# The Twenty-Eighth Annual North Carolina Workers' Compensation Educational Conference

### **SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS**

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2023**

12:45	Opening Remarks
	Philip Baddour, Chair, NCIC
	Kids' Chance of North Carolina, Inc.
	Kara Faust, President, Kids' Chance of North Carolina, Inc., Colfax, NC
1.00	Emerging Trends in Minimally Invasive Procedures: Compa

- 1:00 Emerging Trends in Minimally Invasive Procedures: Comparing Recovery
  Time and Return to Work Outcomes with Traditional Spine Surgeries
  T. Brent Chafin, M.D., ECU Health, Ahoskie, NC; Thomas Lamm, Ricci Law Firm,
  Greenville, NC; Lindsay Underwood, Teague Campbell Dennis & Gorham,
  LLP, Raleigh, NC
- 2:00 Full Commission, Deputy Commissioner, and Dispute Resolution Updates
  and Insights
  Tammy Nance, Chief Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; April Gladkin,
  Full Commission Chief Administrative Officer and Lead Counsel, NCIC
  3:00 Break Visit Exhibit Hall
- 3:15 You Be the Judge!: An Interactive Presentation Based on Real Life Fact Patterns

Larry Baker, Willson Jones Carter & Baxley, PA, Charlotte, NC; Cameron Simmons, Cameron Simmons Law, Wilmington, NC; Stephanie Gay, Aegis Administrative Services, Inc., Raleigh, NC

- 4:15 Hand and Upper Extremity Conditions Involving the Peripheral Nerves:
  Diagnosis, Treatment, and Compensability under G.S. § 97-53
  Zhongyu "John" Li, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Orthopedic Surgery & Rehabilitation,
  Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC; Michael Bertics,
  Lennon, Camak & Bertics, PLLC, Raleigh, NC; John Tomei, Teague Campbell Dennis &
  Gorham, LLP, Raleigh, NC
- 5:15 Adjourn / Reception Begins Kids' Chance Silent Auction
- 6:15 Reception Ends

#### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2023**

8:00 Continental Breakfast

Concurrent Break-Out Sessions:

9:00 Break-Out Sessions - Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below
 I. For Efficiency's Sake: Productivity Hacks and Technology Tips for Lawyers and Other Professionals

(Fulfills 1 hour Technology credit for attorneys)
Catherine Sanders Reach, North Carolina Bar Association, Raleigh, NC

II. Yes, I Can... or Can I?: Ethical Considerations for Rehabilitation Professionals in Workers' Compensation Cases

(Fulfills Ethics requirement for CCM and CDMS)
Vicki Hewitt, Rehabilitation Nurse Consultant, NCIC; Jodie Nolf, Nolf Case
Management & Consulting, LLC, Raleigh, NC

- 10:00 **Break Visit Exhibit Hall**
- 10:20 Break-Out Sessions Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below
   I. Survey and Discussion of North Carolina State Bar Ethics Opinions
   About Workers' Compensation Issues

(Fulfills 1 hour Ethics credit for attorneys)
Nichole McLaughlin, North Carolina State Bar, Raleigh, NC; S. Neal Camak, Lennon,
Camak & Bertics, PLLC, Raleigh, NC; Jack Holmes, McAngus Goudelock & Courie, LLC,

**II. Practical Tips from Claims Administration and the Clerk's Office** *Brittany Walton, Director of Claims Administration, NCIC; Emily Baucom, Clerk of the Industrial Commission, NCIC* 

## Wednesday - Friday, October 4-6, 2023 Raleigh Convention Center

- 11:20 **Break-Out Sessions** Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below
  - I. Motions and Agreements before the Executive Secretary's Office: Rules and Practice Tips

Meredith Henderson, Executive Secretary, NCIC; Kimberly Fennell, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Carrie Geddie, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Alexandra Hagerty, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Michael Kelly, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Tony Lucas, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Jessica Parker, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC

II. Helping Claimants from Diverse Backgrounds Navigate the Workers' Compensation System

Jacob Goad, Law Office of Jacob Goad, Durham, NC; Aurora Niebla-Mendoza, Genex Services, LLC, Raleigh, NC; Rudy Calderon, Precision Language Services, Durham, NC

- 12:20 Luncheon (included)
- 1:45 **Break-Out Sessions** Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below
  - I. Look Who's Talking: Ethical Considerations and Best Practices for Communications in Workers' Compensation Cases

(Fulfills 1 hour Ethics credit for attorneys and adjusters)
Richard Harper, The Harper Law Firm, PLLC, Sylva, NC; Brian Groesser, Midkiff,
Munchie & Ross PC, Raleigh, NC; Eileen Townsend, North Carolina Department of
Public Instruction, Raleigh, NC

II. Recipe for a Successful Mediation

(Fulfills 1 Hour CME Credit for Mediators)

Kate Deiter-Maradei, Deiter Mediation, Raleigh, NC; James Young, Miles Mediation & Arbitration, Charlotte, NC; Pete Singh, Fourscore Business Law, Raleigh, NC

- 2:45 **Break Visit Exhibit Hall**
- 3:00 **Break-Out Sessions** Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below
  - I. Getting Lost in Our Own Lives

(Fulfills 1 hour Substance Abuse and Mental Health credit for attorneys) Benjamin Brown, Jr., North Carolina Lawyer Assistance Program Volunteer, Raleigh, NC

II. Can You Hear Me?: A Mock Deputy Commissioner Hearing Plus Practical Tips

Lori Gaines, Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Jesse "Jay" Tillman, Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Anne Harris, Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Elias Admassu, Deputy Commissioner, NCIC

4:00 Adjourn

#### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2023

- 8:00 Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 Pain Management and Rehabilitation of Brain and Head Injuries
  Shilpa Kasuganti, M.D., The Rehab Center, Charlotte, NC; Cathy Pope, North Carolina
  Office of State Human Resources, Raleigh, NC; Kathleen DuBois, CR Legal Team LLP,

Greensboro, NC

- 10:00 Break Visit Exhibit Hall
- 10:30 Case Law Update and JeoParody!

Heather Baker, Teague Campbell Dennis & Gorham, LLP, Raleigh, NC; Vernon Sumwalt, The Sumwalt Group, Charlotte, NC. (With JeoParody special guest: Commissioner Wanda Blanche Taylor, NCIC)

12:30 Adjourn

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