worked diligently to educate employers about the roadway as an extension of the workplace.

**Eric Russell, J.D.** is the legal operations director for the Workers' Compensation Commission.  He graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 2007. He received his Juris Doctorate from Oklahoma City University School of Law in 2010. He is a member of the Oklahoma Bar Association. Mr. Russell leads operations for the counselor division which handles several hundred calls and visitors each month. He frequently represents the Commission as a public speaker to inform the public about the new system.

***PRESENTERS***

**Carla Townsend,** serves as the state relations executive for the National Council on Compensation Insurance (NCCI). As NCCI’s Midwest state relations executive, Carla Townsend is responsible for NCCI's regulatory and legislative affairs, including rate/loss cost filings, legislative pricings, rule and form filings, appeals mechanisms, and residual market issues for the territories of Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. Prior to joining NCCI in 2015, and for 19 years, Townsend worked at The Travelers Insurance Company where she held various positions dedicated to operations and underwriting management with the workers’ compensation insurance residual market division. Townsend received a B.A. in psychology from the University of Missouri.

**Terri L. White, MSW** currently serves as the commissioner for the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. She is a passionate advocate for individuals experiencing mental illness and addiction. Because of her leadership, ODMHSAS has become nationally known for its children’s behavioral health services; community-based treatment programs, technological innovations such as “telepsychiatry”, and the integration of behavioral health care into primary healthcare settings. White was the first woman to be appointed Oklahoma Secretary of Health, serving in that capacity for then Governor Brad Henry from 2009 to 2011. She has been recognized by The Journal Record newspaper as one of Oklahoma’s top “Achievers Under 40” and is a three-time honoree of The Journal Record's “50 Women Making a Difference.” In 2014, White received the “Kate Barnard Award” from the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women, an award created to honor women who have made a difference in Oklahoma through public service. In 2017, the University of Oklahoma College of Arts and Sciences awarded her its Distinguished Alumnus honor; in 2011, she was inducted into OU’s Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work Hall of Fame. She also is volunteer faculty with the University’s School of Medicine and a Henry Toll Fellow with the Council of State Governments. White received both her Master of social work and Bachelor of Arts in social work from the University of Oklahoma.

**Jerry Whorton** is the chief executive officer of Consolidated Benefits Resources, an Oklahoma third party administrator for workers’ compensation programs. CBR has worked for Oklahoma employers since 1968. He is a native of Oklahoma City and a graduated from Mt. St. Mary’s High School in Oklahoma City and St. Meinrad College in Indiana. After graduating from college, Jerry gained business, insurance, and financial experience by working in the private sector for several years. He spent three years as an assistant to the Oklahoma State Treasurer and three years as director of insurance at the Workers’ Compensation Court. In 1992 he left the Court to become a partner in Oklahoma’s oldest independently owned third party administration company. Currently, Consolidated Benefits Resources, provides workers’ compensation claims management programs to over 1,500 Oklahoma employers. Approximately 250,000+ workers in Oklahoma have been entrusted to the care of CBR’s staff. Jerry and his wife, Gloria, have four children.

**2017 Educational Conference Learning Objectives Oklahoma Workers’ Compensation Commission**

**World of Workers’ Compensation:** This presentation will look at the data gathered by NCCI, analyze industry trends, offer insight into current legislative and regulatory trends, and deliver a comparison and contrast of different states and the industry.

**Legislative, Judicial, and EDI Update:** Members of the Oklahoma Workers’ Compensation Commission will give updates about Oklahoma legislation, judicial news, and an update on the transition to Electronic Data Interchange (EDI).

**Telemedicine:** With today’s health care delivery challenges, telemedicine is one of the ways to address these challenges. While telemedicine has been around for years, it is very new in the workers’ compensation arena. This presentation will talk about the value telemedicine provides in workers’ compensation from costs, time (for employers and employee), and with compensability issues.

**WC 101:** This presentation will cover the basics of workers’ compensation and provide the following information: overview of where to find forms, law, fee schedule, and other tools on the Commission website, best practices for helping an injured worker from a TPA’s perspective, how Oklahoma County handles an injury start-to-finish, and how Reasor’s facilitates care for the injured worker.

**Affordable Care Act Update:** As federal health care mandates evolve, Workers’ Compensation professionals will see many changes in the industry. This presentation goes over federal health care laws and what might be in future bills attempting to alter the Affordable Care Act.

**Disputed 101:** This presentation will cover the basics of disputed claims and will cover from the onset of an accident and the process to document it, disputing a claim, the discovery process, and the process of developing a defense.

**OSHA/ Work Place Safety:** OSHA and work place safetypolicies, and requirements are extremely important and constantly changing. This presentation will touch on updates in the record keeping process that came out this year. Additionally, there will be a second presentation on transportation safety being key to work place safety and how to reduce risk.

**Hearing Video:** Commission ALJs will present a mock hearing video example of workers’ compensation hearings with tips for attorneys practicing before the commission.

**Medical Evidence Panel:** A panel of medical evidence experts will discuss the presentation of evidence in trials and the dos and don’ts for medical evidence required.

**Work Place Violence:** The Oklahoma Office of Homeland Security will educate attendees on handling active shooter events in their workplace. The presentation covers what is a secure work place, who commits workplace violence, the five stages of a shooter, what is the role of management, and are you ready?

**Premium Audits:** This presentation will educate attendees on what are premium audits, the impacts of audits on policy members, remuneration, the purposes of a premium audit, and walk through of the audit process.

**Alternatives to Pain Management Panel:** With the United States in an opioid crisis, alternatives to using opioids to treat pain are in high demand. This panel will discuss the impact of addiction, opioid abuse, and the medical treatment alternatives and practices to address these issues.

**Ethics:** This presentation will define “ethics” in a context applicable to the various industry professionals involved in workers’ compensation and discuss guidelines and requirements for making ethical decisions. The presenter will compare official duties of those participating in the Oklahoma workers’ compensation system to the duties of those in our neighboring state of Texas.

*The following hours have been approved for attendance at the conference:*

Certified Case Manager – CCM: 8.00 Hours;

Certified Rehabilitation Counselors – CRC: 9 general hours, 1 ethics hour;

Certified Disability Management Specialists – CDMS: 10 hours;

Attorney CLE: 11 general hours, 1 ethics hour;

OK Insurance Department: 8 general hours, 1 legislative update hour, and 1 ethics hour;

HR Certification Institute – HRCI: 10 general hours.

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