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17th Annual Work Injury Conference Announced: “Work Injury in a Down Economy”

(Champaign, IL – October 22, 2009) The 17th annual Work Injury Conference is scheduled for Thursday, **October 29, 2009** at the **i-Hotel and Conference Center** in Champaign. The theme of this year’s all-day conference is **“Work Injury in a Down Economy: Exploring Recession Ramifications on the Illinois Workers’ Compensation System.”**

The Conference is for employers, physicians, nurse case managers, insurance adjusters, and attorneys who have a vital stake in the Illinois Workers’ Compensation System. The Work Injury Conference provides an open forum to discuss diverse interests and strategies to achieve solutions to improve the Illinois Workers’ Compensation System.

In an interactive discussion on the issues facing workers’ compensation today, attendees will help reenact an injured worker’s progress through the workers’ compensation system to resolution. Experienced professionals will educate and moderate the audience on critical topics affecting the workers’ compensation system and recommend solutions to improve the Illinois Workers’ Compensation System. This will ultimately control costs, and improve the overall health of today’s workforce.

Attendees will have the opportunity to “Ask the Chairman” in a question-and-answer session with Acting Chairman of the Illinois Workers’ Compensation Commission before they profile two case studies to resolution. Along the way, they will discuss issues including workers’ compensation fraud, psychological intervention and nurse case management. The Conference will conclude with Arbitrator Stephen Mathis sharing his ruling on each case. The full agenda is available online at www.safeworksillinois.com.

Speakers will include:

- **Ronald D. Bensyl, CWCA** – Senior Vice President, Workers' Compensation, *Behnke Insurance*
- **Michael A. Campion, PhD, LP, HSPP, CPQ** – President, *Campion, Barrow & Associates*
- **Nancy Davis, RN, CCM, CLCP, MSCC** – *NurseValue, Inc.*
- **Theresa M. Delvo, P.T.** – President, *Midwest Rehabilitation, Inc.*

- **David J. Fletcher, MD, MPH, FACOEM** (moderator) – Medical Director, *SafeWorks Illinois*
- **John M. Furry, MD** – Director of Pain Medicine Center, *St. Mary's Hospital*
- **Thomas Grey, CHCM** – President, *Grey & Associates*
- **Jerry Hester** – Financial Representative, *Northwestern Mutual*
- **Michael J. Holt** – Attorney, *Hennessy & Roach, P.C.*
- **Eugene F. Keefe** – Attorney, *Keefe, Campbell & Associates, LLC*
- **Stuart C. King, MD** – Head of Spine and Pain Management, *Christie Clinic*
- **Lawrence K.C. Li, MD** – Founder, *Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center*
- **Amy J. Masters** – Acting Chairman, *Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission (IWCC)*
- **Arbitrator Stephen Mathis**
- **Libby Nevins, RN, CCM** – Medical Care Consultants, Inc.
- **Nicholas M. Schiro** – Attorney, Tuggle, *Schiro & Lichtenberger, P.C.*
- **Toney Tomaso** – Attorney, Heyl, Royster, *Voelker & Allen, P.C.*
- **Francis "Buzz" Walsh** – Supervisor, *IWCC, Fraud Unit*
- **Michael L. Weber** – Risk Control Manager, *SuperValu*
- **David N. Weis, M.A., L.C.P.C.** – Account Executive, *Chestnut Global Partners*

The conference is sponsored by SafeWorks Illinois, Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Center (OSMC), and several other organizations.

For registration information, visit www.safeworksillinois.com.

ABOUT SAFEWORKS ILLINOIS

SafeWorks Illinois provides comprehensive occupational health services and return to work programs to create safe, drug-free business and industries. SafeWorks' ultimate goal is to promote wellness in the workplace by developing prevention programs, providing injury treatment and industrial rehabilitation services that deliver results to help employees recover, rehabilitate and return to work. SafeWorks Illinois provides 24-hour access to doctors and 'Fast-Track' services with offices in Decatur, Champaign and Chicago. www.safeworksillinois.com