



2024 NWCDN Regional Conference New Orleans, Louisiana

CONFERENCE AGENDA

**Thursday, May 16 - Welcome Reception
5:30-7:30 pm WWII Museum**

**Friday, May 17 - Educational Program & Closing Reception
Higgins Hotel
7:30 am - 6:00 pm**

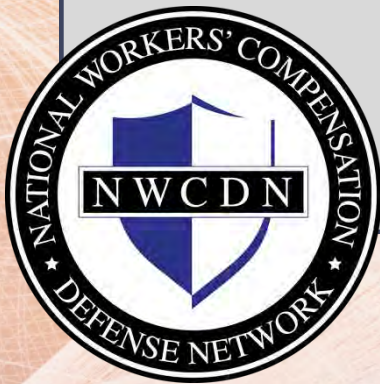
The National Workers' Compensation Defense Network is pleased to present the agenda for the upcoming Regional Conference.

The program is packed with emerging issues, best practices and legislative trends for the Southeast region.

New Orleans provides a perfect venue for this informative program, while the agenda includes great opportunities for networking time in this fabled city.

This conference is open to NWCDN members and their invited guests only.

There is no charge for this event.



REGISTER HERE

You may book your stay at the **Higgins Hotel** for \$259/night or at the **Hilton Garden Inn New Orleans** at \$249/night.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Thursday, May 16, 2024 - WWII Museum, Memorial Pavilion

5:30-7:30pm Welcome Dinner/Reception

Friday, May 17, 2024 - Higgins Hotel

7:30-8:45am Registration (Lobby Overlook Gallery)
Continental Breakfast (Arcadia Terrace)

8:45am **Welcome – Opening Remarks (Arcadia Ballroom)**
Sid Degan, NWCDN Louisiana Member

9-10am **Closed Head Injury**
Our conference kicks off with Dr. Lauren Rasmussen, a board-certified clinical neuropsychologist who specializes in diagnosis and treatment planning of neurological diseases and disorders. This segment will focus on psychological factors and outcomes in the injured workers claiming a Closed Head Injury.

Introduction: Robert Grace, NWCDN Florida Member

Panelist: Lauren Rasmussen, PsyD, ABN, Jefferson Neurobehavioral Group

10-10:45am **How to Handle TBI Claims**
Over the past decade there has been a proliferation of traumatic brain injury claims. Is it due to an increased understanding of this unique injury or is it due to the overreach of claimants and their attorneys? TBI claims can be easy to allege and often difficult to defend. Our diverse panel of industry professionals will discuss all aspects of defending and managing these claims, legitimate and otherwise.

Moderator: Robert Grace, NWCDN Florida Member

Panel: Bill England, Dir. Rehabilitation Services & Vocational Evaluator,
England & Associates of Florida, Inc.

Kim Folse, Nurse Case Manager, Vona Case Management

James Loughlin, NWCDN Texas Member

10:45-11am **Break – Networking Opportunity**

CONFERENCE AGENDA (continued)

- 11-12pm** **Fact or Fiction: Red Flags That May Raise Questions About Compensability**
Have you ever had a claim that initially appears to be compensable, but raises doubts as your investigation and administration of the claim continues? Join our panelists as they discuss how to recognize compensability red flags and their strategies and best practices for effectively handling these claims.
- Moderator:** Jennifer Scott, NWCDN Mississippi Member
Panel: Heather Baker, NWCDN North Carolina Member
Tim Keener, Director of Health and Safety, Northern Tool & Equipment
Robert Seymour, President, TIG Risk Services
Tom Shaver, Reg. Litigation Director, Claims-Legal, Zenith Insurance
- 12pm-1:30** **Lunch and Networking (Arcadia Terrace)**
- 1:30-2:30** **How To Bring To Conclusion The Long-Term Claim That Never Ends**
This panel of professionals will discuss creative and proactive ways to prevent claims from becoming long-term and also offer some effective ways at managing and bringing closure to the old dog claims that have been around awhile.
- Moderator:** Mike Fish, NWCDN Alabama Member
Panel: Dawn Canada, Sr. Field Case Manager, Amerisafe Inc.
Fred Baker, NWCDN President & Tennessee Member
- 2:30-2:45** **Break – Networking Opportunity**
- 2:45-3:45** **Spreading the Love (or Loss): Multiple Employers, Temporary Labor, Contractors and Subcontractors**
This segment will discuss what to look for and ways to shift the loss of workers' compensation claim by getting other employers and third parties to be responsible for some or all of the loss.
- Moderator:** Foster Nash, NWCDN Louisiana Member
Panel: Amanda Mellard, NWCDN South Carolina Member
- 3:45-4** **Closing Remarks**
- 4-6** **Closing Reception**

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