

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2022

Meeting Agenda

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 – 9:15 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

9:15 – 10:30 a.m. The Impact of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in Workers'

Compensation

Presenters: Rhonda Haynes, Risk Manager, OC Fire Authority; Jeffrey Haynes, Risk Manager, City of San Bernardino Unified

School District

(1 CE – Certificate provided)

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is a reality and is here to stay! As the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) increases with the number of traumatic events experienced, many professionals involved at the local agency/government level (Police, Fire, School Districts, and other Municipalities) are at a higher risk of PTSD.

In this session, you will learn how these Risk Managers (husband and wife) navigate through the delicate path of Worker's Compensation PTSD claims within the School District and Fire Agency. They have over 60-years combined experience in Workers' Compensation and General Liability. Both are dedicated to ensuring that injured workers receive the best care from the system when injured, and have a healthy return to work!



Rhonda Haynes, WCCP, CPDM, CRM, SIA - is the Risk Manager for the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA), a regional fire service agency that serves 23 cities in Orange County, and all unincorporated areas. Rhonda has over 30 years of experience as a Claims Manager, Risk Manager, Claims Examiner for both General Liability and Workers' Compensation. She has been instrumental in transforming various services at the OCFA, including the revamping of their Workers' Compensation program in partnership with Local 3631, COA, and many others. This work dramatically increased the speed and quality of service provided to their injured firefighters. She serves on the PRISM Legislative Committee, and is on the Board of Directors at FAIRA. Rhonda holds a BS degree from Colorado Christian University.



Jeff Haynes, AIC, SIA, CSRM- currently serves as the Director of Risk Management for San Bernardino Unified School District. He is responsible for Workers' Compensation, Employee Benefits, General Liability and Insurance. Jeff has over 30 years of experience as a Vice President of Claims, Manager, Claims Examiner for General Liability and Workers' Compensation and Risk Management. Jeff's claims handling experience has been instrumental in assisting Defense Attorney's with great defense verdict outcomes. Jeff holds a BA Degree from UCLA. Jeff serves as a Board of Director on several Boards, including California Workers' Compensation Institute (CWCI), and California School Risk Management, (CSRM) and Springfield Insurance Board of Directors.



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10:30 – 10:45 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Real or Fake? - Affirming Workers' Compensation Fraud

Presenters: Laura Banker, Atty/Partner, - Michael Sullivan & Associates;

Scott Jelensky, Atty/Partner, - Von, St. Clair & Jelensky

(1 CE – Certificate provided; 1 MCLE - Certificate provided)

Workers' Compensation fraud is defined as making a false, incomplete, or misleading statement in pursuit of financial benefits. This could include an employer, employee, or medical provider. Known in legal circles as "misrepresentation," Workers' Compensation fraud not only hurts the insurance companies, they also affect the employers who pay the premiums and make the process of filing a claim more complicated for workers with legitimate, authentic cases.

In this session you will learn how these Attorneys (husband and wife) plan and direct the course of potential fraudulent claims within the Workers' Compensation system. They have 50-years of combined Workers' Compensation defense experience and are committed to maintaining integrity within the Workers' Compensation arena.



Laura Banker, a Bar-Certified Specialist in Workers' Compensation, is a Partner in the firm of Michael Sullivan & Associates. She has been with them since 2016. She represents self-insured employers, third-party administrators and corporations in all aspects of Workers' Compensation. Laura is also a member of the Massachusetts Bar. Before joining Michael Sullivan & Associates, Laura was Assistant Managing Attorney for Floyd Skeren & Kelly in Orange, as well as Managing Attorney at the Law Offices of Stacey Tokunaga in Orange. Laura received her Juris Doctor degree cum laude from New England Law in Boston, and an undergraduate degree, cum laude, from California State University in Sacramento. Laura has 25 years of legal experience.



Scott Jelensky is a founding partner (2017) at Varon, St. Clair & Jelensky, APC. Before establishing Varon, St. Clair & Jelensky, Scott was with Stockwell Harris Wolverton & Helphrey since 2000 where he was a managing attorney for the San Bernadino and Orange offices. Following his admission to the CA State Bar in 1996, he engaged in civil litigation practice handling matters in collections, trademark, insurance coverage and defense, construction defect, family law and estate planning. Scott has since tailored his practice to Workers Compensation. Scott earned his Juris Doctorate degree from California Western School of Law in San Diego, California. Scott has 25 years of legal experience.

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. LUNCH, NETWORKING, and RAFFLE PRIZES



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Date: May 24, 2022 Time: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: The Villa

510 E Katella Ave, Orange, CA 92867

Please confirm your attendance with online registration – Click here to Register!

Public Agency Members are FREE

Associates \$25/Non-Members \$50

Please RSVP by May 13, 2022

For questions, please contact DeAnna Soria, Chapter Chair at (714)536-5519, or deanna.soria@surfcity-hb.org



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Please bring your business card for an opportunity to win door prizes!

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We are committed to delivering strong, consistent value to members and in raising the profile of the Risk Management profession at the grassroots level!

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