Loyola University New Orleans College of Law
In conjunction with the United States Department of Labor Presents the

Annual Longshore Conference

March 19-20, 2015
Astor Crowne Plaza Hotel
New Orleans, Louisiana

Thursday, March 19, 2015

7:30 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.  Registration

8:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.  Introduction and Announcements

María Pabón López, Dean
Loyola University New Orleans College of Law

Natasha A. Lacoste, Director, Continuing Legal Education
Loyola University New Orleans College of Law

Alan G. Brackett, Esq., Advisory Board Chair
Mouledoux, Bland, Legrand & Brackett, LLC
New Orleans, LA

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.  Significant Judicial Decisions Impacting Claims Under the Act

James L. Azzarello, Jr., Esq.
Thomas & Associates (Staff Counsel for AIG)
Chicago, IL

Jonathan Beiser
Ashcraft & Gerel, LLP
Rockville, MD

Mark A. Reinhalter, Esq.
Counsel for Longshore, Office of the Solicitor of Labor
U.S. Department of Labor
Washington, D.C.

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  Navigating Maritime Jurisdiction

- Jones Act
- Longshore
- OCSLA
- Concurrent Jurisdiction With State Laws
Allen D. Hemphill, Esq.
Brown Sims, PC
Houston, TX

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.  Break

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Approval of Section 8(i) Settlements
- Statutory Requirements
- What Constitutes Adequacy?
- What’s Needed for Approval?
- Impact of the Richardson Decision
- Involvement of OWCP and the Solicitor

Hon. Lee J. Romero
Chief Judge, Office of Administrative Law Judges
U.S. Department of Labor
Covington, Louisiana

Mark A. Reinhalter, Esq.
Counsel for Longshore, Office of the Solicitor of Labor
U.S. Department of Labor
Washington, D.C.

Paul M. Doolittle, Esq.
Paul M. Doolittle, PA
Jacksonville, FL

John E. Kawczynski, Esq.
Field, Womack & Kawczynski, LLC
South Amboy, NJ

11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Handling Claims Before the Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs
- OWCP Operations
  - Longshore/DBA & War Hazards Compensation
  - Modernizing the Claims Handling Process
  - Longshore’s Central Mailing and Case Create
  - SEAPortal
- Changes in Handling War Hazard Submissions
  - Newly Established War Hazard Unit
  - Streamlined assignment of Cases by Carrier
E-Pilot with AIG – Now Offering Electronic Transmission to all Carriers and Reps (2015)

- Communicating with OWCP for Longshore/DBA Claims
  - Direct Network Connections with Carriers/Mutuals
  - Longshore Regulations
- Evaluation of Longshore & DBA Claims Procedures With the District Directors

Antonio Rios, Director, Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers’ Compensation, U.S. Department of Labor
Washington, D.C.

Joined by the District Directors and National Office Branch Chiefs

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Unraveling Functional Capacity Evaluations
- What Are They and Where Did They Come From?
- Are There Standards For FCEs?
- How To Tell The Good From The Bad
- How Are They Used By Doctors?
- How Are They Used By Vocational Counselors?
- What Do They Mean To Your Claim?

Rich Baudry, P.T., D.P.T., O.C.S.
Baudry Therapy Center
Metairie, LA

Dr. Richard W. Bunch, Ph.D., P.T., C.B.E.S.
ISR Institute, Inc.
New Orleans, LA

Arthur J. Brewster, Esq.
Arthur J. Brewster Attorney at Law
Metairie, LA

John F. Karpousis, Esq.
Freehill, Hogan & Mahar
New York, NY

4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Longshore Jeopardy!

Hon. Patrick Rosenow
Office of Administrative Law Judges
Covington, Louisiana
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  Cocktail Reception

Friday, March 20, 2015

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.  The Ethical Obligations of Counsel
  • Dealing With Unrepresented Claimants
  • Obligations Before OWCP and OALJ

  Kevin A. Marks, Esq.
  Galloway, Johnson, Tompkins, Burr & Smith
  New Orleans, LA

  Tommy Dulin, Esq.
  Dulin & Dulin, Ltd
  Gulfport, MS

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.  Determining The Responsible Employer and Carrier
  • Can There Be Multiple Employers?
  • Statutory Employers
  • Problems With Occupational Illness and Repetitive Exposure During Multiple Policy Periods
  • What Happens When Coverage Lapses?
  • Impact of Defunct or Bankrupt Employers and Carriers

  Hon. Larry W. Price
  Office of Administrative Law Judges
  Covington, LA

  Patrick J. Babin, Esq.
  Mouledoux, Bland, Legrand & Brackett, LLC
  New Orleans, LA

  Aaron L. Walter, Esq.
  Chestnut, Bellar & Walter
  Marietta, GA

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  Break

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  Claims Under the War Hazards Compensation Act (WHCA)
  • How Are These Claims Administered?
  • How Are New Disputes Resolved?
  • Who Represents the Employer and Carrier?
  • Who Represents the Claimant (And How Do They Get Paid)?

  Antonio Rios
Director, Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers’ Compensation, U.S. Department of Labor
Washington, D.C.

Jennifer Valdivieso
Chief of Policies, Regulations and Procedures
Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers’ Compensation,
U.S. Department of Labor
Washington, D.C.

Helen Boberek
Supervisory Claims Examiner, WCHA Unit
Division of Federal Employees’ Compensation
U.S. Department of Labor
Cleveland, OH

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Professionalism: Meet the Press—How To Deal With Media in the Practice of Law
- Media Means More Than Newspapers, Television and Radio
- The Internet Has Made Everyone a “News-gatherer” and “Reporter”
- How to Deal Effectively With All Forms of Media

Clancy Dubos, Esq.
Gambit Communications, Inc.
New Orleans, Louisiana