



Contact

For Immediate Release

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Bordelon to address ICT Workers' Comp Conference

Texas Workers' Compensation Commissioner Rod Bordelon will deliver the keynote speech at the Insurance Council of Texas (ICT) Workers' Compensation Conference in Austin on Thursday, Sep. 2, 2010. The one-day conference will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Austin.

The theme of this year's conference is "Determining the State of Texas Workers Compensation System." Bordelon will present his views on the accomplishments of the Division of Workers' Compensation, the state of the Texas workers' compensation system and his vision for the future.

Albert Betts, the former commissioner of workers' compensation and now partner at Thompson Coe Cousins and Irons will follow Commissioner Bordelon. Betts will discuss the sunset review of the DWC and Office of Injured Employee Counsel, anticipated legislative issues for the 2011 session of the Texas Legislature, and major public policy issues impacting the Texas workers' compensation system.

The morning session will feature Robert Stokes of Flahive, Ogden & Latson who will provide an update on the Texas Department of Insurance's (TDI) workers' compensation enforcement activities, discuss the recently completed audit of TDI's workers' compensation enforcement program, and issues associated with the Medical Quality Review Panel. Stokes will be followed by Dr. Jane Derebery.

Dr. Derebery, an occupational medicine specialist, will discuss the changing medical paradigm of prescribing drugs for occupational injuries, effective chronic pain management, and the use of the ODG treatment guidelines for effective medical management of opiates.

The afternoon session will feature a workers' compensation panel discussion where legislators and stakeholder representatives will discuss issues ranging from the recently completed Sunset Review of the DWC to the Texas Supreme Court's *Entergy* decision and adequacy of income benefits.

The panel discussion will be moderated by Stuart Colburn of Downs Stanford with panelists State Senator Glenn Hegar (R-Katy), State Representative Joe Deshotel (D-Port Arthur), Cathy DeWitt of the Texas Association of Business, Rick Levy of the Texas AFL-CIO, and Joe Woods of the Property Casualty Insurers Association of America.

The panel discussion will be followed by an update on the delivery of health care benefits in the Texas workers' compensation system by Julie Shank of JShank Consulting. The conference will conclude with a presentation on bad faith in the Texas system by veteran

workers' compensation defense attorney David Brenner, a founding partner of the Austin based law firm of Burns Anderson Jury & Brenner.

For more information regarding the conference, turn to ICT's website at <http://www.insurancecouncil.org/images/2010ConfAdFlyer.pdf>.

The Insurance Council of Texas is the largest state insurance trade association in the country consisting of approximately 500 property and casualty insurers writing business in Texas.

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