



Legal Seminars
Representative presentations by Vernon Sumwalt

Moderator, Workers' Compensation and Workplace Torts (North Carolina Advocates for Justice) (Chapel Hill, North Carolina, December 2, 2016).

"Differences between Workers' Compensation in Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina," South Carolina Injured Workers' Advocates Convention (Asheville, North Carolina, November 5, 2016).

"Fall Conference for Paralegals," North Carolina Advocates for Justice (Asheville, North Carolina, October 14, 2016).

"Case Law Update," North Carolina Industrial Commission's Educational Conference (October 7, 2016) (Raleigh, North Carolina) (with Bruce Hamilton).

"Attorney Sparring (Plaintiff's Perspective)," 2016 Southeastern RIMS Conference (Asheville, North Carolina, September 27, 2016).

Workers' Compensation (Concurrent Law Update), 2016 Convention (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, June 21, 2016) (with Jay Gervasi, Richard Harper, and Stewart Poisson).

Personal Injury Protection and Statutory Liens, 2015 South Carolina Automobile Insurance Law Update (S.C. Bar, Columbia, South Carolina, December 18, 2015).

Moderator, Workers' Compensation and Workplace Torts (North Carolina Advocates for Justice) (Chapel Hill, North Carolina, December 4, 2015).

"Case Law Update," North Carolina Industrial Commission's Educational Conference (October 16, 2015) (Raleigh, North Carolina) (with Bruce Hamilton).

Workers' Compensation (Concurrent Law Update), 2015 Convention (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, June 14, 2015) (with Jay Gervasi, Richard Harper, and Stewart Poisson).

"So You Filed Your Notice of Appeal... Now What?" 20th Annual Workers' Compensation Roundtable (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, Raleigh, North Carolina, March 6, 2015).

New Industrial Commission Rules and Their Impact on North Carolina Workers' Compensation Cases, Mecklenburg County Bar (Charlotte, North Carolina, February 24, 2015).

"Establishing Disability Under the North Carolina Workers' Compensation Act in 2015: The Spectrum of Earning Capacity Issues from Impairment to Restoration," A New Direction: The Changing Landscape of North Carolina Workers' Compensation, North Carolina Bar Association (Greensboro, North Carolina,

February 5 and 6, 2015) (panel discussion with Henry Byrum, Bruce Hamilton, Larry Baker, Rick Harper, and Stewart Poisson, and moderated by Neill Fuleihan).

Workers' Compensation and Its Secondary Payers: Medicare and Medicaid, 22nd Annual National Workers' Compensation and Disability Conference & Expo (Las Vegas, Nevada, on November 20, 2014) (presented with Jennifer Jordan and Tim Nay).

Case Law Update, 2014 North Carolina Educational Conference (N.C. Industrial Commission, October 10, 2014) (presented with Bruce Hamilton).

Workers' Compensation (Concurrent Law Update), 2014 Convention (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, June 15, 2014) (with Jay Gervasi, Stewart Poisson, and Richard Harper).

"Proving Your Workers' Comp Case: Tips on Disability," Mountain Magic (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, October 19, 2013) (discussed *Medlin* case in presentation).

North Carolina Case Law Update, 18th Annual North Carolina Workers' Compensation Educational Conference (N.C. Industrial Commission, October 11, 2013) (presented with Bruce Hamilton).

Update on the Industrial Commission's Rulemaking Under the Administrative Procedures Act and Workers' Compensation Case Law Update, 2013 Convention, including the Summer Conference for Paralegals (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, June 15 and 16, 2013).

New Workers' Comp Rules, 18th Annual Workers' Comp Roundtable (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, April 12, 2013).

Panel Discussion: Ramifications of the Year's Most Important Appellant Court Decisions, Workplace Torts & Workers' Comp (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, December 7, 2012).

Case Law Update, 17th Annual North Carolina Workers' Compensation Educational Conference (N.C. Industrial Commission, October 12, 2012) (presented with Bruce Hamilton).

Learning the Ropes—Workers' Compensation Basics (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, October 5, 2012) (presented "Introduction to Workers' Compensation Law" and "Evaluating a Claim for Representation).

"What's New in Social Security Disability and Medicare," The Law of Workers' Compensation in SC—2012 Update (SC Bar, September 21, 2012).

Convention 2012 (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, June 16-20, 2012) (Convention Co-Chair) (presented "Attendant Care" section of workers' compensation case law review on June 19, 2012).

"Workers' Comp: Legislative Update and How this New Legislation Affects Paralegals," Spring Seminar for Paralegals (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, March 14, 2012).

