

# Conference Speakers

## ***Hany Abdelsayed - Tower MSA Partners***

Hany Abdelsayed serves as Executive Vice President of Strategic Services for Tower MSA Partners. In this capacity, he is responsible for sales, marketing and account management and consults with Tower's clients about MSAs and MSP compliance. In addition, Hany works directly with Tower's CEO to improve services and develop new products.

For more than half of his 30+ year career, Hany has held executive roles in all aspects of Medicare compliance in the insurance space. He is a nationally recognized expert in MSP compliance and has presented before numerous organizations and carriers.

Hany has overseen high exposure claims, managed investigations, prepared depositions, and served as an expert in court proceedings. In addition, he has managed the development of new products and services and customized compliance programs for clients. In addition, he is a former instructor with the Insurance Education Association (IEA) and was the association's first Medicare Set-Aside instructor.



## ***Hon. Thomas (Lee) Bruner - Worker's Compensation Court***

Thomas ("Lee") Bruner was appointed as Workers' Compensation Court Judge by Governor Greg Gianforte on September 1, 2023. Judge Bruner was raised in Butte and currently resides in Butte with a ranch in Whitehall. He graduated from Butte Central High School, received his B.S. in physics at Montana State University, and received his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Montana School of Law in Missoula in 1995. In addition, Judge Bruner received an Honorable Discharge from active duty in the United States Air Force, serving from 1986-1990, and was assigned Inactive Status from 1990-1994.



Most of Judge Bruner's career as a practicing attorney was spent handling medical negligence cases, and a smaller percentage of his practice included employment law, torts, environmental law, and complicated high value litigation matters. He practiced law at two prominent law firms as well as being appointed as Deputy Clerk by the Clerk of Court of the Montana Supreme Court for a five-year term.

Judge Bruner has been a member of the State Bar of Montana and the Federal District Court since 1995, and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court since 2008. Judge Bruner was appointed by Governor Racicot to the Montana Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Board, and appointed by Governor Gianforte to the Water Pollution Control Advisory Council and Board of Environmental Review. Judge Bruner has taught environmental law at Montana Tech.

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He owns and runs a multigenerational farming and ranching operation south of Whitehall. He and his wife Pollann have raised three boys, Robert, Michael, and John, who are active on the family farm and ranch.

## ***Michelle Despres, PT, CEAS II, REAS, CETS - One Call***

Michelle Despres is a leader within the world of physical therapy and leads her team to deliver a high-quality experience for injured workers and provider partners. She also serves as a mentor to clinicians to improve their delivery of treatments and maximize return-to-work outcomes. Her expertise goes beyond traditional PT to include functional capacity evaluations (FCEs), work hardening, work conditioning, post-offer employment testing, employer-based initiatives, and ergonomics.



Michelle provides customers with a clinical perspective on their claims and delivers continuing education credit seminars on PT, ergonomics, and rehabilitation topics. She regularly presents at industry conferences throughout the country, including RIMS, NWCDC, APTA Combined Sections Meeting, WCI 360, SEAK and Higher Education Risk Management. In addition, she is often interviewed or asked to submit thought leadership to industry publications such as Risk & Insurance and WorkCompWire and national media outlets such as Good Morning America, USA Today, Parent's Magazine, and Scripps Media.

## ***Dr. Laura Kirsch, PhD, ABPP, Adjunct Professor - University of Montana***

Dr. Laura Kirsh is board-certified in forensic psychology, with extensive experience conducting evaluations of criminal defendants and civil litigants, as well as consulting with attorneys in criminal and civil matters.

In addition to her role as an adjunct professor of psychology at the Alexander Blewett III School of Law at the University of Montana, she maintains a private practice specializing in forensic psychological assessment, consultation, and expert testimony.



