

State of California Division of Workers' Compensation

The 23rd Annual Educational Conference

Los Angeles Airport Marriott
Oakland Marriott City Center

February 25 - 26, 2016
March 3 - 4, 2016



*In association with the International Workers' Compensation Foundation,
a non-profit corporation dedicated to workers' compensation research and education*

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23rd Annual DWC Educational Conference
 Los Angeles Airport Marriott -- February 25 – 26, 2016

Day 1	Marquis 1-2-3	Marquis 4-5-6	Imperial D-E-F	Meridian
9:30 - 12:30 PM	Registration -- Ballroom Lobby			
12:30 - 1:00 PM	Welcoming/opening presentation – Marquis Ballroom <i>Director Christine Baker & Acting Administrative Director George Parisotto</i>			
1:00 - 2:00 PM	DWC Update <i>Hauscarriague & Hersh</i>	UR/IMR Decisions <i>Nydam & Parisotto</i>	Case Law Update I <i>Levy & Kahn</i>	Rating Boot Camp: Upper Extremities <i>Becker & Knight</i>
2:15 - 3:15 PM	New Benefit Notices <i>Lee & Robbins</i>	WC Medical Fraud <i>Fisher, Glover & Mulhere</i>	Case Law Update II <i>Levy & Kahn</i>	DEU & Almaraz/Guzman <i>Knight</i>
3:30 - 4:30 PM	Trending Topics in the Audit Unit <i>Lee, Miners & Morita</i>	Fee Schedules & Disputes <i>Hersh & Parisotto</i>	Apportionment <i>Correio</i>	Top 10 Litigation Tips: How to Prepare a Case <i>Casey, Pulley & Spitzer</i>
4:30 - 6:00 PM	Reception -- Imperial Ballroom No Host Bar			



23rd Annual DWC Educational Conference
Los Angeles Airport Marriott -- February 25 – 26, 2016

Day 2	Marquis 1-2-3	Marquis 4-5-6	Imperial D-E-F	Meridian
8:30 - 9:30 AM	Trending Topics in the Audit Unit <i>Lee, Miners & Morita</i>	Fee Schedules & Disputes <i>Hersh & Parisotto</i>	Case Law Update I <i>Levy & Kahn</i>	Delayed Recovery Prevention, Communication & Causation – A Clinical WC Perspective <i>Blink, Conlon & Gean</i>
9:45 - 10:45 AM	New Benefit Notices <i>Lee & Robbins</i>	Claims Handling: The North-South Divide <i>Priven & Swedlow</i>	Case Law Update II <i>Levy & Kahn</i>	Rating Boot Camp: Upper Extremities <i>Becker & Knight</i>



23rd Annual DWC Educational Conference
 Los Angeles Airport Marriott -- February 25 – 26, 2016

Day 2	Atlanta/Boston	Chicago/Dallas	Imperial D-E-F	Meridian
11:00 – 12:00 PM	Office of Self-Insurance Program Update <i>Asio-Booz & Robinson</i>	QME Update <i>Hicks, Meister, Pak, & West</i>	The View from the 9th Floor: WCAB Recon Unit <i>Schmitz, Sweeney & Zalewski</i>	Delayed Recovery Prevention, Communication & Causation – A Clinical WC Perspective <i>Blink, Gean & Conlon</i>
12:00 – 1:00 PM	LUNCH – Carrie Nevans Community Service Award Presentation – Marquis Ballroom			
1:15 – 2:15 PM	Model Injury & Illness Prevention Programs <i>Delp, Mayfield, Howard, & Riley</i>	Top 10 Litigation Tips: How to Prepare a Case <i>Casey, Pulley & Spitzer</i>	MPNs & Medical Access <i>Cortes & Hauscarriague</i>	Apportionment <i>Correio</i>
2:30 – 3:30 PM	Where is the Market Headed? <i>Bellusci, Nelson, Mayfield, Shor & Tu</i>	WCIS: Medical & FROI/SROI Data & DIR Research Issues <i>Daba & Gordon</i>	MTUS <i>Cortes, Meister & Singh</i>	UR/IMR Decisions <i>Nydam & Parisotto</i>



