



# 2026 Conference

April 29 & 30, 2026  
Four Points Sheraton  
Charleston, West Virginia



## WELCOME



On behalf of the West Virginia Workers' Compensation Association Board of Managers, I would like to welcome everyone to our 2026 conference. We are very happy to see representatives from the West Virginia employer community, as well as from the insurance industry, our legal partners, the Offices of the Insurance Commissioner, and finally, our vendor partners. We appreciate your continued engagement. We encourage all of you to both renew old relationships and forge new ones, and please do visit all our exhibitors. There will be door prizes and a grand prize at the end of the day for someone who obtains signatures from all of our exhibitors.

Thank you again to all our sponsors for your support and thank you to all who spent many hours planning this event. Without you, we would not be gathering here today. I hope you all enjoy the program!

*Dennis*

Dennis Ewedosh, President-Chair  
Core Natural Resources

# AGENDA

## Wednesday, April 29, 2026

- 4:00—5:00 p.m. **WVWCA Annual Business and Board of Managers' Meeting**  
Four Points by Sheraton, Kanawha River Suite
- 5:30—7:00 p.m. **WVWCA Conference Reception**  
Four Points by Sheraton, Capital City Suites B & C

## Thursday, April 30, 2026

- 7:30—8:30 a.m. **Breakfast & Registration**  
Four Points by Sheraton - Capital City Suites B & C
- 8:30—8:40 a.m. **Introduction**  
Dennis Ewedosh, President—WVWCA  
Dill Battle, Executive Secretary—WVWCA
- 8:40—9:00 a.m. **Sponsor and Exhibitor Introduction**
- 9:00—9:30 a.m. **A View from the Offices of the West Virginia Insurance Commissioner**  
The Hon. Allan L. McVey, West Virginia Insurance Commissioner
- 9:30—10:00 a.m. **Treasurer of the State of West Virginia, The Hon. Larry Pack**  
Dill Battle, Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC—Moderator
- 10:00—10:15 a.m. **Break and Exhibitor Visitation**
- 10:15—11:45 a.m. **E-Mod Panel—Understanding Claim and Program Costs in West Virginia**  
Jason Harrison, Underwriter, Encova Insurance Company  
Kristina Chandler, Casualty Risk Analyst, USI Insurance Services  
Lisa Jordan, Partner, Senior Claims Specialist, USI Insurance Services—Moderator
- 11:45 a.m.—12:00 p.m. **Sponsor and Exhibitor Introduction**
- 12:00—1:00 p.m. **Lunch—Exhibition Open Visits and Networking**
- 1:00—2:15 p.m. **2026 Workers' Comp Legal Trends: Turning Court Decisions into Actionable Strategy**  
Mark J. Grigoraci, Robinson & McElwee  
James "Mac" Heslep, Jenkins Fenstermaker  
T. Jonathan Cook, Cipriani & Werner

1:50—2:00 p.m.

**Break and Exhibitor Visitation**

2:00—3:15 p.m.

**Are the Rule 20 Treatment Guidelines Still Valid?**

Christopher J. Martin, M.D.

Introduction by Dill Battle / Charity Lawrence, Spilman  
Thomas & Battle, PLLC

3:15—3:45 p.m.

**Communication Breakdown and Claim Management**

Conference Planning Committee

3:45—4:00 p.m.

**Closing Remarks and Door Prize Drawings!**

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## EXHIBITORS



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# BOARD OF MANAGERS

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## **Executive Secretary**

H. Dill Battle, III  
Spilman Thomas & Battle PLLC  
[hdbattle@spilmanlaw.com](mailto:hdbattle@spilmanlaw.com)

## SPEAKERS



**Dill Battle** is Executive Secretary of the WWVCA. He is also a Member at Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC and chair of the firm's Workers' Compensation Practice Group and the Insurance Government Relations & Regulatory Practice Group. Dill's primary areas of practice are workers' compensation, employment relations and counseling, product liability litigation, and commercial litigation. He is a Fellow and Board Member of the College of Workers' Compensation Lawyers. He is past chair of the Membership Committee for the National Workers' Compensation Defense Network (NWCDN). He also sits on the West Virginia State Bar Workers' Compensation Committee. Dill is admitted to practice in West Virginia and Virginia, before the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, and before the Supreme Court of the United States. He earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Virginia and his law degree at West Virginia University.



