

### AWCP 24th Annual Fall Education Conference



Carin C. Kaeser, Esq., Conference Chair

Dorothy Corralez, Sarah Geivett, Jennifer Gorgen, Veronica Herrera, Kelly Hull, Esq., Hilary McLaughlin, Esq., Brian Mellor, Esq., David Obisanya, Esq., Matthew Seeley, Esq. and Christopher Wagner, Esq., Conference Committee

### About AWCP!

Workers' compensation professionals are in a unique position. To be the best in our profession, we must acquire knowledge on a daily basis, keep current in industry education and implement changes in a timely manner. Our continuously changing environment, whether it comes in the form of new legislation, new regulations, or case law,

As a workers' compensation professional association, AWCP has taken pride in offering timely and relevant educational opportunities, including the renowned Annual Workers' Compensation Conference, for the past 25 years. The AWCP Board represents a large spectrum of workers' compensation professionals who are dedicated to providing educational programs and opportunities to Claims Examiners, Claims Managers, Attorneys, Nurses, Risk Managers, Service Providers, and Human Resources Managers.

requires that we seek additional knowledge and understanding from trusted sources.

We are also committed to providing industry networking events to help serve our members as well as our 50 plus sponsors that include Interpreting, Investigations, Law Firms, Copy Services, Insurance, TPA's, Staffing, Transportation, Pharmacy, Diagnostic and Medical/Managed Care to name just a few. Finally, AWCP is dedicated to Philanthropy in an effort to give back to our local communities recently providing a donation to Heart of JB.



# President's Message Sarah Geivett

**Welcome to the 2024 AWCP Fall Education Conference!** For those of you who attended the conference in the past, welcome back! For those registering for the first time, thank you, and we know you'll be back for many years to come!

This is our 24<sup>th</sup> Fall Education Conference and we have some great speakers lined up for you. I would especially like to thank AWCP Fall Conference Chair Carin Kaeser, Esq. and the Fall Conference Committee Dorothy Corralez, Jennifer Gorgen, Veronica Herrera, Kelly Hull, Esq., Hilary McLaughlin, Esq., Brian Mellor, Esq., David Obisanya, Esq., Matthew Seeley, Esq. and Christopher Wagner, Esq. for all of their hard work in putting this conference together.

Hopefully, you have had the chance to attend our other events, including our virtual mini conferences, Summer Fun and Havana Nights. This year's Fall Conference will continue build upon the topics and information that we have been bringing you all year.

While the conference is about the education, AWCP also prides itself on hosting our two premiere networking events every year – the golf tournament and holiday party. Thank you to everyone who came out for the golf tournament in June, and we hope you all can join us for our upcoming holiday party in December!

On behalf of the entire AWCP Board, we hope to see you at the AWCP Fall Conference on October 25th!

Sarah Geivett AWCP President

Wintersteen | Casaraz Law Corporation

# AWCP 24th Annual Fall Education Conference "Wild Wild Work Comp!" Chair's Message



Carin C. Kaeser, Esa.

### Welcome to AWCP's 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Education Conference!

Dear Members of the Workers' Compensation Community,

Save the Date! – We are very excited to welcome you to AWCP's 24th Annual Fall Education Conference will be held on Friday, October 25, 2024. This year we are inviting you to join us for *Wild Wild Work Comp*. We are hosting this conference for a sixth year at the Wyndam Hotel (formerly the Crowne Plaza Hotel) in Northeast Sacramento. It is a great venue which has been very well received.

This year we have the privilege of providing a dynamic group of presentations from all different facets of the workers' compensation community.

We have five sessions with enthusiastic speakers including two legal panels, two medical providers, the Chief Counsel of the DWC, and the Administrative Director. The sessions include a Legal Update with case analyses, Legislative Update and DWC Update. There will also be presentations discussing responses to Applicant's Attorney Tactics during litigation, and upper extremity injuries and common lower extremity claims in workers compensation.

We look forward to welcoming all our attendees, sponsors and exhibitors and hope that everyone will be as excited about this year's conference as we are. This conference is specially designed to address work comp issues that matter to you!