23rd Annual DWC Educational Conference

Oakland Marriott City Center – March 3 – 4, 2016

Day 1	Junior Ballroom 1-2-3	Grand Ballroom A-B-C-D	East Hall	Grand Ballroom E-F-G-H
9:30 - 12:30 PM	Registration – Grand Ballroom Foyer			
12:30 - 1:00 PM	Welcoming/opening presentation – East Hall <i>Director Christine Baker & Acting Administrative Director George Parisotto</i>			
1:00 - 2:00 PM	DWC Update <i>Hauscarriague & Hersh</i>	UR & IMR Decisions <i>Nydam & Parisotto</i>	Case Law Update I <i>Levy & Kahn</i>	Rating Boot Camp: Upper Extremities <i>Becker & Knight</i>
2:15 - 3:15 PM	New Benefit Notices <i>Lee & Robbins</i>	WC Medical Fraud <i>Fisher, Glover & Mulhere</i>	Case Law Update II <i>Levy & Kahn</i>	DEU & Almaraz/Guzman <i>Knight</i>
3:30 - 4:30 PM	Trending Topics in the Audit Unit <i>Lee, Miners & Thill</i>	Fee Schedules & Disputes <i>Hersh & Parisotto</i>	Apportionment <i>Correio</i>	Top 10 Litigation Tips: How to Prepare a Case <i>Casey, Lam & Lehmer</i>
4:30 - 6:00 PM	Reception – East Hall No Host Bar			



23rd Annual DWC Educational Conference

Oakland Marriott City Center – March 3 – 4, 2016

Day 2	Grand Ballroom A-B-C-D	Grand Ballroom E-F-G-H	East Hall	Junior Ballroom 1-2-3
8:30 - 9:30 AM	Trending Topics in the Audit Unit <i>Lee, Miners & Thill</i>	Fee Schedules & Disputes <i>Hersh & Parisotto</i>	Case Law Update I <i>Levy & Kahn</i>	Delayed Recovery Prevention, Communication & Causation <i>Blink, Gean & Wiesner</i>
9:45 - 10:45 AM	New Benefit Notices <i>Lee & Robbins</i>	Claims Handling: The North-South Divide <i>Priven & Swedlow</i>	Case Law Update II <i>Levy & Kahn</i>	Rating Boot Camp: Upper Extremities <i>Becker & Knight</i>
11:00 – 12:00 PM	Office of Self-Insurance Program Update <i>Asio-Booz & Robinson</i>	QME Update <i>Hicks, Meister, Pak, & West</i>	The View from the 9th Floor : WCAB Recon Unit <i>Schmitz, Sweeney & Zalewski</i>	Delayed Recovery Prevention, Communication & Causation <i>Blink, Gean & Wiesner</i>
12:00 – 1:00 PM	LUNCH – Carrie Nevans Community Service Award Presentation – West Hall			
1:15 – 2:15 PM	Model Injury & Illness Prevention Programs <i>Dewey, Gleiter, Mayfield & Stock</i>	Top 10 Litigation tips: How to Prepare a Case <i>Casey, Lam & Lehmer</i>	MPNs & Medical Access <i>Cortes & Hauscarriague</i>	Apportionment <i>Correio</i>
2:30 – 3:30 PM	Where is the Market Headed? <i>Bellusci, Hauge, Mayfield, Shor & Tu</i>	WCIS: Medical & FROI/SROI Data & DIR Research Issues <i>Daba & Gordon</i>	MTUS <i>Cortes, Meister & Singh</i>	UR/IMR Decisions <i>Nydam & Parisotto</i>

DWC 23rd Annual Educational Conference

Day 1	February 25, 2016	Los Angeles
	March 3, 2016	Oakland
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Registration	
12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Welcome/General Session	
1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Breakout Sessions (See Day 1 Grid)	
4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Reception - No Host Bar	

Day 2	February 26, 2016	Los Angeles
	March 4, 2016	Oakland
7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Breakout Sessions (See Day 2 Grid)	
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Lunch and Award Presentation	
1:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Breakout Sessions (See Day 2 Grid)	

Continuing Education Unit (CEU) Credits are available at the registration counter