**Kristina Chandler** is a Senior Casualty Risk Analyst for USI Insurance Services. With 23 years of experience in the industry, her role as Senior Casualty Risk Analyst is central to consulting clients and key insurance decision makers on the financial aspects of their alternative risk insurance renewals and risk management strategies. With a Property and Casualty insurance license, her proficiency extends to crafting alternative risk plans and negotiating the financial nuances of these insurance programs. Ms. Chandler's goal is to ensure clients' needs are met in coverage and the insured makes a financially sound decision with risk included. This occurs by using actuarial programs to predict future loss years and leveraging actuarial analysis to determine optimum market quotes, as well as negotiating collateral and providing liability calculations that impact the insured's balance sheet. She has industry speciality in mining and energy, healthcare, construction, and city and municipalities. Prior to USI, Ms. Chandler served as a Risk Analyst for Wells Fargo Insurance Services. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Finance and Economics at West Virginia State University.



**T. Jonathan Cook** is a Partner at Cipriani & Werner, where he focuses his practice on workers' compensation law and Federal Black Lung litigation. With extensive experience representing both self-insured and insured employers, Mr. Cook handles all aspects of occupational injury claims, occupational disease claims, and occupational pneumoconiosis claims. His practice also extends to defending coal companies and insurance carriers in complex claims under the Black Lung Benefits Act, navigating the intricate medical and legal issues that arise in these cases.

Mr. Cook frequently counsels self-insured employers, insurance carriers, and third-party administrators on workers' compensation matters, including benefits coordination, return-to-work strategies, and risk management. His work in Federal Black Lung litigation involves representing clients in administrative proceedings and appeals before the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Administrative Law Judges, the Benefits Review Board, and federal courts.

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He is well-versed in the medical and regulatory challenges associated with these claims and is committed to advocating for his clients in a highly technical and evolving area of law.

A respected member of the legal community, Mr. Cook is affiliated with the West Virginia State Bar, the Kanawha County Bar Association, and the West Virginia Defense Trial Counsel.

Mr. Cook earned two B.A. degrees from West Virginia University in 1999 and his J.D. from the West Virginia University College of Law in 2002. He understands that workers' compensation and Black Lung litigation pose not only financial risks but also significant operational challenges for employers. His goal is to provide comprehensive legal support, helping his clients manage these complexities effectively. Widely recognized throughout the legal and workers' compensation communities, Mr. Cook is known for his strategic defense work in West Virginia and beyond.



**Dennis Ewedosh** is a graduate of California University of Pennsylvania in Sports Medicine and Athletic Training. Dennis has been instrumental in developing Occupational Health as it relates to injury prevention and managing long term liabilities. He is presently working at CONSOL Energy as the Manager of Occupational Health & Worker's Comp. His daily focus is on all traumatic, musculoskeletal, and occupational health injuries and diseases. Dennis was previously employed by NovaCare Rehabilitation as a Workstrategies Director and was involved in development of onsite employer-based services for safety and injury prevention.



**Mark J. Grigoraci** assists employers, HR professionals, claims adjusters, insurance professionals, and individuals address and resolve various employment-related issues. Mr. Grigoraci represents employers, HR professionals, and individuals in various industries, including manufacturing, retail, service, hospitality, and coal. For more than twenty years, he has worked closely with HR professionals, employers, claims adjusters, insurance professionals, and others who are actively involved in resolving disputes and litigation. Whether it's an employment lawsuit, a workers' compensation claim, a federal black lung case, or any other employment practices matter, Mr. Grigoraci can assist you.

In addition to the above, Mr. Grigoraci is experienced in general civil litigation, personal injury, trademarks, and West Virginia campaign finance law. If you need an attorney, you can rely on Mr. Grigoraci as your trusted, reliable, efficient, and determined advocate.

Before joining Robinson & McElwee in 2005, Mr. Grigoraci worked as an Assistant Attorney General in the Workers' Compensation Defense Division at the West Virginia Attorney General's Office. In this role, he managed a variety of workers' compensation claims involving a wide range of issues.



**Jason Harrison, CPCU, ARM, AIS, CWCC** is a Production Underwriter and Agency Manager—Workers Compensation at Encova Insurance. He is responsible for analyzing the insured's risk exposure to determine the appropriate pricing and service strategy. He also is responsible for overall account management. Mr. Harrison specializes in a mix of industries such as Oil & Gas, Heavy Construction, Healthcare, Manufacturing, Transportation, Retail and Government. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in business administration with a concentration in marketing from West Virginia State University. Currently holds the professional designations of Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU), Associate in Risk Management (ARM), Associate in Insurance Services (AIS) and Certified Workers Compensation Counselor (CWCC).



**James "Mac" Heslep** has practiced state and federal workers' compensation defense in West Virginia since 2004. He has practiced with Jenkins Fenstermaker, PLLC since 2017. Mac graduated with Honors from the College of William & Mary in 2001 and the West Virginia University College of Law in 2004. Mac has been recognized in Virginia/West Virginia Super Lawyers and Best Lawyers for his work in the field of workers' compensation law, earning a Lawyer of the Year distinction on five occasions. He is a member of the West Virginia State Bar's Workers' Compensation Committee. Mac regularly speaks on workers' compensation topics throughout the state and region.

Mac resides in Harrison County with his wife and children. Outside of work, Mac spends his time managing the Clarksburg Post 13 Baseball program.



**Lisa Jordan** has 28+ years of working knowledge in the workers' compensation system, primarily in the state of West Virginia. She joined USI Insurance Services in April 2015 and serves as a proactive advocate for clients providing oversight of management of their workers' compensation claims.

Ms. Jordan started her career in 1997 at Employer's Service Corporation (ESC), a third party administrator, in Charleston, WV and managed injury claims for self-insured and insured employers, primarily in the coal, gas and manufacturing industries throughout WV. She was highly involved in the management of claims from the onset of the injury through closure: initial reporting, reserve estimation, subrogation, updates to excess carrier including recoveries, settlement negotiation, Medicare set aside request and CMS lien recovery demand responses, and PTD process management. She conducted claim review meetings, made recommendations for issues actively litigated at the Office of Judges, and coordinated with plaintiff and defense attorneys. Ms. Jordan interacted with internal and external auditors, including carrier participation and response. In 2005, Lisa began managing a claims team and was responsible for hiring, training, managing and developing staff and performing the human resource functions as well as completing periodic supervisory review of claims.

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During her career, ESC was purchased by Acordia, then Wells Fargo Disability Management, and later HealthSmart Casualty Claims Solutions in 2013. During these transitions Ms. Jordan modified claims handling procedures to adapt to the changes. Throughout her career she has been highly involved and monitored the development of workers compensation laws, rules and regulations.



**Christopher Martin, M.D.** is a Professor of Medicine and Occupational Medicine at West Virginia University Schools of Public Health and Medicine. Dr. Martin is a Visiting Scholar at the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal). He is the founding Director of the Global Engagement Office at the Health Sciences Center for WVU. Dr. Martin is a Designated Institutional Official at WVU School of Public Health and he is the Program Director of Occupational Medicine Residency at West Virginia University.

Dr. Martin attended the University of Alberta, Edmonton where he obtained a Master of Science, Environmental Health Sciences and the Royal College Fellowship in Occupational Medicine. He received his Doctor of Medicine from Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's NL and he received a Bachelor of Science, Biology at McGill University, Montreal, Quebec.

Dr. Martin has received many awards and acknowledgments including the 2024 Edithe J. Levit Distinguished Service Award from the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME), the 2022 Excellence in Education or Research in OEM Award, ACOEM, the 2022 NIOSH Bullard-Sherwood Research to Practice (r2p) Award, Honorable Mention, Intervention category, the 2015 Global Health Learning Opportunities Ambassador, Association of American Medical Colleges, the 2010 Distinguished Teacher Award, Senior, MD degree program, and the 2004 Dean's Award for Excellence in Education. He was nominated in 2002, 2004, and 2005 for the WVU School of Medicine John W. Traubert Award. Dr. Martin received the award for Outstanding Speaker, Tropical Medicine and Parasitology Course in 2002 and 2004, and the Percival L. MacLachlan Award, chosen by the 2nd year medical student class for "unusual teaching ability and sincere interest in the progress of the entire class" in 2002. He is a Fellow of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM).

Dr. Martin serves and has served on several committees and has many administrative responsibilities. Some of those include the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME), American Board of Preventive Medicine (ABPM), Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH), Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, Sultanate of Oman, West Virginia University School of Medicine, West Virginia University Health Sciences Center, West Virginia University, and the State of West Virginia.

Dr. Martin is involved in many clinical and consulting activities and has had many publications as well as scientific & peer-reviewed articles.



**Allan L. McVey, CPCU, ARM, AAI, AAM, AIS** was appointed West Virginia Insurance Commissioner by Governor Jim Justice March 21, 2017. He then was appointed by the Governor to serve as Cabinet Secretary of the WV Department of Administration in January 2019. He served in that position until his reappointment as West Virginia Insurance Commissioner effective September 22, 2021. As West Virginia Insurance Commissioner, Allan is responsible for the regulation of the insurance market, as well as protection of insurance consumers. He believes in the mission of the West Virginia Insurance Commissioner's office of promoting a competitive and solvent insurance market with adequate consumer protection by fairly and consistently administering the insurance laws of West Virginia.

Prior to his appointment in 2017 as West Virginia Insurance Commissioner, Allan was a licensed insurance agent who served in several capacities during his long tenure in the insurance industry in West Virginia. His experience includes a position as a Medical Claims Examiner with the WV Workers' Compensation Fund, underwriter with a large national insurance company and since 1976 a licensed insurance agent and broker with several firms, both local and national. His latest assignment included both sales and management of the WV operations for a large national insurance brokerage firm. Allan earned a Bachelor of Science, Business Administration degree from West Virginia State University and has several post-graduate insurance designations.



**Larry Pack** was elected West Virginia's 26th State Treasurer in 2024. He is a proud life-long West Virginian. Born and raised in eastern Kanawha County, Treasurer Pack discovered his love for accounting when he was in high school. He graduated from East Bank High School and earned his B.S. Degree in Accounting from the West Virginia Institute of Technology. After graduation, Treasurer Pack practiced as a CPA for 12 years with Herman & Cormany CPAs, A.C., where he provided tax, accounting and consulting services to businesses throughout West Virginia. He then co-founded the accounting firm, Pack Hawley Lambert & Burdette, which later merged with Suttle and Stalnaker.

Treasurer Pack has been a successful business entrepreneur for decades and is passionate about job creation, economic growth and elderly care in West Virginia. He was the founder and CEO of Stonerise Healthcare LLC, which served West Virginia and southeastern Ohio through skilled nursing centers, home health, hospice and therapy services from 2009 to 2022. Prior to Stonerise, Treasurer Pack owned and operated six other health care centers across West Virginia.

In 2020, Treasurer Pack was elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates representing Kanawha County. He served as State Revenue Secretary and Senior Advisor to Governor Jim Justice from 2022 to 2024. He has served on various boards, including the Charleston Coliseum and Convention Center, West Virginia Health Right, West Virginia Healthcare Association and the West Virginia Alzheimer's Association. He is currently the West Virginia National Committeeman for the National Republican Party and an active member of Bible Center Church.

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## In Memoriam



**In Honor of Bradley Scott Vinskovich, November 17, 1977—February 27, 2026**

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the death of Brad Vinskovich, a loyal member of the Board of Managers of the West Virginia Workers' Compensation Association, where he served as Secretary. Brad was a natural leader in our organization and was always gracious to share his insight and experiences from his work at American Consolidated Natural Resources. Brad had a commonsense approach and we gained valuable perception from his analysis. We express our deepest condolences and prayers to his family, friends, and coworkers.

The Board of Managers  
West Virginia Workers' Compensation Association



## **The Value of WVWCA Membership**

The West Virginia Workers' Compensation Association offers a unique forum for members. Only as a group can employers initiate input, change and reform to West Virginia's workers' compensation laws and rules. Membership in the Association assures companies a voice for positive change and reform. We promote and develop events such as quarterly Lunch & Learn webinars and the substantive conference which serve as a primary vehicle for networking and providing a platform for review of best practices that will serve to promote safe and healthy working environments for employers and employees in West Virginia.

- Membership in WVWCA is open to qualified self-insured and insured employers and government agencies.
- Associate Membership is available to professionals and companies employed by Full Membership employers in the area of workers' compensation.
- Visit <https://wwwca.net/membership/> to join now!

# EXHIBITORS

Visit all the exhibitors on this list and be entered for a prize drawing!

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