

## **Meeting Agenda**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

Featuring guitarist Jim Vita - acoustical holiday favorites

9:00 – 9:15 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

The Landscape of Bullying-Risks, Factors, and Solutions

Speakers: ASCIP presents Linda Bauermeister, Partner, Barber &

Bauermeister

Hanna Brophy presents Candy Perez, Associate Attorney

(1 CE and 1 MCLE – certificates provided)

Part I: Bullying can take many forms ranging from "she keeps looking at me", annoying social media posts, a concerted agenda to terrorize, to an all out physical assault. Acting as the eyes and ears of a parent while children are in their care can be a daunting challenge for school districts. Although a district is not the insurer of every act that occurs on campus, it must have a quick, reasonable and well thought out investigation and response to defend itself. Having appropriate policies and procedures in place can make the difference between a large verdict and a defense verdict.

Part II: Bullying affects not just those who are bullied, but possibly those who observe the bullying, attempt to intervene, or who become involved in other ways. If these are employees of the school district, there may be potential for a psychiatric claim or other Workers' Compensation claims related to bullying. Discussion will include the nature of these claims, the required burden of proof, and keys to defending them.



9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

Linda Bauerneister is a founding partner of Barber & Bauermeister in Orange County. Her practice focuses on civil rights violations, governmental litigation for Cities and Water Districts, employment litigation, construction litigation, products liability, premises liability and automobile liability for commercial delivery and transportation companies. She has acted as an arbitrator for the Orange County Courts in hundreds of matters. She is a member of the Orange County Bar Associations Master Division, the Association of California Defense Counsel and the American Board of Trial Attorneys.



Candy Perez joined Hanna Brophy in 2016. Ms. Perez has over 13 years of experience in Workers' Compensation defense. In addition, she worked with a general practitioner related to the areas of law in immigration, personal injury, taxation, family law/divorce, and incorporations. Candy earned her J.D. from Loyola and has been exclusively serving the Worker's Compensation industry in the Inland Empire, Orange County, and Los Angeles, County. She represents insurance carriers and self-insured employers in all aspects of Workers' Compensation defense. Many of Ms. Perez's cases involve defending public entities. Candy focuses on mitigating expenses by helping client's close files at the outset for early settlement and/or works aggressively to push the matters to trial.

10:15 – 10:30 **BREAK AND NETWORKING** 

10:30 – 11:30 p.m. Workers' Compensation Applicant Fraud

Speaker: Pamela Leitao, Orange County District Attorney -

**Insurance Fraud Unit** 

(1 CE – certificate provided)

Worker's Compensation fraud is a large crime in America today. Billions of dollars in false claims are stolen every year. Scams are forcing premiums higher and draining business profits. A small number may scam this coverage for personal profit, but the damage they cause is enormous. This presentation will be an overview of the three (3) primary types of applicant fraud, cases that were filed in each category which resulted in a conviction for insurance fraud, and examples of cases submitted that were rejected and the reason for the rejection. Learn what's required to prove insurance fraud, the do's and don'ts of moving an investigation to the Special Investigation Unit and the filing of a Suspected Fraudulent Claim Referral form known as the FD-1.



Pamela Leitao was admitted to the California Bar in December 1985.
Prior to coming to work the Orange County District Attorney's office,
Ms. Leitao was a staff attorney and then a Managing Attorney at Inland
Counties Legal Services Riverside and Rancho Cucamonga where low-income
and seniors received free legal services in areas of family law, domestic
violence, public benefits, wills, etc. In addition to managing the office she
was involved in training all staff attorneys, paralegals and clerical staff while
carrying a full caseload.

In November 2001, Pamela Leitao was sworn in as Deputy District Attorney with the Orange County District Attorney's Office and initially assigned to the Child Support unit for 6 months. Thereafter, she worked at a variety of Misdemeanor and Juvenile court assignments until October 2007, when she began handling general Felony cases. In October 2010, Ms. Leitao was transferred to the Insurance Fraud Unit and still assumes responsibility for Applicant/Claimant fraud and the 3700.5 cases.

11:30 – 12:30 Lunch and Networking

12:30 – 1:30

Running on Empty – Fatigue Management in the Workforce

Speaker: Kathy Espinoza, Keenan & Associates

(1 CE – Certificate provided)

Fatigue, burnout, shift work and work/life balance wear heavily on our workforce, Today's professionals are most vulnerable to stress overload and burnout due to working much more than 40 hours a week in an emotionally exhausting environment with coworkers who are exhausted as well. Coupled with limited control, shift work and reduced opportunity for sleep, these factors can lead to fatigue-related errors and injury. This session will discuss the impact of overtime on errors and provide a review of the literature on psychological and physiological stress and their effect on sleep and fatigue. The session will also look at the health effects from work scheduling and review overtime management programs.



Widely favored and admired, we bring you Kathy Espinoza once again to close out our program! Kathy is a Board Certified Professional Ergonomist, with dual Master's Degrees: one in Work Science/Physiology and the other in Business Administration. She has worked at Keenan & Associates for 17 years providing ergonomic assessments and injury prevention training to office personnel, management, executive boards, custodial and facility departments. She presents at PARMA and CAJPA state conferences and has 73 articles published in the field of ergonomics.

Kathy has a dynamic, engaging personality and always delivers a compelling presentation that excites, energizes, and truly entertains our professionals in the room. Few things bring people together better than laughter. When laughing with others, you feel a unique kind of unity. We are certain Kathy will make you feel lighter and shine brighter together!

Date: December 10, 2019 Time: 8:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Location: Orange Conference Center – Grand Catered Events** 

300 S. Flower Street, Orange, CA 92868

Please confirm your attendance with online registration – Click here to register Public Agency Members are FREE Associates \$25/ Non-Members \$50 Please RSVP by December 5, 2019

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

Please remember to bring your business card for an opportunity for door prizes!

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