This conference is held in cooperation with the International Workers' Compensation Foundation, Inc. (A non-profit organization)

Division of Workers' Compensation

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Breakout Sessions

Apportionment	An in-depth case law update focusing on apportionment problem areas including overlap, range of medical evidence, pertinent cases, and petitions to reopen.
Claims Handling: The North-South Divide	Hear about a comparative analysis that examines how Southern California claims costs, particularly the Los Angeles basin, differs from the rest of the state and what factors may be associated with these higher costs.
Delayed Recovery Prevention, Communication, and Causation – A Clinical WC Perspective	A panel of physicians associated with the Western Occupational Environmental Medical Association, a group dedicated to providing high quality occupational medicine, will discuss ways to improve outcomes in workers' compensation cases.
DEU & Almaraz/Guzman	This session will discuss the mechanics of permanent disability rating for the upper extremity including range of motion, grip loss, muscle strength, arthroplasty and peripheral nerves. Issues regarding the appropriate use of impairments, including strength impairment and pain add-on will be addressed. This session is excellent to cover the basics of rating, but those more experienced will gain insight of how DEU approaches ratings and also regarding various issues in rating upper extremity impairment.
DWC Update	Attendees will get a broad overview about the division's upcoming regulations, forms, and processes as well as the status of recently adopted rules and regulations, many of which stem from the passage of SB 863.
Fee Schedule & Disputes	This session will discuss the adjustments to various official medical fee schedules to conform to changes in the Medicare payment system. In addition learn how fee schedule disputes are resolved.
Medical Provider Networks (MPN) & Medical Access	This session will go over the changes in MPN's as the result of SB 863 including the addition of MPN issues in order to request an expedited hearing and notice requirements.
Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule (MTUS)	Learn about the latest updates and changes to the Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule including regulation changes and proposed regulation changes. Information will be provided for effective treatment of certain injuries, including duration and extent of treatment.
Model Injury and Illness Prevention Programs	Employers are required to have an IIPP program. This session will discuss the advantages of having an active IIPP program from the perspective of Cal/OSHA and what they look for in a model program and State Fund who has prioritized IIPP for their policyholders.
New Benefit Notices	On January 1, 2016 a new set of benefit notices became effective that improved the quality and clarity of these required notices to injured workers. This session will discuss these new benefit notices including the Spanish versions.
Office of Self-Insurance Program Update	The Office of Self Insurance Programs will provide an update on this program that covers 1 in 4 California workers. OSIP's e-filing system, regulatory update, actuarial reporting requirements, the Self Insurer's Security Fund and the Alternative Security Deposit program will be discussed.

Breakout Sessions

QME Update	Learn more about changes in the QME process, common errors when a request for the panel QME is made, statistical data, and current status of in pro per and represented panel requests.
Rating Boot Camp: Upper Extremities	This session will discuss the mechanics of permanent disability rating for the upper extremity including range of motion, grip loss, muscle strength, arthroplasty and peripheral nerves. Issues regarding the appropriate use of impairments, including strength impairment and pain add-on will be addressed. This session is excellent to cover the basics of rating, but those more experienced will gain insight of how DEU approaches ratings and also regarding various issues in rating upper extremity impairment.
Top Ten Litigation Tips: How to Prepare a Case	This panel of workers' compensation judges and presiding judges will provide their perspectives and tips for effectively preparing a case for hearing.
Trending Topics in the Audit Unit	The AU will provide an in-depth explanation of the audit process and the basics for measuring a claims administrator's timely provision of workers' compensation benefits. In addition, the Audit Unit will address some common question from the industry.
Utilization Review (UR)/ Independent Medical Review (IMR) Decisions	DWC and Maximus Federal Solutions will discuss how parties can file an IMR dispute following a UR denial or modification, the time frames for getting a decision, common mistakes, data and trends from filed case, and the appeal process from an IMR decision.
View from the 9th Floor – WCAB Reconsideration Unit	This always popular session will cover petitions for reconsiderations, sanctions, and other areas of recurrent problems and issues. The WCAB's pending regulations to help implement SB 863 will also be discussed.
Where is the Market Headed?	This session will cover what is happening in the California workers' compensation market from the perspectives of a broker, State Fund, the Department of Insurance, and the WCIRB.
Workers' Compensation Case Law Update I & II	This two-hour session will review the most important case decisions issued in 2015. Some of the cases discussed involve the continuing interpretation and implementation of the SB 863 workers' compensation reforms.
WCIS: Medical & FROI/SROI Data & DIR Search Issues	This session will highlight the new changes in the Workers' Compensation Information System California Medical Version 2.0, discusses FROI/SROI data issues, and the use of WCIS data in research.
Workers' Compensation Medical Fraud	Where we are, where we are going and what you can do to combat it. This session will feature several district attorneys who have successfully prosecuted medical fraud cases and a Department of Insurance Fraud Division representative.