I would especially like to thank the AWCP Fall Conference Committee Members: Dorothy Corralez, Jennifer Gorgen, Veronica Herrera, Kelly Hull, Esq., Hilary McLaughlin Esq., Brian Mellor, Esq., David Obisanya, Esq., Matthew Seeley, Esq., Christopher Wagner, Esq., and of course, our AWCP President, Sarah Geivett, who are making this conference possible.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Carin C. Kaeser, Esq. Kaeser Hull, LLP



# AWCP 24th Annual Fall Education Conference "Wild Wild Work Comp!" Agenda-at-a-Glance

7:30 a.m. Registration & Continental Breakfast in the Exhibit Halls

Sponsored by Centre for Neuro Skills
McLaughlin & Coffinberry LLP

8:25 a.m. Welcome by AWCP President Sarah Geivett

8:30 a.m. Defense Toolkit 2024: Combatting Vexing Applicant's Attorney Tactics

Speakers: Mark Turner, Esq., Laughlin, Falbo, Levy & Moresi, LLP Ilona Rincon, Esq., Laughlin, Falbo, Levy & Moresi, LLP

9:35 a.m. **Break in Exhibit Halls** 

Sponsored by Kaeser Hull, LLP

9:55 a.m. Workers' Compensation Legislation – Past, Present and Future –

What Can We Expect to see in 2025!

Speaker: Lori C. Kammerer, Kammerer & Company, Inc.

Division of Workers' Compensation: Regulatory and Program

**Updates** 

Speakers: George Parisotto, Administrative Director, CA Division Workers'

Compensation

Ted Richards, Esq., Chief Counsel, CA Division of Workers'

Compensation

11:55 a.m. Lunch and Exhibits (with time to network with your colleagues)

Luncheon Sponsored by Law Offices of Duncan, Cassio, Lucchesi, Binkley &

Van Doren

Dessert Sponsored by RTGR Law LLP



1:00 p.m. Upper Extremity Injuries: The Wild Wild Work Comp Greatest Hits

Speaker: Janet B. Lord, M.D., PM&R, MEDLink

2:05 p.m. Common Injuries in the Lower Extremities

Speaker: Angie Jung, BSN, RN, CRRN, CCM, ISYS Solutions, Inc.

Sponsored by ISYS Solutions, Inc.

3:10 p.m. **Break in Exhibit Halls** 

Sponsored by Kaeser Hull, LLP

3:30 p.m. Recent Developments in Workers' Compensation Case Law

Speakers: Dennis Eros, Esq., Hanna Brophy

Jeannette Y. Orozco Herrera, Esq., Hanna Brophy

Radu Samson, Esq., Hanna Brophy

4:30 p.m. Closing and Raffle including \$500 Grand Prize

Sponsored by Hanna Brophy

### "Howdy Partner" Title Sponsor



### Conference Features

### "Life is a journey, enjoy the ride!"

- Six Continuing Education Units for Claims Examiners, Certified Case Managers, Nurses, and Attorneys (both MCLE and Legal Specialization in Workers' Compensation)
- Five thought-provoking general sessions
- A variety of exhibitors featuring exciting, innovative, and important services
- VIP breakfast in exhibit halls beginning at 7:30 a.m.
- Opportunities to meet and share ideas at networking luncheon
- \$500 grand prize sponsored by Hanna Brophy

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# AWCP 24th Annual Fall Education Conference "Wild Wild Work Comp!" Conference Overview

### "Yee Haw Legal Lecture!"

Defense Toolkit 2024: Combatting Vexing Applicant's Attorney Tactics

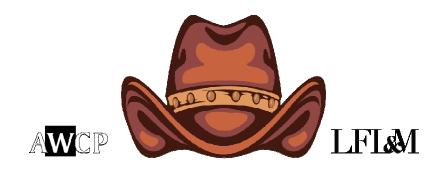
Speakers:

Mark Turner, Esq.
Ilona Rincon, Esq.
Laughlin, Falbo, Levy & Moresi, LLP

Mark Turner and Ilona Rincon will discuss the current most utilized and vexing tactics by applicant attorneys and how to successfully handle them.

