

Millennium Seminars

The Complete One Day New Jersey Workers' Compensation Seminar

Morning Session:

7:45 – 8:30 a.m. Registration, Introduction and Networking

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. *Case Update and Practice Tips*

Dan Robinson, Esq., Capehart Scatchard

- Comp judge orders payment of medical marijuana costs in motion for medical benefits
- Master the basic rules on IMEs in New Jersey
- *Diaz v. National Retail*: why the intoxication defense is so weak in New Jersey
- Lease terms render employer liable in new parking lot case
- Learn about the Director's October 21, 2016 memo on motions for med and temp

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. *Mastering the Key Principles and Strategies for Permanency Claims and Section 40 Liens*

Lora V. Northen, Esq., Capehart Scatchard

- How can a claimant receive permanency benefits but return to work doing the same job with only a short period of lost time?
- What strategies can employers utilize to persuade judges on permanency issues?
- What should employers look for in retaining experts on causation and permanency issues?
- How do comp liens work and what you need to know about Section 40 lien rights
- How to respond when the plaintiff's lawyer suggests you compromise your lien?

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. *Morning Break and Network with Vendors*

10:15 – 11:10 a.m. *How Companies Are Managing Challenges to Their Comp Programs*

Vernelle Carson, Sr. Staff Rep Workers' Comp, United Airlines

Regina Lamptey, Regional Risk Manager Workers' Comp, ABM Industries

Jack Neyer, Senior Manager Workers' Comp, Verizon

Moderator: John H. Geaney, Esq., Capehart Scatchard

- Learn about strategies employers can use to reduce comp costs
- Getting the most out of managed care and repricing programs
- How each company is dealing with unique challenges in workers' comp
- Early claims intervention and development of a team approach
- Using techniques like settlement days to close files

11:10 – 12:00 Noon *Causation and Treatment of Spine Claims in Workers' Comp*

Dr. Ravi K. Ponnappan, MD, Jersey Spine Associates

- Why the past medical history is so important for causation in spine cases
- Understanding the mechanism of injury in relation to diagnosis/causation
- Pros and cons of injections and physical therapy
- When should fusion surgery be done and when it will not be effective

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- How accurate are MRIs and are they often over-read by radiologists?
- When are referrals to pain management necessary following surgery?

12:10 – Noon *Buffet Lunch Included (network with speakers and visit sponsor booths)*

Afternoon Session:

1:00 – 1:15 p.m. *Comp Jeopardy – Three Seminar Attendees Test Their Comp Knowledge*
John H. Geaney, Esq. Moderates as Alex Trebek

1:15 – 2:15 *The Evolving World of Claims Handling: Trends and Best Practices: A Panel Discussion*

Megan Bartelle, Claims Examiner, Sedgwick Claims Management Services

Debbe Dempster, Branch Manager, Gallagher Bassett Services, Inc.

Marita Tortorelli, Assistant Vice President, PMA Companies

Moderator: Lora V. Northen, Esq., Capehart Scatchard

- How has workers' comp claims handling changed over the past 20 years?
- What new tools and resources will make a difference for employers in coming years?
- Is there anything to be done about escalating medical costs in New Jersey?
- Learn about best practices that make a difference in reducing workers' comp costs
- When should adjusters use surveillance and when should surveillance tapes be given to treating and evaluating physicians?
- How much client/insured involvement is optimal in workers' comp defense?

2:15 – 2:30 p.m. *Afternoon Break*

2:30 – 3:15 p.m. *Problem Issues in Workers' Comp and How To Solve Them*

John H. Geaney, Esq., Capehart Scatchard

- Effectively handling occupational disease claims: orthopedic, pulmonary, and stress
- When can you terminate temp benefits under *Cunningham* and *Katzenstein*
- Understanding whether you have enough to prove fraud
- Audience Participation: Is it fraud or is it exaggeration?
- Knowing the difference between horseplay, minor/major deviation, and abandonment of employment

3:15 – 4:00 p.m. *Terminating Workers' On Workers' Comp While Avoiding A Civil Suit*

Carmen Saginario, Esq., Chairman, Labor Department, Capehart Scatchard

John H. Geaney, Esq., Moderator

- Is your comp claim a petri dish for an ADA or FMLA law suit?
- Work through scenarios on workers' comp, ADA and FMLA: Audience Participation
- Learn about the new EEOC guidance on leaves of absence
- Explore possible reasonable accommodations in connection with workers' comp
- What do you need to safely terminate an employee with a serious comp claim?

4:00 p.m. Program Concludes