Please mark these dates for the
DWC 24th Annual Educational Conference
 LAX Marriott *February 23 - 24, 2017*
 Oakland Marriott City Center *March 2 - 3, 2017*

Presenters

Lyn Asio-Booz is the Acting Chief of the Office of Self-Insurance Plans. She joined the Office of Self-Insurance Plans in July, 2008 as the Northern California Audit Supervisor. Prior to that, she was an auditor for the DWC's Audit Unit from 2004 through 2008. She also worked for the Uninsured Benefit Trust Fund for 10 years. She received an award for DWC Outstanding Employee of the Year in 1998, and for UEF Employee of the Year in 2000. She studied Molecular Cell Biology at the University of California, Berkeley from 1985 to 1990.

Annalisa J. Becker has been with the State of California, Division of Workers' Compensation for over 31 years. She has been a Permanent Disability evaluator with the Disability Evaluation Unit since 1988 and was appointed to the position of Northern California Area Supervisor in 2004.

David Bellusci graduated from San Francisco State University with a BA and MA degrees. He began with Workers' Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau in 1989 where he is a Senior Vice-President and Chief Actuary. He is a Fellow of the Casualty Actuarial Society and a Member of the American Academy of Actuaries.

Robert Blink is a medical director/consulting physician for a variety of entities including nationwide employers, hospitals, and large provider networks. Dr. Blink is Co-Chair of the Western Occupational and Environmental Medical Association and part of the West Oakland Health Council Planning Committee. He received his MD from the University of Wisconsin.

Colleen Casey has a BA degree from the University California Berkeley and JD from Golden Gate University. Her career in workers' compensation began in 1995 as a Workers' Compensation Appeals Board Commissioner. In 2002 she entered private practice and returned to the state in 2004 as a Workers' Compensation Judge in San Francisco. She was named Barrister of the year in 1989 by the San Francisco Bar Association.

Craig Conlon, MD, PhD graduated from the USC School of Medicine, specializing in occupational medicine, and from the UCLA School of Public Health, specializing in ergonomics. His research concentrates on musculoskeletal disorders associated with computer workstation use. He currently practices occupational medicine and is the Medical Director of Employee Health Services at Kaiser Permanente, Northern California.

Raymond F. Correio is a senior associate with the defense firm of Pearlman, Borska & Wax. Before joining the firm, Ray was a workers' compensation judge assigned to both the Santa Monica and Marina Del Rey district offices for approximately twelve years. He was named defense attorney of the year by the Workers' Compensation Section of the State Bar in 2013 and is often used as a speaker at various workers' compensation forums.

John Cortes has a BA and JD from the University of California, Davis. He started his legal career in private practice before beginning his workers' compensation career with State Compensation Insurance Fund as a subrogation attorney from 2001 to 2012. He transferred to the DIR/DWC as an Industrial Relations Counsel in the Spring of 2012.

Genet Daba received her MA Degree in Demography from Australian National University in Canberra, Australia. She worked as an Associate Expert in Demography for the United Nations and Analyst for the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population in Belgium. She joined the Division of Workers' Compensation in 2000 and has worked in the Managed Care Unit, Medical Unit and now the Research Unit.

Linda Delp is the Executive Director of UCLA's Labor Occupational Safety and Health program. She has MPH and PhD degrees from the UCLA School of Public Health. Linda is a national leader in the field of worker health and safety through education, community based research and policy initiatives.