#### Objectives:

- Provide tools to claims adjusters to competently and aggressively handle current tactics utilized by applicant attorneys.
- Provide an overview of current trends in the litigation of workers compensation claim.
- Provide forum to discuss attendees' questions on recent issues or topics.



### "Keep Calm and Cowgirl On!"

Workers' Compensation Legislation – Past, Present and Future – What Can We Expect to see in 2025!

Speaker:

Lori C. Kammerer

President of Kammerer & Company, Inc.

Lori Kammerer will discuss the status of the workers' compensation and related bills of interest introduced during the 2023-24 legislative session and discuss the bills signed by the Governor as of September 30, 2024.

Lori will also discuss the status of negotiations between labor and management to increase workers' compensation benefits that may take place during the Summer Recess in 2025 (July 11 – August 11, 2025). If there is an agreement, the bill would be approved by the Legislature before they adjourn for Interim Recess on September 12, 2025, and would likely have an effective date of January 1, 2026.

Lori will also discuss additional employment and business-related concepts that we may see in 2025.

### "Rootin Tootin DWC!"

Division of Workers' Compensation: Regulatory and Program Updates Speakers:

George Parisotto

Administrative Director

CA Division of Workers' Compensation

### Ted Richards, Esq. Chief Counsel

#### CA Division of Workers' Compensation

The Administrative Director and Chief Counsel of the California Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) will provide an update of the Division's regulatory activities. Included will be regulations that have been approved in 2024, those currently in the regulatory process, and those that are anticipated to be initiated during the upcoming months.

Also included will be an update of various Division programs (including the Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule, Drug Formulary, Medical-Legal Procedures, Independent Medical Review, and fee schedules).

### "Blazing Saddles Medical Lecture!"

Upper Extremity Injuries: The Wild Wild Work
Comp Greatest Hits
Janet B. Lord, M.D., PM&R
MEDLink

For the Upper Extremity Injuries session, Dr. Lord will review Shoulder, Elbow and Wrist Anatomy and participants will become familiar with common Mechanism of Injury/Causation, Standards of Reasonable Medical Treatment. Objective findings for WPI and Apportionment considerations.

### "What in the Tarnation?"

Common Injuries in the Lower Extremities Speaker:

Angie Jung, BSN, RN, CRRN, CCM ISYS Solutions, Inc.

Sponsored by ISYS Solutions, Inc.

Lower extremities are one of the most common structures for wear and tear injuries due to their weightbearing capacity.

#### Objectives:

- Participants will understand the basic anatomy of the knee, ankle, and foot and some common industrial injuries, including fractures, meniscal tears, ligament injuries, total knee replacement, neuroma, plantar fasciitis, and Achilles' rupture.
- Participants will identify factors influencing recovery and supportive measures to promote recovery and claims resolution.

### "The HB Posse Legal Update!"

Recent Developments in Workers' Compensation Case Law

Speakers:

Dennis Eros, Esq.

Jeannette Y. Orozco Herrera, Esq.

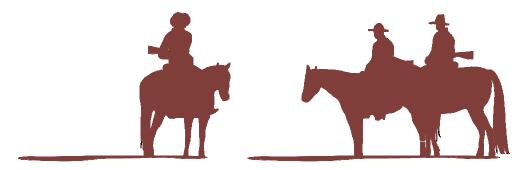
Radu Samson, Esq.

Hanna Brophy

Dennis Eros, Jeannette Herrera and Radu Samson will present a case law update including an overview and analysis of some of the most recent relevant case law in workers compensation.

#### Objectives:

- Use recent case law to assist in developing a meaningful discovery plan.
- Apply recent case law to your advantage to resolve claims.
- Understand how recent case law is interpreted by the applicant's bar
- Predict the strategies applicant's attorneys will take based on recent case decisions.



"It's the way you ride the trail that counts." Dale Evans

### Speakers



Dennis Eros, Esq.

**Dennis Eros** worked for the California Department of Human Resources gaining labor and employment law experience in the public sector. Dennis also volunteered at a workers' rights clinic where he represented clients at wage claim hearings in front of the labor commissioner.

Dennis' first exposure to workers' compensation law was prior to graduation where he worked at a small boutique workers' compensation defense firm in Sacramento.



**Lori C. Kammerer** is nationally recognized as a leading authority on policy issues affecting California businesses of all sizes, including start-up, micro and small businesses, and corporations that have significant presence in our state.

For over 30 years and through the past six Governors' Administrations, she has advanced the interests of businesses with the legislature and the state's top regulatory officials.

Most notably, Kammerer was the Lobbyist on Senate Bill 826 (Jackson), sponsored by the National Association of Women Business Owners California (NAWBO CA) and signed by Governor Brown on September 30, 2018. SB 826 requires that all publicly-traded corporations headquartered in California, including those with principal offices in California, add a seat for a woman on their Board of Directors.

Kammerer is also recognized for her successful coalition building, marketing, fund-raising and grassroots membership development techniques. Her extensive experience in enhancing the visibility of issue campaigns for associations and political candidates have led to successful wins. Additionally, she develops, directs and implements grassroots and advocacy programs for insured and self-insured small and large employers, including public sector employers who represent cities, counties and schools.



Lori C. Kammerer



### Speakers



Angie Jung

Angie Jung has over 30 years of case management experience with the workers' compensation industry. She is a board-certified case manager, as well as a certified rehabilitation nurse. Angie has served as a nurse case management supervisor, regional medical product coordinator, and inservice instructor for professionals in the workers' compensation and healthcare communities. She is an active member of the American Nurses Association (ANA), Case Management Society of America (CMSA). She is currently an active board member of the CMSA California Chapter and served as the vice president of Rehabilitation Nurses Society (Southern California Chapter).

Angie is a co-founder of ISYS Solutions, Inc., which provides medical case management and return-to-work services throughout California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. Angie is also a co-founder of CareerSmart Learning, which offers continuing education to nurses, case managers, claims professionals, and other healthcare professionals nationwide. She oversees the healthcare educational product development inclusive of online curriculum and in-person educational events. She acts as the subject matter expert consultant to ensure the integrity of all healthcare-related programs and content meet the state and national regulatory guidelines.

Angie is an experienced public speaker and has spoken at numerous local and national conferences and provides continuing education training for case managers and workers' compensation professionals. Angie's speaking style incorporates vibrant visual aids, humor, and case examples/interactions into all presentations.

Angie is also a strong advocate of giving back to the community. In addition to participating in many local philanthropic activities, she teams up with her certified therapy dogs devoting countless volunteer hours to provide therapeutic support to children and older adults.



### Speakers

**Dr. Janet Lord** completed her medical degree at Albany Medical College, Albany, NY with Residency in Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (PM&R) at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in Santa Clara, CA. She is Board Certified in PM&R.

Dr. Lord has served as an Assistant Professor at University of California Davis Medical School, Department of PM&R, Sacramento, CA from 1983 to 1987.

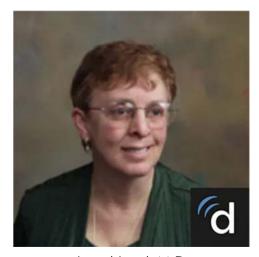
From 1996 to 2020, Dr. Lord had her private treatment practice in Berkeley, CA, for nonoperative treatment of neuromusculoskeletal injuries and pain medicine among other conditions.

Dr. Lord has been appointed a Qualified Medical Evaluator by the CA DWC since 1998. Dr. Lord conducts Qualified Medical Evaluations, Agreed Medical Evaluations an Retirement Disability/Fitness-For-Duty Independent Medical Evaluations in CA at Oakland, Sacramento, and San Jose.

Dr. Lord has presented topics covering musculoskeletal orthopedic injuries, spinal degenerative conditions and chronic pain associated medical legal issues to the Workers' Compensation community.

