

33<sup>rd</sup> Annual DWC Educational Conference  
Oakland Marriott City Center – March 5 – 6, 2026

Day 1	East Hall	Grand Ballroom A-B-C-D	Junior Ballroom	Grand Ballroom E-F-G-H
9:30 - 12:30 PM	<b>Registration – Grand Ballroom Foyer</b>			
12:30 - 1:00 PM	<b>Welcoming and Opening presentation – East Hall</b> <i>DWC Chief Judge Paige Levy and DIR Director Jennifer Osborn</i>			
1:00 - 2:00 PM	DWC Update  <i>Richardson</i>	Audit Update and Trends for 2026  <i>Fenimore, Howard, Torres, Bajaj &amp; Gunter</i>	Case Law Update I  <i>Levy &amp; Kahn</i>	Unique Aspects of Psychiatric Claims  <i>Kirz, Dombchik</i>
2:15 - 3:15 PM	How Disability Evaluation Unit (DEU) Addresses Some Spinal and Upper Extremity Misconceptions  <i>Hampton, Ali (Oak) &amp; Ha (LA)</i>	Risk Managers' Roundtable: Aligning Incentives with Outcomes in Workers' Compensation  <i>Zachry, Robinson &amp; Novoa</i>	Case Law Update II  <i>Levy &amp; Kahn</i>	Good, Bad, and Ugly of Artificial Intelligence in Health Care and Workers' Compensation <i>Brigham, Castro, Almazan Pew (Oak), &amp; Wilson (LA)</i>

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3:30 - 4:30 PM	Social Media, Surveillance, and Early Intervention: Modern Workers' Compensation Claims Solutions  <i>Zachry &amp; Bartholomew</i>	Stakeholder Collaboration on Return to Work in Workers' Compensation  <i>Spears &amp; Rios</i>	Top Litigation Tips  <i>Gogerman &amp; DeWeese</i>	Apportionment- Discussion of Statutes, Case Law and Tips for Developing Material Evidence  <i>Christine &amp; Marcus</i>
4:30 - 6:00 PM	<b>Reception – No Host Bar</b>			

Day 2	East Hall	Grand Ballroom A-B-C-D	Junior Ballroom	Grand Ballroom E-F-G-H
8:30 - 9:30 AM	State of the Art: AI in Workers' Compensation - National Perspective  <i>Brigham, Almazan, Wen, Tainton, Pew (Oak) &amp; Wilson (LA)</i>	A Blueprint for Claims Excellence (Workers' Compensation Claims Best Practices)  <i>Guibert, Sousa, Jokerst (Oak), Daniels (LA), Taylor (LA) &amp; Brewer (Oak)</i>	Case Law Update I  <i>Levy &amp; Kahn</i>	Rx for the Future: Medical Perspectives on Workers' Comp Challenges  <i>Das &amp; Nguyen</i>

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Day 2	East Hall	Grand Ballroom A-B-C-D	Junior Ballroom	Grand Ballroom E-F-G-H
9:45 - 10:45 AM	Current Research Findings in the California Workers' Compensation System  <i>Baum, Widener-Brightwell (Oak) &amp; Carstensen</i>	Before and After Patterson: Rodriguez - Post Award Medical Care and UR/IMR Matters  <i>Fischer &amp; Fudem</i>	Case Law Update II  <i>Levy &amp; Kahn</i>	Med/Legal Report Writing  <i>Da Silva, Rassp &amp; Feinberg</i>
11:00 – 12:00 PM	The Great California Workers' Compensation Game Show  <i>Baum, Widener-Brightwell (Oak) &amp; Swedlow (LA)</i>	Utilization Review Fundamentals and Upcoming Reforms  <i>Sung &amp; Govindarao</i>	Women In Law and Business: Great Leaders and their Experiences, Inspirational Stories  <i>Levy, Osborne, Asio Booz, Garcia-Brower &amp; Lee</i>	The Impact of Degenerative & Comorbid Conditions in Workers' Compensation Claims  <i>Tang (Oak), Sousa, Patel (LA) &amp; Guibert</i>
12:00 – 1:00 PM	<b>LUNCH</b>			
1:15 – 2:15 PM	The Explosion of Cumulative Trauma Claims – What Is Happening, and Why?  <i>Pollak, Frost &amp; Eaton</i>	Ground Truth in AI: Ensuring Trust, Explainability, and Effective Human-AI Collaboration in Workers' Compensation  <i>Hanson</i>	Professional Conduct and Best Practices Handling Workers' Compensation Cases and Medical-Legal Evaluations  <i>Spitzer &amp; Pandya</i>	Chronic Pain Evaluation and Treatment  <i>Hegwer, Post, Feinberg &amp; Bokarius</i>



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2:30 – 3:30 PM	Fraud in the Workers' Compensation System  <i>Murphy &amp; Marrone</i>	Understanding Claims for Death Benefits  <i>Dehn &amp; Ozeda</i>	Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Labor Codes 3201.5 & 3201.7 What Is It? How Will It Benefit You?  <i>Nobriga, Friedrichsen, Siemers, Shogren-Lies &amp; Guerrero</i>	What's New in the MTUS-ACOEM Guidelines: Updates, Tools, and Practical Insights  <i>Shannon, Besh &amp; Israel</i>