Presenters

Robin Dewey has a MPH from the University of California at Berkeley and has more than 30 years experience in the field of occupational health education. She is a Program Coordinator for UC Berkeley's Labor Occupational Health Program (LOHP). She provides participatory training programs on workplace health and safety around California, the U.S., and internationally, for workers, unions, employers, joint labor management groups, community organizations, schools, and government staff.

James Fisher has a BA degree from George Washington University and JD from Golden Gate University School of Law. His workers' compensation career began in 1984 as a staff counsel for the Department of Industrial Relations. He was a private practice attorney from 1996 to 2000 when he returned to DIR.

Constantine Gean, MD is Board Certified in Occupational Medicine, is on voluntary faculty in the Department of Medicine at UC Irvine and is a Regional Medical Director for Liberty Mutual. He is the lead author of *The Pocket Drug Guide* and *The Index of Prescription Drugs*, is Chair of the ACOEM Council on Education and Academic Affairs and is a past president of the Western Occupational and Environmental Medicine Association (WOEMA).

Scott Hague is the president of CAL Insurance Associates, Inc. in San Francisco, California. He is the Founder of Small Business California. He is a past and present member of many insurance related groups including Agents and Brokers of the West and 2004 Lifetime Achievement Award issued by the San Francisco Small Business Network.

Yvonne Hauscarriague has a BA degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a JD from the University of San Francisco. After working in private practice as a civil litigation attorney, she began her workers' compensation career with State Compensation Insurance Fund serving as a defense attorney from 2005 to 2011 and an assistant chief counsel from 2011 to 2013. She transferred to DIR/DWC as an Industrial Relations Counsel in late 2013.

Alan Hersh is a Staff Counsel with the Division of Workers' Compensation. Before joining DWC, he was judge with the California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board and had extensive experience as an attorney for public entities. He is a contributing author to California Public Sector Employment Law and graduated from the University of Maryland School of Law.

Melissa Hicks graduated from Mills College with a BA. She began her state career with Department of Industrial Relations in 2005 and was promoted to the Medical Unit manager of the Division of Workers' Compensation in 2013.

Mark Kahn graduated from Cal State Northridge (BA) and Southwestern Law School (JD). He began his workers' compensation career as a State Fund attorney in 1978. He has been a DWC Workers' Compensation Judge (1981), Presiding Judge (1988), Assistant Chief (1992-1995), and Associate Chief Judge. Mark retired from the bench in 2012 and now works for Altman, Lunche & Blitstein.

Kelly Howard received his BS in Biological Sciences from UC Irvine, and his MS in Environmental and Occupational Health from CSU Northridge. He is certified through the American Board of Industrial Hygiene. Mr. Howard has worked as an industrial hygienist for the past 35 years and is currently a Senior Safety Engineer with Cal/OSHA providing technical support and oversight for offices in southern California.

Barry Knight graduated from Fresno State with a degree in business administration. His past experience includes work as an underwriter for two insurance carriers and as a claims adjuster for SCIF. He has worked for the Disability Evaluation Unit for over 20 years and is currently the DEU Manager. Barry has been a member of both the 1997 and 2005 PDRS revision committees.

Presenters

Gene Lam is the Presiding Judge of the Oakland WCAB. Prior to that, he was a Workers' Compensation Judge in San Francisco and San Jose and a staff attorney for the WCAB. In between his San Jose and San Francisco judge positions, he was in private practice for 17 years with a firm where he was a partner. Gene is a graduate of UC Berkeley (BA) and Boalt School of Law.

Cora Lee graduated from Cal Poly with a BA. She has over 35 years of workers' compensation experience. Cora has worked for the Audit Unit since its inception, was appointed Area Supervisor in 1996 and in 2012 became the Compliance Manager. Cora was awarded a DWC Outstanding Employee Award in 1996; an Outstanding Supervisory Award as the Compliance Manager for UEBTF/SIBTF in 2013; and a Superior Accomplishment Award in 2015 from Director Christine Baker.

Francie Lehmer graduated from the University of Illinois with a degree in Criminal Justice and received her JD from Hastings College of Law. She was in private practice from 1985 until 2012, specializing in state and Longshore workers' compensation. Since 2012, she has served as a Workers' Compensation Judge in San Francisco.

Paige Levy is the Presiding Judge at the Marina Del Rey District office. She has been a Workers' Compensation Judge for nearly eight years. Prior to taking the bench she was the managing partner of Levy & Associates representing employers and insurance carriers. She is the Vice Chair of the State Bar Workers' Compensation Section Executive Committee. She is on the Board of Directors for the California Conference of Workers' Compensation Judges and is currently the secretary for the Conference. Paige obtained her JD degree in 1994 and was admitted to the California bar the same year.

Lauren Mayfield is the Safety and Health Services Manager for State Compensation Insurance Fund, responsible for the administration of loss prevention services to State Fund's policyholders. She has 34 years of insurance industry experience, 22 of which in the occupational safety and health field. She holds an Associate in Risk Management designation and is a Certified Safety Professional.

Raymond K. Meister, MD is a graduate of Cal State Sacramento (BA) and USC (MD). He has been associated with UC San Francisco's School of Medicine as an instructor or professor since 1996 and was the Interim Medical Director of San Francisco General's Occupational Health Service from 2011 to 2014. In 2014 he was appointed as the Associate Medical Director of DWC's Medical Unit.

Drenée Miners has been involved in the insurance industry over 30 years. Since joining Gallagher Bassett Services, Inc. in 1993, she has held many positions including Manager of one their largest branches with 110 employees. She now works in their Governmental Affairs Department reviewing legislative changes taking place in the Western states including Hawaii and Alaska, as well as liaison for employers with the various State departments on governmental policies.

Montserrat R. Morita is the Southern California Supervisor for the Audit Unit. A graduate of California State Polytechnic University-Pomona, her state career began in 2001 at State Compensation Insurance Fund as a Claims Adjuster. She transferred to the Audit Unit in June 2006.

Erika L. Mulhere is a Deputy District Attorney at the Riverside County District Attorney's Office working in the Special Prosecutions Section. She received a J.D. and M.B.A from Chapman University. DDA Mulhere prosecutes complex multi-million dollar worker's compensation and healthcare fraud cases. Prior to this assignment, she prosecuted various cases as part of the Vertical Crimes Division and Narcotics Unit as well as Grand Theft Auto and Major Fraud.

Presenters

Dave Nelson is a graduate with a double major in Accounting and Finance from California State University of Northridge. He has worked for Tegner-Miller Insurance Brokers since 1982 and has been an owner since 1985. He is currently President-Elect of the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of California.

George Parisotto is currently the Acting Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation. He is a graduate of Loyola Marymount University and the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. George joined DWC as a staff counsel in 1998, and later rejoined the Division in 2007 after spending several years in Seattle, Washington, with the U.S. Department of Labor's Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program.

Karen Pak graduated from UC Berkeley (BA) and Loyola School of Law. She worked in civil litigation in the private sector and for State Fund from 2005 to 2012. She has worked with the DWC Legal Unit since 2012.

Mark Priven has successfully transitioned from high school nerd, to college geek, to actuary. He has worked as an actuary for 20 years, the last 15 with Bickmore, in which he has helped public and private self-insurers quantify and analyze their risk. He is on the WCIRB actuarial committee, a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance, past-president of Casualty ctuaries of the Bay Area and has testified many times before committees in Sacramento.

Pamela Pulley graduated from Northwestern University in 1987 with dual BA degrees and earned a JD from the University of Connecticut School of Law in 1990. She practiced law from 1990 until 2005 , representing workers' compensation applicants, insurance carriers and social security disability claimants. She became a Workers' Compensation Judge in Long Beach in 2005 and Presiding Judge in Santa Ana in 2015.

Kevin Riley is Director of Research and Evaluation at the UCLA Labor Occupational Safety and Health Program, where he has worked since 2008. He received both a Masters in Public Health and a PhD in Sociology from UCLA

James Robbins received his BA degree from UC Santa Barbara, MPA from Golden Gate University and JD from the University of Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. His DIR career began in 1984 as an attorney in the Office of the Director's Office. He transferred to DWC's Legal Unit in 1990.