Medical Legal Issues Dr. Lord has addressed include:

- •Degenerative Disc Disease of Cervical, Thoracic, Lumbar Spine
- Myelopathy Cervicalgia Spinal Stenosis Repetitive Sprain Injuries
- •Chronic Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS) •Shoulder Rotator cuff Tendonitis/Tear •Shoulder Impingement Syndrome •Epicondylitis
- •Carpal Tunnel Syndrome •deQuervain's •Hip, Knee, Ankle/Foot Lower extremity injuries



Janet Lord, M.D.



### Speakers



Jeannette Y. Orozco Herrera, Esa.

**Jeannette Y. Orozco Herrera** is a partner at Hanna Brophy's Sacramento office and handles all aspects of workers' compensation claims and related matters.

Prior to joining our team, Jeannette worked as an associate for a Los Angeles firm, representing both applicants and defendants in workers' compensation matters and both plaintiffs and defendants in personal injury suits.

Jeannette has acted as first-chair in several workers' compensation trials with one such trial resulting in a favorable en banc panel decision. She has appeared before a majority of the Workers' Compensation Appeals Boards venues throughout California and has been involved in various cases in Superior Court and federal court.

Jeannette received her Juris Doctor from the University of Pacific, McGeorge School of Law and earned her undergraduate degree from California State University, Northridge.



**George Parisotto** is Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation. Prior to his recent appointment, he was the Acting Chief Counsel for the Division's Legal Unit. Mr. Parisotto received a B.A. from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles and a J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, located in San Francisco.

Following law school, Mr. Parisotto became an associate with the Thierman Law Firm, a labor law firm in San Francisco representing employers and management. He joined the Division of Workers' Compensation as a staff counsel in 1998, and later rejoined the Division in 2007 after spending three years in Seattle, Washington, with the U.S. Department of Labor's Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program.



George Parisotto



### Speakers



Ted Richards, Esa.

**Ted Richards** is Chief Counsel at the California Division of Workers' Compensation. His prior workers' compensation experience includes employment as a California Workers' Compensation Judge, as an applicants' attorney, and at a Workers' Compensation defense firm where he was a partner.

Ted received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Stanford University and his Juris Doctorate degree from University of California College of the Law, San Francisco (formerly Hastings College of the Law). He has spoken frequently at workers compensation industry conferences and events and was a board member and education conference chair at AWCP for several years. In his spare time, he enjoys trekking and mountain climbing.



**Ilona Rincon** is an Associate Attorney in our Sacramento office. She joined LFLM in 2024 and defends insurance carriers, third-party administrators, and self-insured employers in all areas of state workers' compensation defense.





Ilona Rincon, Esq.

### Speakers



Radu Samson, Esa.

**Radu Samson** attended UC Davis School of Law at King Hall, where he received his Juris Doctor (JD) in 2022. Radu was admitted to the California State Bar in 2022.

Prior to becoming an attorney, Radu worked at several local law firms in the Sacramento area, dealing with personal injury, bankruptcy, workers' compensation, and contracts litigation. Radu started working for Hanna Brophy in 2022.



**Mark Turner** is a Partner in our Sacramento office. He joined LFLM in 2014. His practice includes representing insurance carriers, third-party administrators, and self-insured employers in all areas of state workers' compensation law. Prior to joining LFLM he worked for the state and various non-profits in the Sacramento community.

Mr. Turner received his undergraduate degree from the University of California, Davis, and his law degree from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.





Mark Turner, Esq.

### AWCP Fall Education Conference

### "Gone Country" Exhibitors and Sponsors

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Our Exhibitors and Sponsors make the AWCP Fall Education Conference possible. Plan on attending the conference and visiting their booths to support these generous sponsors and exhibitors!



