

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
CHAPTER MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2021**

Meeting Agenda

- 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast**
- 9:00 – 9:15 a.m. Welcome and Introductions**
- 9:15 – 10:30 a.m. School Districts and COVID – Unprecedented Times**
Presenters: Dawn Watkins, LAUSD, and Nidra Kumadras, ASCIP
(1 CE – Certificate provided)

The COVID-19 pandemic provided unique challenges and opportunities for California School Districts. While continuing to support the education of students, districts transitioned schools to distance learning, staffed food banks to feed students and families, and facilitated COVID testing. During this session, representatives from two Southern California school risk management programs will share insights from their experiences in responding to the pandemic, modifying operational processes, and strategies for the future management of Workers' Compensation in a post-pandemic world.



Dawn Watkins is the Director of Integrated Disability Management for the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), the second-largest school district in the nation. Ms. Watkins has over 30 years of risk management experience in both the private and public sectors. In 2004, she joined the Risk Management Division of LAUSD, where she has held progressively responsible positions. Since 2006, she has led the LAUSD disability management program, which includes workers' compensation, absence management, reasonable accommodations, return to work, and protected leaves for approximately 70,000 employees. Ms. Watkins holds a Bachelor of Science, a California Self-Insured Administrators certificate, and multiple Risk Management and Human Resources designations.



Nidra Kumadras is the Executive Director of Workers' Compensation at ASCIP. Her role includes claims oversight and supervision of ASCIP's third party administrators; assisting members with accessing ASCIP's various risk management, loss control, and safety services; and working directly with members to identify and achieve their Workers' Compensation goals. Nidra joined the ASCIP team in 2015 with over 25 years of California Workers' Compensation claims experience. For 11 years she was a Vice President with Everest National Insurance Company, and also has 15 years of experience managing the Workers' Compensation claims for a large California Joint Power Authority for public schools and colleges. Nidra has a B.S. degree from Dalhousie University and holds a California Self-Insured Competency Certification.

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10:30 – 10:45 a.m. BREAK AND NETWORKING

10:45 – 12 noon Disability Accommodation in the Post-COVID World
Presenter: Jennifer Rosner, Atty/Partner, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore
(1 MCLE, 1 CE – Certificate Provided)

This interactive session will discuss accommodations in the post-COVID world. The first half of the session will lay the foundation by explaining the interactive process and how to identify reasonable accommodations. The second half will discuss the unique challenges presented by COVID-19 and the demands on employers to accommodate employee disabilities in the ever changing landscape of this unprecedented pandemic. This session will explore the legal parameters and strategies for how to respond and what employers can do if they cannot reasonably accommodate an employee's disability in the workplace.



Jennifer is a partner in the Los Angeles office of Liebert Cassidy Whitmore. She is a prolific litigator with an extensive background in lawsuits involving discrimination, harassment and retaliation, as well as disciplinary and due process issues. Jennifer has been successful in obtaining summary judgment on behalf of clients in many of her litigation matters in both state and federal court and also has extensive appellate experience. In addition to her work as a litigator, Jennifer represents clients in numerous administrative appeal hearings and has a strong record of success on behalf of the firm's clients in upholding their disciplinary decisions.

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. LUNCH AND NETWORKING

**Date: June 17, 2021
Time: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Location: The Phoenix Club
1340 S. Sanderson Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92806**

**Please confirm your attendance with online registration – [Click here to Register!](#)
Public Agency Members are FREE
Associates \$25/Non-Members \$50
Please RSVP by June 10, 2021**

**For questions, please contact DeAnna Soria, Chapter Chair at
(714)536-5519, or deanna.soria@surfcity-hb.org**

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