

Program Schedule*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2017

8:00 am – 9:00 am

REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 am – 9:50 am

Healthy Workplaces – The Benefits of Having a Safety Program: How work-related injuries can be avoided and the consequences of not implementing an employee safety program *Peter Brewer, CQCM, CHST, Principal, Ocean State Risk Management, LLC; David Taillon, CHST, Senior Project Manager; Ocean State Risk Management, LLC*

9:50 AM – 10:00 AM

BREAK IN EXHIBITION AREA

10:00 AM – 10:50 AM

Appropriate Prescribing: When work injuries occur, when is opioid use appropriate? *Tracey Cohen, MD, Medical Director, Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island*

10:50 AM – 11:00 AM

BREAK IN EXHIBITION AREA

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM

From Harvard to Hell: The dangers of opioid use based on a personal experience. *Sylvester “Skip” Sviokla, MD, author of the book FROM HARVARD TO HELL... AND BACK: A DOCTOR’S JOURNEY THROUGH ADDICTION TO RECOVERY*

12:15 PM – 1:30 PM

LUNCHEON

Luncheon Speaker: Chief Judge Robert Ferrieri will discuss the newly established Workers’ Compensation Court Mediation Program

1:30 PM – 2:00 PM

DESSERT WITH EXHIBITORS IN EXHIBITION AREA

2:00 PM – 2:50 PM

When Conservative Treatment Fails: What are the less invasive surgical options for treating chronic pain? *Roberto Felize, MD*

2:50 PM – 3:00 PM

BREAK IN EXHIBITION AREA

3:00 PM – 3:50 PM

How Chronic Pain Is Distinguished from a Traumatic Injury: When is surgery appropriate? *Benjamin Phillips, MD, Ortho Rhode Island*

3:50 PM – 4:00 PM

BREAK IN EXHIBITION AREA

4:00 PM – 4:50 PM

Getting the Injured Worker Back to Work: What programs are available to get an injured worker back to work? An introduction to a new vocational program *Bill Massey, M.A., M.A.T. CRC, RI-QRC, Assistant Administrator; Vocational Recovery Services, R.I. Department of Labor and Training, Workers’ Compensation Unit, Robert F. Arrigan Rehabilitation Center; Sarah Blusiewicz, Assistant Director, Division of Workforce Development Services, Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training*

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

RECEPTION IN EXHIBITION AREA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2017

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 AM – 9:50 AM

The Going to and Coming from Work Rule: Where have we been, where are we now and where are we heading? *Nick Mancini, Esquire, Law Office of Nicholas Mancini; Aimee Audette, Esquire, Audette, Cordeiro & Violette*

9:50 AM – 10:00 AM

BREAK IN EXHIBITION AREA

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Breakouts – Select 1 of 2

Option 1.... Ethics *David Curtin, Esquire, Chief Disciplinary Counsel, RI Supreme Court*

Option 2.... CMS from an Adjuster’s Perspective: What are the latest trends in dealing with Medicare issues in workers’ compensation cases? *Melisa Zwilling, Esquire, Carr Allison*

12:00 PM

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