

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.

Elevating Data Quality: How DWC uses EDI to Improve Service
Martha Luevano

Provider Fraud Schemes and Trends
Gordon Oard

Welcome Reception - 4:20 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

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, Dan LaBruyere & Mary Landrum*

Day 2: Wednesday, September 2, 2026

(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 & Mitchell Koers

Elevating Data Quality: How DWC uses EDI to Improve Service *(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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