



December 2015

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**Congratulations to Texas
PRIMA 2015 Award Winners:**

President's Message:

“Taking Care and Taking Inventory”

Where did the time go??? It seems with each passing year, life speeds up compressing this thing we call “time”. We sometimes get so caught up with our personal and professional life events that life itself becomes a blur. In particular, stressors of our profession challenge the coping skills of each one of us daily. Some of us run. Some of us do yoga or Zumba. Some cross fit or cross train, but whatever you do, do yourself a favor and release that toxic substance called “stress” and raise your health and wellness consciousness level. Helpful hint: holidays, as fun and great as they are, can add to the stress level. With the holidays upon us, do yourself a favor and take some time throughout the day to slow down, breathe deep and exhale slowly. Smell the roses.

Speaking of time, our Texas PRIMA Annual conference at Moody Gardens in Galveston came and went a few weeks ago and was another great success. It was good to see a lot of familiar faces attending high quality educational sessions, absorbing the comments of our opening and closing speakers, and enjoying our evening social events and networking opportunities. Admittedly, my favorite was the Texas PRIMA cinematic spoof on the opening scene of “The Godfather”. Thank you

RISK PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR:

Leslie Milvo
Risk Manager
City of Austin

RISK ASSOCIATE OF THE YEAR:

Bruce Berry
Manager of Safety & Risk
Management
Klein ISD

**RISK PROGRAM
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS:**

"A Team Culture"
GRAND PRAIRIE ISD

"Safety Training for School
Employees:
Building an Effective Training
Culture"
CORPUS CHRISTI ISD

[Click here](#) to view more
information about these
winners.

Social Media



Members on the Move:

to all who helped with putting it together.

No sooner than the conference ends does the board start planning our regional seminars and next annual conference at the first board meeting in late January. Conference at that point seems so far off but soon conference is bearing down on us again and we start fighting deadlines and late minute challenges to bring it all home in the form of what we experienced in November.

The success of our conference makes all the hard work, stress and headaches all worth the while. To see the buzz and excitement of all our attendees, sponsors, presenters and exhibitors attending the opening speaker and educational session events caused me to reflect on the enormous task it is to pull off an event of this size and importance.

Admittedly, and not to be over dramatic, this was one of the most demanding years both as President of Texas PRIMA and professionally, yet somehow I was able to wade through all the challenges. I was only able to do it because of the excellent staff and Board of Directors of Texas PRIMA. All are great individuals.

To recap 2015, we played host chapter to the National PRIMA conference which involved sponsoring the golf tournament at Wildcat Golf Course and hosting a Texas PRIMA reception at the Grove. We saw record attendance at our Texas PRIMA Regional Risk Management Seminars and our Annual Conference was well attended.

Now looking forward, we already are in the planning stages for our next calendar year. Next year's Annual Conference will be at the Renaissance Hotel in Austin. We hope to raise the bar even more with the quality of education we provide but need to hear from our membership to do so. Please provide us your input on what we can do better.

In closing I want to thank the membership for their participation and the Board of Directors for their support.

Tarrant County Budget & Risk Management Department was recently authorized a full time Risk Analyst position. This has been filled by Travis Yarbrough. Mr. Yarbrough was an intern for Tarrant County while attending college. During his part time tenure, he obtained his multi-lines adjusters license. He graduated from the University of North Texas with a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Science with an emphasis in Risk Management December, 2014. He began working full time November 7, 2015.

Have a great, safe and stress free holiday season and we will see you next year!!!!

Respectfully,
"Don" Gilberto, 2015 President

Tribute to Out-Going President



It has been a great year for Texas PRIMA with the guidance from Gilbert Sanchez as our leader. His year as President was accented at the National PRIMA conference in Houston and a very successful Annual Conference in Galveston. Gilbert's expert style of leadership has been evident throughout this year with timely decision making. The entire Board has enjoyed his quick wit, smile and his ability to make that tough decision. Though he has had many distractions in his own job, Gilbert has kept his focus for Texas PRIMA. Texas PRIMA has prospered under his leadership and for that, we say, "Thanks for a great year Don Gilberto".

Top Cyber Threats for 2016 and The Next 5 Years

Businesses and organizations should expect cyber criminals to attack through wearable devices, employees' home systems, cloud services and automobiles within the next year, according cyber experts at Intel's McAfee Labs.

Welcome New Members & First Time Conference Attendees:

Dana Anthony, First Financial
Sharla Arredondo, North Texas State Hospital
Patricia Atkins, City of San Antonio
Jeff Aylor, Humana
Erica Balli, City of Edinburg
Jim Brasier, Midwest Employers Casualty Company
Michelle Brewer, Denton County
Renee Brown, Fort Bend ISD
Ryan Burns, Texas Municipal League - IRP

Chase Carlisle, Carlisle Insurance Agency, Inc.
Cindy Carrillo, The University of Texas System
Karen Casserly, Safety National Casualty Corporation
Tara Castaneda, Houston ISD
Cynthia Cavazos-Fowler, Houston ISD
Darryl Chapman, UnitedHealthcare
Christa Christian, City of Coppell
Brooke Clifton, City of Cleburne
Kevin Cooksey, WeCare tlc
Amanda Costello, Strasburger & Price, LLP
Pat Crawford, Division of Workers Compensation
Lisa Cummings, The University of Texas System
Crystal Daniels, University of North Texas
Elizabeth Dunn, Edwards Risk Mgmt Inc
Chris Eagle, Medical Equation
Diane Estep, AON Risk Solutions
Clive Fields, Cigna
Gerard Finley, Munich Re America
Ivan Flores, El Paso Community College
Brian Gallagher, Travelers
Christina Garza, City of Austin Police Dept

By 2020, individuals could be receiving payment for sharing their personal data and hackers could be manipulating markets in their favor through financial intelligence gathering, the experts also predict.