Her clinical work focuses on psychological evaluations of adolescent and adult defendants in criminal cases, plaintiffs in personal injury cases, and worker's compensation and disability claimants. As part of her clinical practice, she has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Montana Office of the Public Defender and is a Contract Psychologist for the Forensic Mental Health Facility at the Montana State Hospital. Dr. Kirsch has also been hired as an expert witness for the Montana Attorney General's Office as well as county prosecutors. She has published academic book chapters and articles on a number of forensic topics including sexual offending and psychopathy, presented research at national and international conferences, and led professional workshops and lectures on a wide variety of forensic psychological subjects.

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## ***Brie Meyer - Water & Environmental Technologies***

Brie Meyer is an industrial hygienist/environmental engineer for WET and has 20 years of environmental and industrial hygiene experience, ranging from environmental and industrial hygiene sampling, to human health risk assessments and personal exposure monitoring evaluations. While working as a contractor to the Department of Energy (DOE), she managed safety and industrial hygiene programs for sites across the US. This work included supporting development of and updates to documents to comply with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and DOE requirements, participating in work planning to support all safety and health aspects of new projects, and performing exposure evaluations on workers.



She also supported public health assessment reviews at various sites related to environmental remediation and public health status updates. In the consulting industry, she has a substantial amount of experience managing human health risk assessments as part of EPA's remedial investigation process, environmental data review and quality control evaluation, and supporting National Environmental Policy Act reviews.

## ***Johnny Meyer - Ametros***

Johnny is Vice President of Strategic Partnerships and is responsible for cultivating and maintaining relationships among business partners. He is focused on developing strategies and business plans with partners, and executing against metrics and milestones to drive growth and revenue.

Johnny brings over a decade of experience working in business development, marketing, and customer service, and obtained his B.A in Sports Management, with a minor in Business Management from Salem State University. He currently resides just outside of Boston, with his girlfriend and puppy. He's passionate about volunteering with the Make-A-Wish Foundation & animal shelters, traveling, cooking, and sports- especially Boston sports.



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## ***Dr. Ethan Moses MD, MPH, FACOEM - Colorado Division of Workers' Compensation***

Dr. Moses is the Medical Director for the Colorado Division of Workers' Compensation. He is a fellow of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine where he serves as a member of their Council on Occupational and Environmental Medicine Science.



Dr. Moses continues to serve patients as the Chief Medical Officer at Peak Form Medical Center, and he holds faculty appointments at both the Colorado School of Public Health and the University of Colorado School of Medicine. In addition to his other roles, Dr. Moses is a former president and active board member of the Rocky Mountain Academy of Occupational & Environmental Medicine. He has previously served in several executive leadership positions, including Chief of the Division of Occupational Medicine at Denver Health and Hospital Authority, Chief Resident at the University of Colorado's Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency, and Chief of Aerospace Medicine at Buckley Air Force Base where he served as an active-duty flight surgeon.

## ***Kerri Poe - Arcadia Settlements Group***

Kerri is a Certified Structured Settlement Consultant with offices in Los Angeles and Nashville, handling cases nationwide. Her experience includes Workers Compensation, General Liability, Mass Torts, Minor's Cases, Medical Malpractice, and Employment Litigation. Her goal is to bring value to both sides of the negotiation by facilitating settlements and working as an advocate to the settlement process.



As part of the settlement team, Kerri assists with case evaluation, prepares settlement proposals, attends conferences and mediations, and reviews legal documents to ensure the tax benefits of the structured settlement are preserved. Her extensive experience with Medicare Set Asides and the integration of public benefits allows her to provide needs-based financial options for the injured party.

As the President of the National Structured Settlements Trade Association, she is involved in our industry's efforts to protect the future of structured settlements. Kerri has also been a guest speaker at numerous claims associations and risk management groups as well as providing continuing education training seminars for law firms and insurers.

### ***Dr. Silvia Sacalis PharmD, MPH - HealthSystems***

Silvia Sacalis, BS, PharmD, provides clinical leadership and strategic direction as Vice President of Clinical Services at HealthSystems. Her healthcare experience and clinical expertise span the PBM, retail pharmacy and managed care environments. Leveraging her technology background, clinical skills and leadership expertise, she helps develop and operationalize strategic clinical initiatives to help workers' compensation insurance payers maximize the impact of a pharmacy benefit management program.



Throughout her career, she has held various leadership roles in which she provided oversight of clinical services teams, the development of clinical programs, and integration of analytics technology coupled with clinical consultative support. Dr. Sacalis is a national thought leader and contributor to various industry presentations, publications and interviews. Dr. Sacalis received her Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Doctorate of Pharmacy degrees from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

### ***Dr. John Schumpert MD, MPH, FACOEM - REOH***

John C. Schumpert, founded Resources for Environmental and Occupational Health, Inc. (REOH) in 2001 and is Board Certified in Occupational Medicine. He received his Bachelor of Science from the University of Montana, Doctor of Medicine from the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine, and Master of Public Health from the University of Minnesota Graduate School of Public Health, where he also completed his residency in Occupational Medicine.



Immediately following residency, Dr. Schumpert was a staff physician at the corporate headquarters of 3M Company and was awarded the 3M Chairman's Leadership Award for his contributions to the Industrial Hygiene Exposure Assessment undertaken at four of the 3M specialty chemical plants involved in fluorochemical production.

Returning west, Dr. Schumpert then provided direct occupational medicine patient care and medical surveillance services at the Idaho National Laboratory. Upon his return to Montana, he was recruited to serve as medical director for occupational health at Benefis Healthcare in Great Falls, where he provided direct patient care, hospital consultative services, program development expertise, and independent medical evaluations. He has served as a faculty affiliate of the University of Montana Center for Environmental Health Sciences since 2002, and as Medical Director for the Employment Standards Division of the Montana Department of Labor & Industry from 2010-2012 and 2015 to 2018.

### ***Dr. Amanda Waltemath PharmD, MPH - HealtheSystems***

Amanda Waltemath, PharmD, MPH, is a clinical pharmacist and Director of Clinical Services at HealtheSystems, where she lends her subject matter expertise to the myriad of clinical programs that have been developed by the pharmacy and ancillary benefits management organization.

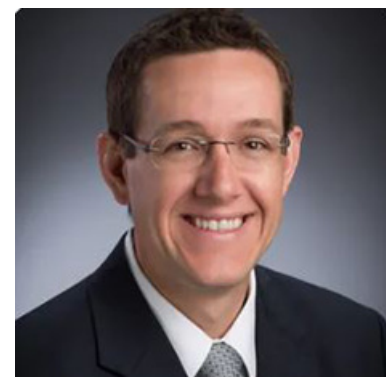
Dr. Waltemath leverages her special interest in pain management and data analysis to provide insight into the creation of actionable analytics and develop risk assessment tools for workers' compensation payers. She is a member of the Florida Pharmacy Association.



### ***Dr. Michael Wright, MD - Missoula Bone and Joint***

Dr. Michael Wright is a fellowship-trained, board-certified sports medicine doctor with an interest and expertise in arthroscopic surgery of the shoulder, hip and knee. Dr. Wright specializes in ACL reconstruction, rotator cuff repair, meniscus knee surgery, shoulder instability, hip labrum surgery, patellar instability, articular cartilage procedures, and shoulder replacement surgery.

He joined the Missoula Bone & Joint team in 2017, after completing his fellowship training in Sports Medicine at UCLA and working with the LA Lakers. The focus of his practice is joint preservation. Dr. Wright works with his patients to explore all treatment options including non-surgical solutions such as physical therapy, oral medications, home exercise programs and injections. Dr. Wright shows patient x-rays and discusses treatment options so the patient can make an informed decision about what is best for them.



He lives in Missoula with his wife and four children. He loves spending time in the outdoors with his family, teaching them to ski and enjoying all the activities Montana has to offer. He volunteers his time as part of the sports medicine team providing medical coverage at Hellgate High School.