### Howdy from AWCP & Title Sponsor Laughlin, Falbo, Levy & Moresi

# AWCP 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Education Conference Wild Wild Work Comp! Friday, October 25, 2024

### "Gitty-Up" Sponsorship Registration

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Title Sponsor*	Sold!	Laughlin, Falbo, Levy & <mark>Mor</mark> esi, LLP
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Attendee Logo Bags*	Sold!	Included with Title Sponsorship
Conference Syllabus Ads	\$ 500	Full Page
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Mail, Email or Fax this form with payment to AWCP

Due to print deadlines, no refunds after registration deadline of October 4, 2024

Questions? Please contact Connie at connie@awcp.org

PO Box 760 Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-0760 Phone: (916) 290-8017 \* Fax (916) 914-1706



### AWCP 24th Annual Fall Education Conference

### Wild Wild Work Comp!

Friday, October 25, 2024



### "Gone Country" Exhibitor Registration

Showcasing your Company/Law Firm!

Yes, I want to exhibit at the 2024 AWCP Fall Education Conference!

#### **Booth Fees**

AWCP Diamond Member \$ 950 AWCP Non-Diamond Member \$1,250

### Registration & Payment

Name:	AWCP Diamond Member: Yes No
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C <mark>heck</mark> Enclosed: Yes No	Amount:
Credit Card Payment Information: VISA M/C AmE>	x Discover
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Credit Card Number:**As of 08/01/19, a 3% credit card processing fee will be added to the charge	
Expires: Security Code:	Billing Zip Code Number:

#### Mail, Email or Fax this form with payment to AWCP

Due to space limitations, no refunds after registration deadline of October 4, 2024 Questions? Please contact Connie at connie@awcp.org

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www.awcp.org



Members

Special Needs:

contact Connie at AWCP.

If you require special accommodations to attend the conference, please

By October 11, 2024

### 24th Annual Fall Education Conference Wild Wild Work Comp!



\$170.00

After October 11, 2024

Friday, October 25, 2024

### "Cowboy" & "Cowgirl" Advance Attendee Registration

Members

\$130.00

Attorney Members\*\* Attorney Members\*\* \$240.00 \$300.00 Non Members Non Members \$180.00 \$255.00 Non Member Attorneys\*\* \$290.00 Non Member Attorneys\*\* \$375.00 \*\*Attorney Registration includes both MCLE and Legal Specialization Credits Law firms and companies: Reserve a table of six in the lecture hall and host your clients! Registration & Payment AWCP Member: Yes No Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Check Enclosed: Yes No. Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Payment Information: VISA M/C AmEx Discover Name (as it appears on credit card): Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_\*\* \*\*As of 08/01/19, a 3% credit card processing fee will be added to the charge amount. Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Mail, Email or Fax this form with payment to AWCP Due to space limitations, no refunds after attendee registration deadline of October 18, 2024 Ouestions? Please contact Connie at connie@awcp.org PO Box 760 Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-0760 Phone: (916) 290-8017 \* Fax (916) 914-1706 www.awcp.org

#### A special thanks to the AWCP Fall Conference Committee:

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Dorothy Corralez, Pegasus Risk Management
Sarah Geivett, Winstersteen | Casarez
Jennifer Gorgen, BETA Healthcare Group
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Christopher M. Wagner, Esq., Cuneo, Black, Ward & Missler, LLP
Connie Conley, AWCP Executive Director

### ...and to our Fall Conference Title Sponsor



### **General Information**

When: Friday, October 25, 2024 Where: Wyndham Hotel

5321 Date Avenue Sacramento, CA 95841 916.338.5800

**Exhibits & Prizes:** Continue your learning experience by visiting exhibitors who provide services in the industry. Exhibitor prizes and a special Grand Prize will be given away at the close of the conference. Remember, you must be present to win the Grand Prize! Don't forget your business cards.

Continuing Education Credit: Do not forget to obtain your continuing education certificates. This conference qualifies for <u>6 Hours</u> of Certified Case Managers, Claims Examiners, California Registered Nurse, MCLE and Legal Specialization in Workers' Comp Law continuing education.

**Registration:** The attendee registration fee includes conference attendance, complete syllabus, handout materials, continental breakfast, lunch, and continuing education credit.

**Directions:** The Wyndham Hotel is conveniently located off of I-80 and Madison. Free parking is available.

