



South Carolina Employers' Advocacy Association

Regional Program

May 15, 2019

Somerset Point | Moncks Corner, South Carolina

- 8:00 AM **Registration and Coffee**
- 9:00 AM **Welcome and Announcements**
Nichole R. Dunmeyer, SCEAA President
- Welcome from the Sponsors**
- Meet the Exhibitors**
- 9:30 AM ***Accountability: Finally, A Method for Getting It Right!***
Jim Meeks, Director of Compliance & Audit Service, Charleston Water System
- 10:00 AM ***Employers Panel: Comp Challenges & Best Practices***
Perry DePietro, D.O., Director of Medical Operations, Concentra Medical Services
Jason Fugate, Manager, Occupational Safety, Santee Cooper
Michael N. Schwerin, Safety & Risk Management Director, County of Charleston
Patrick Wheeler, Workers Compensation Specialist, Volvo Car USA Inc.
- 11:00 AM Break
- 11:15 AM ***Legislative Update***
Annie Wilson, SCEAA Lobbyist, Partner, Capitol Consultants
- 11:30 AM ***SC Workers' Compensation Commission Update***
Melody L. James, Commissioner, SC Workers' Compensation Commission
Gene McCaskill, Commissioner, SC Workers' Compensation Commission
Aisha Taylor, Commissioner, SC Workers' Compensation Commission
- 12:00 - 1:00 PM Lunch





South Carolina Employers' Advocacy Association strives to be the voice in workers' compensation matters in South Carolina by advocating for employers before the Workers' Compensation Commission, the General Assembly, and other venues as appropriate. We seek to educate and inform members about legislative and regulatory issues and to work and cooperate with other organizations which have similar interests.

Since it was formed in 1975 as the South Carolina Self-Insurers Association, the association has focused on the interests of employers self-insuring their workers' compensation obligations in South Carolina. In 2016, the association broadened its scope and now focuses on the workers' compensation-related issues of all South Carolina employers. The Employers' Advocacy Association is one of the most useful resources for continuing education about workers' compensation and the issues and trends in and affecting workers' compensation, in South Carolina.

What has SCEAA done for SC employers?

- In 2007, SCEAA successfully lobbied for the orderly dissolution of the Second Injury Fund, stricter definition of repetitive trauma, and other aspects of Senate Bill 332.
- We monitored the dissolution of the Second Injury Fund, ongoing assessments, and payouts following the legislation.
- Advocated on behalf of employers on the mental stress House bill in 2013
- SCEAA has filed and participated in amicus briefs, including: *James v. Anne's, Inc.*, *Adickes v. Philips Healthcare*, and *Clemmons v. Lowe's*
- Worked to successfully block the proposed self-insurers guarantee fund.
- Influenced law makers to stop the Opt Out bill in 2015.
- SCEAA's President represented the Association on the Governors Commission on Workers' Compensation reform in 2010.

Many of South Carolina's largest employers belong to the association, along with claims professionals, legal firms, and other organizations serving the needs of the workers' compensation marketplace. Membership is open to any South Carolina employer which is subject to the South Carolina Workers' Compensation Act, any organization whose services prevent workers' compensation claims or mitigate the cost of claims which do occur, and insurance companies providing commercial workers' compensation insurance in South Carolina, but are not an employer subject to the Act.

So, while things have been relatively quiet on the workers' compensation front, big challenges are always looming. Do not be caught off guard. No organization in the state has a better understanding of workers' compensation than our association and

its members. This is because the best lawyers and claims and rehab professionals are members of our group. We regularly call on these resources when proposing or opposing changes to the system. Become a member today and let SCEAA monitor and advocate on your behalf.

Not a member? Contact us today to learn more.

PO Box 1763 | Columbia, SC 29202 | (803) 252-1087 | Fax: (803) 252-05897
scemployers@capconsc.com | www.scemployers.org