

SEMINAR OVERVIEW

Morning Session:

7:45 - 8:30 a.m. *Registration, Introduction and Networking
(Continental Breakfast Provided)*

8:30 - 9:30 a.m. *Fundamentals of NJ Workers' Comp, Key
Recent Decisions, and Tips on Winning Cases*

John H. Geaney, Esq., Capehart Scatchard

- ◆ Volunteer firefighter must prove actual wage loss to receive temp benefits
- ◆ Key decision on due process in workers' comp with reversal of comp judge
- ◆ Police officer working second job cannot sue employer civilly for negligence
- ◆ Is picking up a paycheck on your day off considered working?
- ◆ A checklist of strategies employers need to win cases in New Jersey
- ◆ Why choosing the right medical expert can make all the difference

9:30 – 10:15 a.m. *The Critical Role in Workers' Comp of
Occupational Physicians, Physical Therapists
and Functional Capacity Examinations*

Dr. Cynthia Vona, Pansophy Medical Consultants Andrew Lotsis, Twin Boro Physical Therapy Monica Lynch, Kinematic Consultants

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

- ◆ What are the expectations employers have for their occupational physicians?
- ◆ When should PT be recommended and for how long?
- ◆ What information do the occupational physician and therapist need to do their jobs?
- ◆ When should the employer order an FCE in workers' compensation?
- ◆ How much communication is needed among physicians, therapists and FCE providers?

10:15 – 10:30 a.m. *Morning Break and Network with Vendors*

10:30 – 11:15 a.m. *Challenging Issues in Workers' Compensation*

Michael L. Bileci, Esq., Capehart Scatchard

- ◆ When can an employer terminate temp after job termination?
- ◆ How did the *Hersh* case change the rules on parking lot accidents?
- ◆ Does it make sense for employers to compromise liens and what information do employers need to make an intelligent decision?
- ◆ What sort of discovery helps employers prevail in workers' compensation?
- ◆ Why is the statute of limitations so powerful in occupational disease claims?

11:15 – 12:15 p.m. *Effectively Treating Knee and Shoulder Cases in
Workers' Compensation*

Dr. Thomas Dwyer, Premier Orthopaedic Associates

- ◆ What kind of past medical history is important for the medical provider and how does the surgeon obtain the necessary information?
- ◆ When should total joint replacement be performed and when is it causally related?
- ◆ When are conservative measures helpful in knee and shoulder injury cases?

- ◆ Are MRIs often over-read and what quality of MRI does the surgeon need?
- ◆ Is there validity to altered gait and compensatory loss claims?

12:15 - 1:00 p.m. *Buffet Lunch Included (network with the
speakers and visit the sponsor booths)*

Afternoon Session:

1:00 – 1:10 p.m. *Audience Quiz -- Workers' Comp Trivia*

John H. Geaney, Esq., Capehart Scatchard

- ◆ Don't miss this fun game of comp trivia
- ◆ Correct answers win prizes, but the questions can be challenging

1:10 - 2:00 p.m. *Complex Issues in Neurosurgical Spine Cases*

Dr. William Mitchell, Neurosurgical & Spinal Specialists

- ◆ What does medical literature say about back and neck injuries one year post injury?
- ◆ When should an MRI be ordered in a spine injury case?
- ◆ How does the surgeon decide among one-level fusion or multiple-level fusion surgery?
- ◆ What analysis is needed to decide whether the spine condition is causally related?
- ◆ When should opiates be prescribed post-surgery and for what period of time?

2:00 – 2:15 p.m. *Afternoon Break and Networking*

2:15 – 3:10 p.m. *The Crossover from Workers' Comp to Labor
Law: Learn from an Expert*

Carmen Saginario Jr., Esq., Capehart Scatchard

- ◆ Understanding the complex federal/state law considerations in medical marijuana
- ◆ How long does an employer have to hold open a job under *Echeverria v. Astrazeneca*?
- ◆ At what point do you need to seek labor advice in a workers' comp claim?
- ◆ What can employers do to make reasonable accommodation to those with disabilities?
- ◆ Why job descriptions are absolutely pivotal in avoiding disability-based discrimination claims.

3:10 – 4:00 p.m. *Panel on Investigating Fraud Claims in
Workers' Compensation*

Cheryl Grzesiuk, PMA Companies Nate Reber, Prime Source Investigations Michael L. Bileci, Esq., Capehart Scatchard Bill Abate, Holman Enterprises, Inc.

Moderator: Christina Adinolfi Shea, Esq., Capehart Scatchard

- ◆ What leads an adjuster to suspect possible fraud?
- ◆ Weighing social media investigation versus field surveillance
- ◆ What do judges consider most effective in proving fraud?
- ◆ Pros and cons: should you send surveillance tapes to treating doctors?
- ◆ How important is it to interview co-workers and managers?

4:00 p.m. **Program Concludes**