

# 2025 SAWCA

All Committee Conference The Broadmoor Colorado Springs, Colorado Nov 11-14, 2025

### Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Registration 12:00pm - 5:00pm Pompeiian Board of Directors Meeting 2:00pm - 5:00pm Main Ballroom

### Wednesday, November 12, 2025

Breakfast At the ACC 7:30am - 9:00am Pompeiian

Sponsored By: Verisk

Registration 8:00am - 5:00pm Pompeiian
Welcome & Opening Remarks 8:30am - 8:45am Main Ballroom
SAWCA President: Mark Formby, Chairman, Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission

Colorado Welcome: Paul Tauriello, Director, Colorado Division of WC

General Session 1 8:45am - 9:35am Main Ballroom

"SAWCA's Regulator Roundtable" moderated by: Paul Tauriello, Director, Colorado Division of WC We kick off the 2025 ACC with a candid discussion with state regulators from 16 jurisdictions regarding the issues and situations that keep them up at night.

Sponsored By: MyMatrixx by Evernorth

General Session 2 9:35am - 10:15am Main Ballroom

"Federal & State Legislative Update"

Presented By: Tim Tucker, Washington Affairs Executive, External and Government Affairs National Council on Compensation Insurance

As the workers compensation legislative and regulatory landscape continues to evolve, this session with focus on the issues and trends impacting the packing the system. This year, public policymakers have focused on issues including mental injuries, cancer injuries, employee classification and marijuana reform. This session will dive into the specific legislative and regulatory approaches at both the state and federal levels.

Morning Refreshment Break 10:15am – 10:30am Pompeiian

Sponsored By: Concentra

General Session 3 10:30am – 11:20am Main Ballroom

"Legal Potpourri"

#### **Hosted by SAWCA's Adjudication Committee**

Moderated By: Hon. James J. Szablewicz, Chief Deputy Commissioner, Virginia WCC Judicial Panel: Hon. Laura A. Broniak (CO); Hon. Sharon Reeves (GA); Hon. T. Shane Curtin (OK) A panel of judges will discuss a potpourri of issues concerning the adjudication of workers' compensation claims including: how COVID has affected the adjudication process 5 years post-pandemic; the use of AI in connection with contested claims; attendance by non-litigants (such as ICE, police, the public and the press) at hearings; MSAs and more.

General Session 4 11:20am – 12:15pm Main Ballroom

"Navigating agency rules post-Chevron ... understanding <u>Loper Bright</u> and its impact going forward" Guest Speaker: Mark Popolizio, J.D. / VP, MSP Compliance for Verisk Casualty Solutions Hosted by SAWCA's Administration & Procedures Committee

Back in June 2024, the United States Supreme Court (SCOTUS) in Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo overruled the then long-standing Chevron deference doctrine which gave federal agencies wide latitude in formulating regulations and policies. In a one-hundred eighty-degree turn, Loper Bright ruled that it is the courts – and not the federal agencies – that are ultimately responsible for interpreting federal statutes and the appropriateness of agency action. This presentation breaks down the Loper Bright decision including, how the Court's ruling changes the landscape from the old Chevron deference standard, what it means (and could mean), and its potential impact going forward.

Convention Lunch 12:20pm - 1:20pm Lake Terrace

General Session 5 1:30pm – 2:30pm Main Ballroom

"Identification & Treatment of Mood Disorders" Guest Presenter: Dr. Robert H. Stewart, MD PSC

Hosted By: SAWCA's Medical Committee

Rosalie Faris (Medical Committee Chair) welcomes renowned psychiatrist, Dr. Robert Stewart for a discussion on the identification and treatment of mood disorders and their impact on workers' compensation.

**President's Reception** 

6:30pm-8:00pm Lake Terrace

Sponsored By: Safety National, AKERA Claims Solutions, AMETROS, ODG by MCG Health, SOMPO, AMA, Enlyte, Prodigy RX, M. Joseph Medical, WorkCompCollege, & WCI

Thursday, November 13, 2025

Breakfast At the ACC 7:30am-9:00am Pompeiian

Sponsored By: Verisk

Registration 8:00am - 5:00pm Pompeiian Welcome & Morning Update 8:45am – 9:00am Main Ballroom SAWCA President: Mark Formby, Chairman, Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission

General Session 6 9:00am - 10:00am Main Ballroom

"Industry Roundtable"

Tom Glasson moderates a panel of industry professionals focused on trends, issues, and innovations impacting the workers' compensation providers including Cannabis, Semaglutides, ICE Raids, Fraud, and more. Joining Tom on the panel are: Carey Armistead, VP, Head of Worker's Compensation Claims, Sompo; Melissa Ryan, SVP Claims for Insurhealth Affinity Group; and Bret Roundy, Assistant General Counsel, Pinnacol Insurance.

Morning Refreshment Break 10:00am -10:15am Pompeiian

Sponsored By: Concentra

General Session 7 10:15am — 11:15am Main Ballroom

"Modernizing Workers' Compensation Systems: Enhancing efficiency and fairness through innovation." Hosted By: SAWCA's Systems & Data Analytics Committee... Ellen Heiber (Verisk); Paul Baitinger (VA); Patrick Fremin (LA); and Vaughn Huffman (CO). Join us for a panel discussion exploring the challenges and successes of states who recently upgraded their systems...are in the process of an upgrade...and those jurisdictions considering a change of systems.

General Session 8 11:15am – 12:15pm Main Ballroom

"Student Athletes / University Employees – Updated Conversation of NIL Issues" Hosted By: SAWCA's Self-Insurance / Insurance Committee

Special Guest Speaker: Frank McKay, Director & Appellate Judge, Georgia State Board of WC

The Self Insurance Committee welcomes Georgia Judge Frank McKay for an update on NIL litigation and developments that have occurred over the past 12 months including details impacting college athlete employment and "workplace injuries".

Convention Lunch 12:20pm – 1:10pm Lake Terrace

Sponsored By: Optum

**General Session 9** 1:15pm - 2:15pm **Main Ballroom** 

"Changes in Medical Workforce and Impact on Claims", &

"Degenerative and Comorbid Conditions in Workers' Compensation"

Presented By: Tim Hassett-Salley, M.ED., CAGS / Director of Revenue Development at WCRI Hosted by the Claims Administration Committee with program support from Tom Glasson, (AIG); Pauline Williams, (FAIR Health); Scott Wilhoit (KY); and Carey Armistead (SOMPO International)

## **Enjoy Dinner on Your Own at The Broadmoor** Then Join Us in the West Tower Lobby For



# **Coffee Cordials & Confections** 8:30pm-10:00pm

Sponsored By: Meridian Wealth Management

Friday, November 14, 2025

Friday SAWCA "Grits" Breakfast 8:00am -9:00am **Pompeiian** 

Sponsored By: Sedgwick

**Welcome and Conference Update** 8:50am - 9:00am **Main Ballroom** 

SAWCA President: Mark Formby, Chairman, Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission

**General Session 10** 

9:00am - 10:00am **Main Ballroom** 

"What Makes Bob Go Hmmm"

Bob Wilson, President, WorkCompCollege.com

Bob Wilson welcomes a distinguished panel of regulatory and industry professionals for an educational and entertaining discussion focused on "all things workers' comp"

Invited Panelists: TBD

**Announcements & Final Remarks** 10:00am **Main Ballroom** 

SAWCA President: Mark Formby, Chairman, Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission

