

# 2008 Annual Conference

## April 23-24, 2008 --Charleston, WV

### WELCOME-TO THE COMPETITIVE WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE MARKET

July 1, 2008, marks the opening of West Virginia's competitive workers' compensation insurance market. This year's WVSIA's annual conference will address pertinent issues related to this final transition. We will also focus on the 2008 legislative session and its impact on self-insurers.

Featured presenters include West Virginia Insurance Commissioner, Jane Cline, Supreme Court of Appeals candidate, Beth Walker, and WV Chamber of Commerce Vice President and General Counsel, Brenda Harper. The program will also include relevant presentations by medical, legal, and workers' compensation claims professionals.

### Agenda

#### April 23

4:30-5:30 pm

Annual Business Meeting

5:30-7:00 pm

Reception (Exhibits Open)

#### April 24

8:00-8:30 am

*Registration, Continental Breakfast and Exhibit Visitation*

8:30-8:40 am

**Call to Order, Introduction of Program**

*Henry C. Bowen, Esq. WVSIA Executive Secretary  
Steptoe & Johnson PLLC*

8:40-9:00 am

**Review of Pertinent Self Insurance Issues**

*Phil Nicholson, Chairman, WVSIA Board of Managers  
Consol Energy, Inc*

9:00-9:50 am

**Injured employees-The ADA, FMLA & Workers' Compensation interplay**

*Beth Walker, Esq. Bowles Rice McDavid Graff & Love PLLC*

9:50-10:10 am

*Break and Exhibit Visitation*

10:10-11:00 am

**2008 Legislature, WV Business Issues, & Deliberate Intent**

*Brenda Nichols Harper, Esq., Vice President & General Counsel, WV Chamber of Commerce.*

11:00-11:50 am

**Update on Privatization and Self-Insurance in WV**

*The Honorable Jane Cline, Commissioner, and Mary Jane Pickens, Esq., General Counsel  
WV Offices of the Insurance Commissioner*

12:00-1:10 pm

*Luncheon and Exhibit Visitation*

1:10-2:00 pm

**Workers Comp Treatment Protocols, Rule 20 & AMA Guides-6<sup>th</sup> edition**

*Dr. James Becker, MD, Medical Director, WV Offices of the Insurance Commissioner*

2:00-2:50 pm

**Managed Care-"Rule 21- Benefits and Approaches-A Panel Discussion**

*Mike Keener, Wells Fargo-Moderator: Helen Blevins, R.N., Consol Energy; Stephanie Steinman,  
R.N., Wells Fargo Disability; John Paolacci, Frank Gates Service Company*

2:50-3:05 pm

*Break and Exhibit Visitation*

3:05-3:55 pm

**Workers' Compensation Litigation Issues**

*Timothy G. Leach, Chief Administrative Law Judge, WV Offices of the Insurance Commissioner;  
Jeff Brannon, Esq., Pullin Fowler Flanagan Brown & Poe PLLC ; Tom Kleeh, Esq., Steptoe &  
Johnson PLLC*

4:00 pm

**Conference Closing, Door Prize Drawings & Adjournment**

**The Charleston Marriott will offer those attending the conference a discounted rate of \$109.00 per room if reserved by April 2, 2008. Please reference WVSIA Annual Conference when making reservations at 304-345-6500.**