

# SEMINAR OVERVIEW

## *Morning Session:*

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

**8:30 - 9:15 a.m.** Key Cases You Need to Know in Workers' Compensation

**John H. Geaney, Esq., Capehart Scatchard**

- ◆ Learn about the leading cases on entitlement to permanent disability benefits
- ◆ Know the key Supreme Court case on parking lot injuries
- ◆ Know the case that employers use to defeat occupational stress claims
- ◆ Understanding the scope and limits of the *Cunningham* case
- ◆ Hear the latest Supreme Court decision affecting emergency volunteers and temp benefits

**9:15 - 10:00 a.m.** Issues Surrounding Light Duty Offers in New Jersey - Panel Discussion

**Maria Iorlano, WC Claims Manager Distribution Centers, Bed Bath & Beyond**

**Doris Dicristina, Senior Vice President, William H. Connolly, LLC**

**Dr. Steven Crawford, IMX Medical Management Services**  
**Nate Reber, Prime Source Investigations**

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

- ◆ The pros and cons of light duty
- ◆ Using surveillance to see if the claimant's restrictions are valid
- ◆ Determining whether there is a medical basis for light duty
- ◆ Making sure an employee is not exceeding light-duty restrictions
- ◆ Changing shifts on light duty and assigning light-duty work to a charity

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

**10:15 - 11:00 a.m.** Starting a Claim On the Right Foot - Panel Discussion

**Caryl Russo, Senior Vice President, Corporate Care, RWJBarnabas Health Corporate Care**

**Rachel Struble, Claim Professional, Travelers Insurance**  
**Edythe Wittmer-Storer, Regional Claims Supervisor, PMA Insurance Company**

**Moderator: Ashley T. Fiore, Esq., Capehart Scatchard**

- ◆ What are the most important steps for the employer/adjuster to take on a new file?
- ◆ When should recorded interviews be done and what information is important?
- ◆ In a contested case, who interviews the witnesses and supervisors?
- ◆ How do you avoid delays in getting claimants prompt medical care?
- ◆ When do you assign nurse case managers and surveillance?

**11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Mock Trial of a Workers' Compensation Case - Panel Discussion

**Hon. Richard E. Hickey (ret.), Capehart Scatchard**  
**Lora V. Northen, Esq., Capehart Scatchard**  
**Stephen Matarazzo, Esq., Petro Cohen Petro Matarazzo**

**Moderator: John W. Pszwaro, Esq., Capehart Scatchard**

- ◆ Learn successful trial techniques in eliciting testimony
- ◆ Watch skillful direct and cross examination of a witness
- ◆ Listen to an expert judge explain how he arrives at his decision
- ◆ Learn how to offer evidence into the record

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

## *Afternoon Session:*

**1:00 - 2:00 p.m.:** Ear, Nose and Throat Exams in Workers' Compensation

**Dr. Stephen F. Freifeld, Otolaryngologist**

- ◆ How is hearing loss calculated under the New Jersey statute?
- ◆ Can dust and mold exposure lead to vocal and nasal problems?
- ◆ How sustained noise exposure must be to cause lasting damage?
- ◆ What is the effect of cigarette smoke on nose and throat issues?
- ◆ What kind of hearing loss is age related and not occupational?

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

**2:15 - 3:00 p.m.:** Pre-hire, Post-accident Drug Testing and Workplace Drug Policies - Panel Discussion

**Ralph R. Smith, 3<sup>rd</sup>, Esq., Capehart Scatchard**  
**Stacey Quagliana Gassman, VP Administration, MONOC**  
**Dr. Ralph Finger, SVP Business Development, CityMD**

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

- ◆ When can an employer do pre-hire drug testing and post-accident testing?
- ◆ What kinds of policies can an employer adopt against the use of illegal drugs?
- ◆ What is the current state of the law on marijuana use?
- ◆ How can you use last-chance agreements effectively?
- ◆ How do you deal with prescription narcotics in the workplace?

**3:00 - 4:00 p.m.:** Medical Issues in Workers' Compensation

**John H. Geaney, Capehart Scatchard**

- ◆ Use of second opinions on treatment issues in workers' compensation
- ◆ Strategies for defending motions for med and temp
- ◆ Controlling referrals in workers' compensation
- ◆ Preparing medical experts for testimony
- ◆ Responding to requests for treatment in reopener cases

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