

Extended Benefits Cases: How Employers Can Prevail

**A workshop
on Strategy, Tactics, Implementation**

Presented by

NC Association of Self-Insurers

NC Association of Defense Attorneys

FREE REGISTRATION for members of either association

Registration fees for non-members: \$75 per person

Members & non-members must pre-register with mobysal@outlook.com

May 19, 2022

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

(reception afterwards)

The Woman's Club of Raleigh

3300 Woman's Club Drive

**CE credits applied for
adjusters, attorneys,
and rehab professionals.**

Background & Overview

The North Carolina Industrial Commission has recently issued decisions in the first round of extended benefits cases, in which claimants are arguing entitlement to temporary total disability benefits past the 500-week cap on benefits.

To obtain benefits beyond the 500-week cap, the claimant must request a hearing and present evidence supporting the assertion of a total loss of wage-earning capacity. The claimant is only eligible to request a hearing on this issue after 425 weeks have passed from the first date of disability. This workshop will include discussion of strategies to prepare claims for litigation using the information from the cases that have been heard by the Industrial Commission.

May 19, 2022

2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Language & Intent of the 2011 Legislative Reform

Julia Dixon, *First Benefits Insurance*
Stephanie Gay, *Aegis Administrative Services*
Bruce Hamilton, *Teague Campbell*

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

The Decisions So Far: What Have We Learned?

Eleasa Allen, *Robinson & Lawing*
Larry Baker, *Willson Jones Carter & Baxley*
Mark Leach, *Orbuck Ruark & Dillard*

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Refreshment Break

3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

How Should Employers Proceed?

A Panel Discussion

Scarlette Gardner, *NC State Human Resources*
Pam Harris, *Carolina Case Management*
Tracey Jones, *Teague Campbell*
Jeff Kadis, *Hedrick Gardner*

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Reception

About the Speakers

Eleasa Allen, a partner at Robinson & Lawing, is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Wake Forest University School of Law.

Larry Baker, a partner at Willson Jones and immediate past president of the NC Association of Defense Attorneys, earned his law degree from Wake Forest University School of Law.

Julia Dixon, vice president claims/compliance, First Benefits Insurance Mutual, is also associate general counsel for the North Carolina Retail Merchants Association. She is a graduate of the UNC School of Law.

Stephanie Gay, president of the NC Association of Self-Insurers, is a co-founder and president of Aegis Administrative Services, Inc., a multi-line third party adjusting firm specializing in property and casualty claims with an emphasis on workers' compensation. A graduate of Meredith College, earlier in her career she was a financial analyst with Dun & Bradstreet.

Scarlette Gardner, division director, safety health & workers' compensation at Office of the Governor, NC Office of State Human Resources, earned her law degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Bruce Hamilton, a partner at Teague Campbell and legal advisor to the NC Association of Self- Insurers, is a graduate of Tulane University and the University of Virginia law school.

Pam Harris, MA, CRC, LPC, CCM, is senior disability analyst & diplomate, senior case manager at Carolina Case Management. She earned her master's in rehabilitation psychology at Appalachian State University.

Tracey Jones, co-chair of Teague Campbell's workers' compensation practice group, is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill and Wake Forest University School of Law.

Jeff Kadis, a partner at Hedrick Gardner, is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill and Wake forest University School of Law.

Mark Leach, a partner at Orbeck Ruark & Dillard, is chair of the North Carolina Bar Association's workers' compensation section. He is a graduate of the Wake Forest University School of Law.

About the Planners

Jennifer Jerzak Blackman, owner of the Law Office of Jennifer Jerzak Blackman, is a graduate of the University of Virginia and Wake Forest School of Law.

Sarah Blair, an attorney with Anders Newton, is a graduate of North Carolina State University and Campbell Law School.

REGISTRATION FORM

May 19, 2022 | The Woman's Club of Raleigh | 3300 Woman's Club Drive

Members & non-members must pre-register
with Mobysal@outlook.com (803-794-2080)

Registrant(s) _____

Organization _____

FEES

Registration fees

Free registration for NCASI and NCADA members
\$75 for non-members

Sponsorship fees

\$350

ONLINE PAYMENTS

To pay by credit card, please visit
www.ncselfinsurers.com and click
on the "May 19 Workshop" tab.

Return registration form and check
payable to:

NC Association of Self-Insurers
to Moby Salahuddin, Executive Director
PO Box 202
Linville Falls, NC 28647

Telephone: 803-794-2080
Mobysal@outlook.com