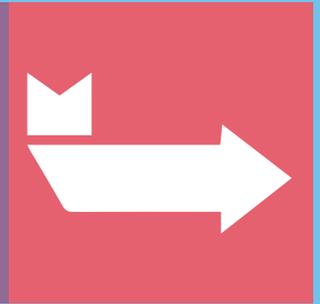
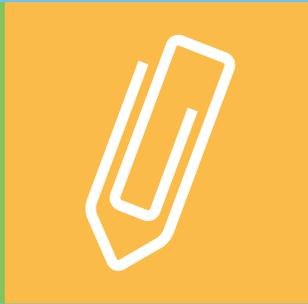


Sharing Solutions



Speakers

Jon Brothen is a supervisor in the Compliance, Records and Training (CRT) unit of the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry's Workers' Compensation Division. As a management analyst, he coordinated CRT's electronic data interchange (EDI) program, administering information systems and ensuring data accuracy.

Brothen earned a bachelor's degree from St. John's University and a Juris Doctor from the Catholic University of America – Columbus School of Law.

- Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry: www.dli.mn.gov



Ken Peterson has served as commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry under Governor Mark Dayton since January 2011. He previously served in the same position from 1988 to 1990. The agency oversees the state's programs for apprenticeship, construction codes and licensing, occupational safety and health, wage and hour standards, workers' compensation and combative sports. His chief goals during the Dayton administration's second term are to help better prepare Minnesota's future workforce, make the state's workplaces safer, and work with labor and employers to improve the workers' compensation system.

Peterson has served in other leadership roles at the state and city levels. He served as deputy attorney general at the Minnesota Attorney General's Office; was deputy commissioner for utility regulation of the state Department of Public Safety; directed St. Paul's Planning and Economic Development department; and was St. Paul's deputy mayor. In addition to public service, Peterson has worked in private law practice and as an associate professor of management at Metropolitan State University. Peterson started his legal career on the Leech Lake Indian Reservation in northern Minnesota. He is president of the National Association of Government Labor Officials and serves on the board of directors for the Minnesota Safety Council, St. Paul District Energy and The History Theater.



Speakers

Peterson grew up in Osakis, Minnesota, and is a graduate of Hamline University (bachelor's degree), George Washington University (Juris Doctor) and Harvard University (Master of Public Administration degree). He and his wife live in St. Paul and have two adult children.

- Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry: www.dli.mn.gov

David Strothman, M.D., is a board eligible, fellowship trained orthopedic spine surgeon with Institute for Low Back and Neck Care in Minneapolis, treating back pain, neck pain and chronic spine pain. Strothman understands spinal disorders are complex and disabling. As a surgeon and spine expert, he meets with each patient to explain their diagnosis and treatment options, both operative and nonoperative, in a way that can be understood, allowing his patients to make informed decisions about their spine care.



Strothman has multiple ongoing research interests in the field of spine surgery, including: minimally invasive transforaminal lumbar interbody fusion; minimally invasive lumbar decompression; degenerative spondylolisthesis; adjacent segment degeneration; and the use of intra-operative three-dimensional imaging.

The Institute for Low Back and Neck Care has been providing multiple spine care specialties since 1982. The experienced rehabilitation specialists and fellowship trained spine surgeons offer safe, proven treatments, as well as the most recent back pain and neck pain treatments in the Twin Cities and surrounding areas.

- The Institute for Low Back and Neck Care: www.ilbnc.com

Kathryn R. Berger, J.D., has been an attorney in the Department of Labor and Industry's Office of General Counsel since about 1990. She primarily works on workers' compensation legislation, rules and compliance. She worked as a registered nurse before becoming an attorney.



- Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry: www.dli.mn.gov

Speakers

Meg Kasting is vice president of claims at SFM. She is responsible for the company's overall claims operation. She joined the company in 1990 as a technical supervisor.

Kasting earned her Juris Doctor degree from Hamline University School of Law and her Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from Indiana University. She was admitted to the Minnesota Bar in 1984. She is a member of the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Insurers Task Force, the Rehabilitation Review Panel and Members Advisory Committee of the Minnesota Workers' Compensation Reinsurance Association.

- SFM: www.sfmic.com



Deborah Norsten began her career in workers' compensation claim service in 1989. Since that time, she has handled claims for a wide variety of employers, including self-insured organizations and policyholders in the Minnesota Assigned Risk Plan.

Norsten has also had the opportunity to do contract work for numerous insurance companies, insured employers and third-party administrator clients. Her broad repertoire includes experience in: auditing claims; performing reinsurance recoveries; creating return-to-work programs; and developing workers' compensation procedures.

- SFM: www.sfmic.com



John Wedl is the founder and chief placement officer of Minneapolis-based WEDL Placement Services, Inc. He has been involved in the job placement and staffing industries for more than 25 years, with several senior management positions at internet recruiting company Techies.com in the late 1990s, and recruiting finance, accounting and administrative talent for Robert Half International for five years before that.

Wedl has been on the board of the Minnesota Association of Rehabilitation Providers for more than nine years and served one year as its president. He has also been an active member of the board of directors for Our Lady of Grace School and served as the president of the Men's Club for two years.

Wedl is a proud graduate of St. John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota, and enjoys spending his spare time volunteering with area job transition groups. He and his wife, Megan, are raising their three children in the southwest suburbs of the Twin Cities.

- WEDL Placement Services: www.wedlplacement.com



Speakers

Michael Hill, M.S., has worked as a qualified rehabilitation consultant, conducted in-person and telephonic job searches, provided vocational testing, handled disability case management services and testified as a vocational expert. He has worked for a self-insured employer overseeing, for five states: workers' compensation claim direction; short- and long-term disability management plans; FMLA benefits; independent medical examinations; and settlements. He has federal workers' compensation experience, guest authored in nursing textbooks and worked as a rehabilitation director.



As the Department of Labor and Industry's (DLI's) rehabilitation policy specialist, Hill facilitates rehabilitation provider training, participates in insurer training, advises DLI about enhancement of provider work product and investigates complaints regarding rehabilitation providers. When not working, Hill is involved in organizations dedicated to helping children at little or no cost, including orthopedic surgery, cleft lip/palate repair, speech and language services, diminishing hearing and vision loss, KidsID, cancer treatment and awarding high school scholarships for future education.

- Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry: www.dli.mn.gov

Raymond R. Peterson, J.D., has been practicing in the fields of workers' compensation and plaintiff's personal injury for 34 years. In addition, he is an adjunct professor at both the University of St. Thomas Law School and Hamline University School of Law for Minnesota workers' compensation law. He is: a workers' compensation co-chairman of the Minnesota Trial Lawyers Association; active in the Workers' Compensation Committee; a former chairman of the Minnesota State Bar Association Young Lawyers Section; and a member of the Minnesota Trial Lawyers Association board of governors.



Peterson has been voted Super Lawyer by *Minnesota Law & Politics* every year since the inception of the award and is also recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* (Woodward/White). He is rated AV by the Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory.

Peterson received a bachelor's degree, cum laude, in 1976 from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota, and his Juris Doctor, cum laude, in 1980 from William Mitchell College of Law, also in St. Paul.

- McCoy, Peterson and Jorstad, Ltd.: www.mnpersonalinjurylawyers.com