

SEPTEMBER 1-2 | SAN MARCOS  
**2026 TEXAS WORKERS'  
COMPENSATION CONFERENCE**  
NAVIGATING THE PATH:  
FROM BASICS TO MASTERY

### **Day 1: Tuesday, September 1, 2026**

**Special Pre-Conference Session - 11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

Workers' Comp 101  
*Kelly Verootis*

**Registration - 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

**Opening Remarks & Welcome - 12:30 p.m. - 12:40 p.m.**  
*Commissioner Jeff Nelson*

**General Session - 12:40 p.m. - 1:40 p.m.**

Taking Care of Injured Employees (and Your Budget):  
Why the "Nice" Claims Cost Less  
*Melissa Steger & Stuart Colburn*

**Break - 1:40 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Breakout Sessions - 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Preparing WCI Data to Prevent Future Claims  
*John DeLaHunt*

Building Blocks of Ethics  
*Anastasia Settle*

**Break - 3:00 p.m. - 3:20 p.m.**

**Breakout Sessions - 3:20 p.m. - 4:20 p.m.**

Navigating EDI Compliance  
*Martha Luevano*

Provider Fraud Schemes and Trends  
*Gordon Oard*

### **Day 2: Wednesday, September 2, 2026**

**Registration - 8 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.**

**General Session - 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.**

Regulator Roundtable: Key Updates from DWC  
*Commissioner Jeff Nelson, Gerri Thomas,  
Erica De La Cruz & Mary Landrum*

### **Day 2 (Cont'd.)**

**Break - 9:30 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.**

**Breakout Sessions - 9:50 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.**

The Rise of Boutique Pharmaceuticals  
*Julie Black & Courtney Deck*

AMA Guides in Practice: How Rating Outcomes Differ  
Between the 4th and 6th Editions  
*Dr. Mark Melhorn*

**Break - 10:50 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.**

**Breakout Sessions - 11:10 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.**

Reel Ethics: Exploring Behavioral Boundaries  
in Workers' Compensation

*Kara Mace, John Molinar, Dan LaBruyere & Fabiola Flores*

AMA Guides in Practice: How Rating Outcomes Differ  
Between the 4th and 6th Editions *(Repeat)*  
*Dr. Mark Melhorn*

**Lunch - 12:10 p.m. - 1:10 p.m.**

**Dessert with Vendors - 1:10 p.m. - 1:40 p.m.**

**Breakout Sessions - 1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.**

Legislative and Case Law Update  
*Jennifer Hopens*

Navigating EDI Compliance *(Repeat)*  
*Martha Luevano*

**Break - 2:45 p.m. - 3:05 p.m.**

**Breakout Sessions - 3:05 p.m. - 4:05 p.m.**

All About OSHA: Mission, Enforcement,  
Inspection Process, Outreach  
*Monica Camacho*

Top Ten Subrogation Mistakes Workers' Compensation  
Carriers Should Avoid  
*Matthew Greider & Gary Wickert*

**NOTE: This agenda is not final. Sessions may change.**



For more information contact IWCF at:

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