17th Annual Workers' Comp Roundtable (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, March 2, 2012) (Program Chair).

"Ramifications of the Year's Most Important Appellate Court Decisions (panel discussion)," 18th Annual Workplace Torts and Workers' Compensation (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, December 2, 2011).

"Getting the Math Right: Handling Liens and Medicare Set Asides," Workplace Injuries and Conditions: 2011 Basics of Workers' Compensation (North Carolina Bar Association, November 10, 2011).

"Practice Tips for Dealing with the New Law in Existing Cases" and "Evaluating Claims Arising on or after 6-24-2011," Roundtable on 2011 Changes to the Workers' Compensation Act (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, October 28, 2011).

"Social Security Disability and Workers' Compensation," 16th Annual North Carolina Workers' Compensation Educational Conference (North Carolina Industrial Commission, October 19, 2011).

Convention 2011 (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, June 18-22, 2011) (Convention Co-Chair) (moderated "Greatest Wins" and "Greatest Losses" presentations and introduced Keynote Speaker Erin Brockovich).

"The Dangers of Confidentiality Agreements" and "Properly Drafting Social Security Disability Offset Language (panel member)," Workers' Compensation Roundtable (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, March 4, 2011).

Occupational Diseases (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, January 28, 2011) (seminar planner and moderator, presenter).

"Effective Methods for Claim Resolution," "Overcoming Common Ethical Hurdles Faced by Workers' Compensation Attorneys," and "Overcoming Post-Resolution Challenges," Workers' Comp Law Update (National Business Institute, December 13, 2010).

Medicare Panel, Workplace Torts & Workers' Compensation (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, December 3, 2010).

"Client Intake in Workers' Compensation Cases," 2010 Convention (South Carolina Injured Workers' Advocates, November 6, 2010).

"The Language of Mediated Settlement Agreements and Clinchers: Protecting Your Clients (Belli Nugget Presentation)," Mountain Magic (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, October 16, 2010).

“Getting the Math Right: Handling Liens & Set Asides,” Accidents Happen—2010 Basics of Workers’ Compensation (North Carolina Bar Association, October 1, 2010) (Seminar Planner).

“Allocation of Third Party Proceeds,” “Tips for Successfully Negotiating a Settlement (for Both Sides),” “ERISA and Medicare Interplay with Workers’ Compensation—Who Pays Medical Claims?” Workers’ Compensation Subrogation (National Business Institute, September 16, 2010).

“Coordination of Workers’ Compensation Benefits with Short-Term Disability, Long-Term Disability, Social Security Disability, Unemployment Compensation, and Medicare,” Advanced Workers’ Compensation (National Business Institute, September 14, 2010).

“Coordination of Workers’ Compensation With Social Security Disability,” Handling a Social Security Disability Case (National Business Institute, July 22, 2010).

“Workers’ Compensation Belli Nuggets—Ten ‘Do and Don’t’ Tips for Trying Attendant Care Cases,” 2010 Convention (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, June 22, 2010).

Breakout Moderator, 15th Annual Workers’ Comp Roundtable (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, March 5, 2010).

“Is There any Law Regarding Occupational Disease?” and ““Medicare/Social Security: Do I Really Have to Deal with Them in My Workers’ Compensation Case?” Occupational Disease Before the North Carolina Industrial Commission (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, January 29, 2010) (Program Planner).

“Handling Family Law Issues under the North Carolina Workers’ Compensation Act—Alimony, Child Support, and Equitable Distribution,” 16th Annual Workplace Torts and Workers’ Compensation (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, December 4, 2009).

“Medicare Set-Asides and the Motor Vehicle Case—What You Don’t Know Will Hurt You,” The 2009 South Carolina Automobile Update (South Carolina Bar, October 23, 2009).

Workers’ Compensation Law Update (National Business Institute, October 13, 2009).

“Let’s Talk Rehab (Plaintiff’s Perspective),” 14th Annual North Carolina Workers’ Compensation Educational Conference (North Carolina Industrial Commission, October 8, 2009).

“Getting the Math Right: Handling Liens & Set Asides,” 2009 Basics of Workers’ Compensation (North Carolina Bar Association, October 2, 2009).

“Workers’ Compensation,” Beyond the Elements II: South Carolina Damages from A to Z (South Carolina Bar, September 25, 2009).

Coordination of Workers' Compensation with (1) Social Security Disability, (2) Short-Term and Long-Term Disability, (3) Unemployment, and (4) Medicare (National Business Institute, September 11, 2009).

"Coordination of Workers' Compensation with (1) Social Security Disability, (2) Short-Term and Long-Term Disability, (3) Unemployment, and (4) Medicare," Advanced Workers' Compensation in North Carolina (Sterling Education Services, Inc., June 16, 2009).

"Evidence-Based Medicine," 14th Annual Workers' Compensation Roundtable (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, March 6, 2009).

"Sources of Coverage (Workers' Compensation)," Sources of Coverage: Exploring the "Maze" of Insurance Law (North Carolina Advocates for Justice, January 15, 2009).

Advanced Workers' Compensation (National Business Institute, December 10, 2008).

"Exclusive Remedy is Not the Only Game in Town: How to Maximize Recoveries in Workers' Compensation Cases," Injured Workers' Advocates 26th Annual Convention (South Carolina Injured Workers' Advocates, November 6-8, 2008).

"Getting the Math Right: Handling Liens and Set Asides," Basics of Workers' Compensation (North Carolina Bar Association, October 17, 2008).

Workers' Compensation Update (National Business Institute, October 1, 2008).

"Social Security/Medicare Issues," Dissecting a Workers' Compensation Case (South Carolina Bar, September 5, 2008).

"Reimbursement Claims in Workers' Compensation Cases," Liens, Liens, and More Liens: Resolving Claims of Subrogation and Reimbursement 2008 (South Carolina Bar, May 2, 2008).

"Settlement Demands, Future Medicals, and Attendant Care," 13th Annual Workers' Comp Roundtable (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, March 7, 2008).

"Calculating Compensatory Earnings and the Interplay Between Benefits: Coordination of Workers' Compensation With Other Benefits," Advanced Workers' Compensation (Sterling Education Services, Inc., March 4, 2008).

Getting Ahead of the "Comp"etition: Key Issues in Workers' Compensation law (North Carolina Bar Association, February 15-16, 2008) (Program Planner).

Advanced Workers' Compensation (National Business Institute, December 12, 2007).

“Medicare Panel and Questions” and “Workers’ Compensation Liens—97-10.2 Update,” 14th Annual Workplace Torts and Workers’ Comp (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, December 7, 2007).

“The Workers’ Compensation Claim” and “Interplay Between Benefits—WC, SSD, UC, Medicare, Long-Term Disability,” Fundamentals of Workers’ Compensation (Sterling Education Services, Inc., October 16, 2007).

Handling a Social Security Disability Case (National Business Institute, October 11, 2007).

“Ethical Contacts with Treating Physicians and Other Parties in Workers’ Compensation Claims,” 12th Annual North Carolina Workers’ Compensation Educational Conference (North Carolina Industrial Commission, October 10, 2007).

“Getting the Math Right: Handling Liens and Set-Asides,” A is for Accident: A Workers’ Compensation Primer (North Carolina Bar Association, October 5, 2007).

Workers’ Compensation Law Update (National Business Institute, October 4, 2007).

“Drafting Opinions and Awards that Will Survive on Appeal,” Workers’ Comp Roundtable 2007 (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, March 16, 2007).

The Devil is in the Details: Hot Topics in Workers’ Compensation Law (North Carolina Bar Association, February 16-17, 2007) (Moderator/Program Planner).

“Medicare Panel with Q&A,” 13th Annual Workplace Torts and Workers’ Comp (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, December 1, 2006).

“(1) Preparing for the Pre-Hearing Conference and (2) Calculation of Compensation Ratings and Settlements,” Workers’ Compensation Hearings: Techniques and Strategies for Success (National Business Institute, October 19, 2006).

“Concurrent Receipt of Workers’ Compensation, Social Security, and Medicare Benefits,” Advanced Workers’ Compensation (Sterling Education Services, September 26, 2006).

North Carolina Workers’ Comp Update 2006 (Council on Education and Management, August 16, 2006).

“Proving Causation in Injury Cases,” Workers’ Compensation Roundtable (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, March 3, 2006).

“Medicare Set-Asides in Personal Injury Litigation,” Disbursements 2006 (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, February 24, 2006).

“Medicare Set-Asides in Personal Injury Litigation,” Disbursements 2006 (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, January 20, 2006).

Advanced Workers’ Compensation in North Carolina (National Business Institute, December 12, 2005).

“Workers’ Comp Liens—N.C. Gen. Stat. § 97-10.2 Update,” 12th Annual Workplace Torts and Workers’ Compensation (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, December 2, 2005).

“Interplay Between Benefits—Workers’ Comp, Social Security Disability, Medicare, Long-Term Disability, Unemployment Compensation, and Average Weekly Wage,” Advanced Workers’ Compensation in North Carolina (Sterling Education Service, November 15, 2005).

“The In’s and Out’s of a Workers’ Comp Practice,” Practical Skills for New (and Not-So-New) Attorneys (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, September 15, 2005).

Getting Maximum Benefits for Your Social Security Disability Clients in North Carolina (National Business Institute, July 13, 2005).

“Medicare Set-Asides for Personal Injury Cases,” NCATL Convention 2005 (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, June 21, 2005).

“What Every Workers’ Compensation Paralegal Should Know About Medicare and Social Security Disability,” Claimant and Defense Attorneys—Paralegal/Legal Assistant Seminar (South Carolina Workers’ Compensation Educational Association and the South Carolina Workers’ Compensation Commission, May 20, 2005).

“CMS and Medicare Set-Asides and Allocations: Where Do We Stand Now?” 10th Annual Workers’ Comp Roundtable (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, March 4, 2005).

“*Woody*: Where to Go From Here? (The Plaintiff’s Perspective),” Workers’ Compensation 2005: Navigating the Workplace Maze—10th Annual Workers’ Compensation Section Meeting (North Carolina Bar Association, February 18, 2005).

Workers’ Compensation in North Carolina (National Business Institute, August 31, 2004).

Handling a Social Security Case in North Carolina (National Business Institute, July 19, 2004).

“Defending Workers’ Compensation Claims in North Carolina: A View from Both the Claimants’ and Defense Attorneys (Claimants’ Perspective),” North Carolina Workers’ Comp Update 2004 (Council on Education and Management, May 4, 2004).

“Medicare, HIPAA, and Other Things You Don’t Find in Chapter 97,” Advanced Workers’ Compensation: Meeting the Challenges of a Changing Workplace / 9th Annual Workers’ Compensation Meeting (North Carolina Bar Association, February 20-21, 2004) (paper only).

“Current Status of Credits under G.S. § 97-47,” 10th Annual Workplace Torts & Workers’ Compensation (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, December 5, 2003).

Advanced Workers’ Compensation in North Carolina (National Business Institute, November 3, 2003).

“The In’s and Out’s of a Workers’ Comp Practice (Overview of Statutory Benefits),” Practical Trial Skills for New (and Not-So-New) Attorneys (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, September 12, 2003).

“A Continuation of the Medicare Forum and Its Impact on the Workers’ Compensation System,” Workers’ Compensation Committee Program (American Bar Association Section of Labor & Employment Law, August 11, 2003) (paper only).

“Knight, Willey, Arp, and More: How Should We Change our Practices?” NCATL Convention 2003 (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, June 17, 2003).

“Where Am I and Where Do I File the Claim? Comparing Other Jurisdictions—North Carolina,” South Carolina Workers’ Compensation Law: Take It From the Top (South Carolina Bar, May 30, 2003).

“Legal Ethics for Legal Assistants,” Basics of Legal Assisting in North Carolina (Half-Moon Seminars, April 25, 2003).

Workers’ Compensation in North Carolina (National Business Institute, May 16, 2003).

“Ethical Issues Related to Workers’ Compensation, Social Security Disability, and Personal Injury Litigation,” Legal Ethics in North Carolina (Lorman Educational Services, February 21, 2003).

“Medicare, Medicare, and More Medicare (Or, Things that Go ‘Bump’ in Your Workers’ Compensation Case),” Workers’ Compensation: Unraveling the Mystery/ 8th Annual Workers’ Compensation Section Annual Meeting (North Carolina Bar Association, February 21-22, 2003) (paper only).

Advanced Workers’ Compensation in North Carolina (National Business Institute, November 19, 2002).

“Statutory Liens,” 2002 South Carolina Automobile Insurance Update (South Carolina Bar, October 25, 2002).

“The In’s and Out’s of a Workers’ Comp Practice (Overview of Statutory Benefits),” You’ve Passed the Bar... Now What?—Practical Trial Skills (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, September 5-6, 2002).

Workers’ Compensation in North Carolina (National Business Institute, May 3, 2002).

“The In’s and Out’s of Workers’ Comp Practice (Overview of Statutory Benefits),” Practical Skills for New (and Not-So-New) Attorneys (North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, August 23-24, 2001).

Practical Legal Ethics in North Carolina: Issues and Answers (National Business Institute, February 21, 2001).

“Everyone Has to Stand in Line Once in a While—Statutory Liens,” It Takes More Than a Threatening Letter to Settle the Claim (South Carolina Bar, October 27, 2000).