

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2009**

# BREAKOUT ON MULTI-STATE WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAWS

**8:00 - 9:00 AM BREAKFAST IN THE EXHIBIT HALL**

Cypress Ballroom  
Convention Level

**8:45 - 3:00 PM** Grand Ballroom 7  
Convention Level

**Program Moderator:**

R. Briggs Peery, *Attorney*  
*Swift, Currie, McGhee & Hiers, LLP*  
*Atlanta, GA*

The Multi-State Program for 2009 continues to evolve and expand in response to requests from participants, and through the collective efforts of the members of the Multi-State's unique steering committee. Added to the program this year is a discussion of the workers' compensation law in Texas. With that addition, the program permits a pervasive focus on claims handling priorities and procedures for Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas and Tennessee. Florida adjusters, as well as, others will learn to compare and contrast claims handling from Florida to those seven other jurisdictions in this program.

In the opening general session, a panel discussion will be held involving the regulators from the involved states where they will discuss workers' compensation trends and issues affecting employers and carriers within those jurisdictions.

At the close of the general session, our unique state breakout sessions will begin. Adjusters and those interested in specific claims handling details will be invited to attend the individual state break-out sessions for presentations from attorneys handling claims in those respective jurisdictions. Issues which will be addressed are those hot topics about which adjusters are concerned including forms, calculations of exposures, litigation and settlement procedures, tools for controlling medical and limiting exposure, and other claims specific topics. This format encourages questions.

Following the morning session, lunch for the attendees will be provided by the Multi-State Committee members. After lunch, state specific break-out sessions will be repeated to permit attendees to participate in at least two full state presentations. However, to run concurrently with the second setting of state specific breakouts, an additional program will be offered. This will be a human resource and employer management targeted session in panel format to discuss specific issues that employers need to consider in each jurisdiction. These discussions will include a focus on the nature of a quality partnership between a claims organization and employers, as well as, general topics such as how to deal with resignation issues following a workplace injury, the imposition of penalties, and other related topics specific to the needs of employers.

At the conclusion of the second session of state specific presentations and the employer/human resource breakout, the program will conclude with another general session where the participating regulators will again focus on recommendations for improving the relationship between claims and employer organizations and the regulating agencies.

Copies of the 2009 Multi-State Book of Workers' Compensation Laws will be provided to all break-out attendees in the final general session. During the state specific breakouts, handouts including state forms and procedures will be provided to participants.

**8:45 - 9:35 AM OPENING GENERAL SESSION:  
LEGAL TRENDS FOR 2009 IN THE  
SOUTHEAST AND TEXAS**

**State Regulators:**

Gerald Stringer  
*Ombudsman*  
*Department of Industrial Relations*  
*for the State of Alabama*  
*Montgomery, AL*

Andrea Pope Roche  
*Chairperson*  
*South Carolina Workers'*  
*Compensation Commission*  
*Columbia, SC*

Teresa Bullington  
*Director of Specialists*  
*Tennessee Department of Labor*  
*Nashville, TN*

Liles Williams  
*Chairman*  
*Mississippi Workers'*  
*Compensation Commission*  
*Jackson, MS*

Kathy Oliver  
*Deputy Chief Operating Officer*  
*Georgia State Board of Workers'*  
*Compensation*  
*Atlanta, GA*

**9:35 - 9:45 AM BREAK**

**9:45 - 11:30 AM INDIVIDUAL STATE OVERVIEWS  
WITH Q&A**

(Move into individual breakout rooms)

Alabama - Grand Ballroom 1  
Georgia - Grand Ballroom 2  
South Carolina - Grand Ballroom 3  
Tennessee - Grand Ballroom 4  
Mississippi - Grand Ballroom 5  
North Carolina - Grand Ballroom 6  
Texas - Boston (Hall of Cities)

**Individual State Moderators:**

Alabama:  
Kyle L. Kinney, *Attorney*  
John B. Welsh, *Attorney*  
*Gaines, Wolter & Kinney, P.C.*  
*Birmingham, AL*

Georgia:  
Douglas A. Bennett, *Attorney*  
Cristine K. Huffine, *Attorney*  
R. Briggs Peery, *Attorney*  
Michael Ryder, *Attorney*  
Richard A. Watts, *Attorney*  
*Swift, Currie, McGhee & Hiers, LLP*  
*Atlanta, GA*

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**BREAKOUT ON MULTI-STATE WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAWS (CONTINUED)**

Grand Ballroom 7, Convention Level

North Carolina:  
Trula R. Mitchell, *Attorney*  
Chrystina F. Kesler, *Attorney*  
Sally Moran, *Attorney*  
McAngus, Goudelock & Courie, LLC  
Charlotte/Raleigh, NC

Mississippi:  
James M. Anderson, *Attorney*  
David B. McLaurin, *Attorney*  
Anderson, Crawley and Burke, PLLC  
Jackson/Tupelo, MS

South Carolina:  
R. Mark Davis, *Attorney*  
Regan M. Ankney, *Attorney*  
McAngus, Goudelock & Courie, LLC  
Charleston, SC

Tennessee:  
Thomas P. Cassidy, Jr., *Attorney*  
Thomas J. Dement, II, *Attorney*  
David W. Noblit, *Attorney*  
Leitner, Williams, Dooley & Napolitan,  
PLLC  
Chattanooga/Memphis, TN

Texas:  
Robert D. Stokes, *Attorney*  
Steven M. Tipton, *Attorney*  
Flahive, Ogden & Latson  
Austin, TX

**11:30 - 12:30 PM LUNCH (PROVIDED FOR ATTENDEES BY MULTI-STATE COMMITTEE)**

**12:30 - 2:20 PM REPEAT OF INDIVIDUAL STATE OVERVIEWS WITH Q&A (CONCURRENT SESSION)**

**12:30 - 2:20 PM AN EMPLOYER'S PERSPECTIVE: TEAM WORK EQUALS COST SAVINGS AND MORE (CONCURRENT SESSION)**

Panel Discussion to include attorneys from the participating states and:

Mary Reed  
*Senior Claims Consultant*  
Aon Global Risk Consulting  
Atlanta, GA

Misty Hambright  
*Workers' Compensation Claims Manager*  
American Airlines  
Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX

**2:20 - 2:30 PM BREAK**

**2:30 - 3:00 PM CLOSING GENERAL SESSION: CONCLUDING REMARKS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM THE REGULATORS/DOOR PRIZES/ RELEASE OF 2009 MULTI-STATE STATUTE BOOK**

Grand Ballroom 7  
Convention Level