

Work Comp Connection

April 2016 Newsletter




Kansas
Department of Labor

Division of Workers Compensation:
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March DigiComp News

In order to ease transition from paper format to electronic format for dockets, there will be a back-scanning project which will occur prior to the implementation of the new system. Having dockets in electronic format will allow more accessibility of the information for both internal and external users. Currently, the process of requesting dockets and gaining access to this information can take days and can be costly. It will be much more efficient and cost-effective to have this information in an electronic format.

The decision to take on the back-scanning project was due to a combined effort of the project team and the Research and Applications Units. The Research and Applications Units prepared dockets for scanning to see how labor intensive and lengthy the process would be. Three pilot test scans of the dockets were performed to determine the work involved and costs associated with a back-scanning project. One of these test pilots contained 20 boxes, which included 198 dockets and over 36,000 images. The images were saved in two formats, TIFF and PDF. The difference between these is that TIFF requires proprietary software (which all users may not have loaded on their computer) and loads the dockets quickly, while PDFs can be read by all users but it can take anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour and a half to download some of the larger dockets. More information regarding the status of the back-scanning project will be provided in the future.

In addition to the back-scanning project, internal processes are currently being reviewed to determine how the agency will help to expedite materials for the digitization project. One way to do this is to develop an internal document management process, which could include internal scanning and indexing of documents for easy internal access.

The DigiComp Team will continue to provide monthly updates of the status of our project and details regarding the new system.

We welcome any questions or input, which can be sent to DigiComp@dol.ks.gov.



2016 General Session Seminar Topics

Employers, attorneys, nurses, certified case managers and others attending the 42nd Annual Workers Compensation Seminar at the Overland Park Convention Center on Sept. 27 & 28 will discover a wide variety of topics being presented.

General sessions on day one include, *Sixth Edition - Neck, Lower Back and Shoulder*, presented by Doug Hobbs and Dr. Daniel Zimmerman; *Sixth Edition - Carpal Tunnel, Hip and Knee*, presented by Fred Greenbaum and Dr. David Hufford; and *Future Medical*, presented by Matthew Crowley, Joni Franklin and Dr. Fermin Santos.

General sessions on day two include, *The Psychological Impact of Work Related Injuries* presented by Dr. James Jackson, Roger Riedmiller, and Terry Torline; *Credits, Offsets and Pre-Existing Impairment*, presented by Jan Fisher, Dr. Michael Poppa and Dallas Rakestraw; and *Alternative Solutions to Pain Management*, presented by Dr. Travis Foxx, Julie Jimerson-Williams and Mitch Rice.

Online registration opens June 23 at www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/seminar.aspx.

2016 Seminar Exhibit Booths Sales

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Judge Bruce Moore Inducted as Fellow

Administrative Law Judge Bruce Moore (Salina) was inducted as a Fellow in the [College of Workers Compensation Lawyers](#) on March 12 at the historic Roosevelt Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana. The College of Workers Compensation Lawyers honors attorneys who have distinguished themselves in their practice in the field of workers compensation and is affiliated with the American Bar Association. Members are nominated for the outstanding traits they have developed in their practice of 20 years, or longer, representing plaintiffs, defendants, serving as judges or acting for the benefit of all in education, overseeing agencies and developing legislation. A Fellow displays the following traits:



- Stands out to newer attorneys as a model of professionalism in deportment and advocacy;
- Has earned the respect of the bench, opposing counsel and the community;
- Displays civility in an adversarial relationship;
- Avoids allowing ideological differences to affect civility in negotiations, litigation and other aspects of law practice;
- Demonstrates an active interest in resolving issues;
- Is a student of the law;
- Has a thirst for knowledge in all areas of the law that affects their representation of their clients in Workers Compensation or their duties in adjudicating cases brought before them;
- Actively participates in the state, local and/or National Bar.

Moore was nominated by Judge John Lazarra, a Florida Workers Compensation Administrative Law Judge and one of the founders of the [National Association of Workers Compensation Judiciary \(NAWCJ\)](#). Judge Moore was elected as a member of the Board of Directors of the NAWCJ in 2015. He currently serves on its Conference and Curriculum committees and is nominated to serve as the organization's secretary for the 2016-2017 term. The election will be held at the annual judiciary college, August 22-24, in Orlando, Florida.

Congratulations Judge Moore and best of luck in August!

Fast Facts

Report Workers Compensation fraud at www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/fraud.aspx, email WCFraud@dol.ks.gov, phone (785) 296-4000 (Opt. 4) or call toll free (800) 332-0353 (Opt. 3).

Find the Latest News about Workers Compensation at www.dol.ks.gov/WorkComp/Default.aspx.