Marilee Robinson received her BS degree in Health Science from California State University at Long Beach and has over 30 years of workers' compensation experience. She has been with the Office of Self-Insurance Plans for 25 years and was appointed to the position of Southern California Supervisor in 2004.

Anne Schmitz joined the WCAB Office of Commissioners in 2010 and is a Deputy Commissioner. She was a claims adjuster, defense attorney, applicant's attorney, and pro tem judge in the Bay Area. Anne received her undergraduate degree from UC Davis and her JD from the University of Pacific, McGeorge School of Law in 1993.

Devika Singh received her MS Degree in Health Care Administration from California State University East Bay. She received a BS Degree in Business Administration from California State University Sacramento with a concentration in Finance, Risk Management and Insurance. She has experience working for private and non-profit Insurance companies throughout California and Oregon. Her state career began with the department of Public Health within the data reporting unit. She joined the Division of Workers' Compensation in 2014 working in Medical Unit with a focus on research and physician education.

Glenn Shor is currently Policy Advisor to the Director, Department of Industrial Relations. From 2010 to 2012, he was Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary at the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, US Department of Labor, in Washington DC. He has served in several managerial/executive positions with DWC including Project Manager, Chief of Policy and Legislation, and acting Research Manager. He is an affiliated researcher and lecturer at UC Berkeley School of Public Health, where he teaches a course on injury prevention and control. Glenn has a PhD and MA in Public Policy (MPP) from the Graduate School of Public Policy at UC

Presenters

Berkeley, and a BA from University of Pennsylvania.

Jamie Spitzer is the Presiding Judge of the Anaheim Workers' Compensation Appeals Board. She was a judge at this office from 2005 to 2012. Jaime's law career began in 1992 where she was an attorney and later partner with Ufkes, Bright & Spitzer. A graduate of Cal State Fullerton, she earned her law degree at Whittier College.

Laura Stock (MPH) is the Executive Director of UC Berkeley's Labor Occupational Health Program. With over 30 years of experience working at LOHP, Laura is a national leader in the field of occupational safety and health.

Alex Swedlow is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the California Workers' Compensation Institute. He joined CWCI in 2000 as the executive vice president of research and is the author of many articles on workers' compensation.

Marguerite Sweeney received a J.D. from Hastings Law School in 1978 and represented injured workers in northern California until 2012, when Governor Brown appointed her to the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board. In 2007 she was honored by the State Bar Workers Compensation Section as Applicant Attorney of the Year.

Peggy Thill graduated from Cal State Northridge with a BA in Liberal Studies. She worked at State Fund for 26 years -14 as an adjuster, 8 years as a supervisor in the claims department and 4 years in the corporate claims department - the last 3 as the Claims Operations Manager. She came over to the Audit Unit as the northern supervisor in August, 2015.

Jerome Tu graduated from UCLA with a degree in Mathematics and Economics. He started his insurance career in the private sector and joined the Department of Insurance in 1990 as a Market Conduct examiner. He joined the Department's Rate Regulation Branch in 2008 and is currently the Chief of the Rate Filing Bureau that reviews the Workers' Compensation rate filings.

Winslow West received his BS from the University of Santa Clara (accounting) and JD from Hastings College of Law. He has over 22 years of private practice experience before joining State Fund in 2004. He has been a Division of Workers' Compensation staff counsel since 2013 specializing in QME discipline and appointments/reappointments.

Steve Wiesner, MD received his BS and medical degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He completed his residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago/Northwestern School of Medicine. He is the Chief of the Kaiser Permanente Occupational Health Department in Oakland and also serves as the Associate Medical Director of the Kaiser On-the-Job, Northern California Regional Occupational Health Department. His professional interests include disability management, physician leadership development and medical education.

Katherine Zalewski became a commissioner with the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board in April 2014. Prior to this, Ms. Zalewski was the Chief Counsel for the Department of Industrial Relations and a Special Advisor for the DWC Administrative Director. She was a defense attorney for over 20 years and a Workers' Compensation Judge at the San Francisco WCAB. Ms. Zalewski received her BA from the University of California, Berkeley and her JD from Hastings College of the Law.