Intel Security has released its McAfee Labs Threat Predictions Report, which offers predictions on the cyber threat landscape in 2016 and insights into what that landscape might look like through 2020. The report, which reflects the opinions of 33 of Intel Security's thought leaders, also addresses likely responses to these threats.

"The best hockey players navigate within the ice rink, grapple with opposing players, take advantage of opportunities when available, and, critically, as Wayne Gretzky said, always 'skate to where the puck is going to be—not where it has been,'" said Vincent Weafer, vice president of Intel Security's McAfee Labs.

(to read the full article [click here](#))

Drone Wars: Airspace and Legal Rights in the Age of Drones

It is only the tip of the iceberg. As technology advances, common citizens are increasingly finding themselves with the ability to obtain and fly reasonably-priced unmanned aerial vehicles(UAVs) known as drones. News broadcasts are only now beginning to reflect the growing problems we can anticipate as their use becomes more and more common, both privately and commercially. Armed with high-definition cameras, these civilian UAVs have ranges of up to several miles and can hover over a neighbor's pool party and capture footage of activity engaged in with an expectation of privacy. The typical quadcopter has a flight time of 15 minutes, although smaller ones with tiny Photron FASTCAM viewer (FPV) cameras might be able to manage as much as 30 minutes. The proliferation of these amazing devices brings with it a whole host of legal issues which most assuredly will give rise to civil disputes and litigation. Understanding the laws affecting their use now becomes a prerequisite as opposed to an opportunity for an interesting lunch conversation.

(to read the full article [click here](#))

Adrienne Gasser, Downs
Stanford, P.C.
Steve Gibson, San Jacinto
River Authority
Crystal Granado,
Montgomery County
Steven Guillory, City of
Houston
Patrice Hall, DFW Airport
Steven Halterman, Buck
Consultants
Jessemine Hayes, AIG
Greg Hayn, Servpro of Braun
Station
Estella Hinojosa, City of
Edinburg
Eric Hoduski, Austin Police
Department
Elisa Holguin, Hub
Internation
Rich Hollensed,
Todd Holt, State Office of
Risk Management
Sarah Johnson, Keller ISD
John King, Garland ISD
Ashley Land, City of Grand
Prairie
David Larry, Claims
Administrative Services, Inc.
Kirk Lavallee, Delta Dental
Insurance Company
Sarah Leslie, City of
Houston
Tamra Lowry, ICS Merrill
Martin Lozano, Clint ISD
Larry Lozano, City of Midland
Timothy McCarty, Trident
Insurance
Michael McClanahan, Victor
O Schinnerer & Co. Inc

Texas State Issues Recommended Campus Carry Rules

In recommending how Texas State University should comply with a new state campus carry law, a task force says it shouldn't provide storage for handguns but should ban the guns from places where students are counseled or children come to campus. The suggestions, which were issued this week, won't immediately go into effect.

(to read the full article [click here](#))

Texas PRIMA Conference: Taking Care of Business

The family requested your presence at the Texas PRIMA Conference in Galveston November 8th through the 11th, and over 500 wise guys and gals of Risk Management showed up to take care of business! To view all of the conference pictures, [click here](#).

This year was another successful conference at a great venue. As always, the Moody Gardens Hotel and Convention Center is a great facility for our conference. The Education Committee is tasked to provide a wide array of educational sessions that not only address current issues in the areas of insurance, risk management, employee benefits, safety and workers' compensation, but also cover the basics for colleagues new in the field. They certainly filled the bill this year with over 30 educational sessions that were well attended and positively evaluated. Each year we request potential speakers to submit their proposals for the scheduled sessions, and each year it is hard to choose from the vast number submitted. We are excited to continue to have so many sessions that include presenters from Texas public entities, giving the audience an opportunity to hear from their peers in the state. A big PRIMA thank you to everyone who submitted proposals. It is always difficult to narrow the field, but it is also good to have such an awesome selection to choose from.

Tashaly McKnight, City of
Richarson
Dolores Mendez, Texas
Hospital Insurance
Exchange
Sonia Mendez, City of New
Braunfels
Cathryn Morgan, Jefferson
County
Jody Moses, York Risk
Services Group
Telissa Murillo, City of
Huntsville
Mark O'Leary, Frost HR
Consulting
Grace Owens, PMOA, Inc.
Maria Patton, Montgomery
County
Mary Perrow, City of Houston
Michael Petryna, Aetna
Dejaune Phillips, AS&G
Claims Administration, Inc.
Debra Powledge, City of
Cleburne
Federico Preuss, Aetna, Inc
Rhonda Randall, United
Healthcare
Sheri Rich, Keller ISD
Mark Robertson, Vantage
Benefits Administrators
Mariza Rodriguez, City of
Corpus Christi
Kathy Rodriguez, 1-2-1
Claims, Inc
Mariza Rodriguez, City of
Corpus Christi
Alan Rook, myMatrixx
M. Guadalupe Ruiz, City of
Corinth
Monica Sandoval, Comal

We started Monday off with keynote Jonathan Sprinkles who shared his real-world strategies for producing results when expectations are high and time is limited. Closing speaker Patrick Henry Hughes shared his story about reaching his full potential while facing incredible odds since birth. He had the entire room on their feet with his closing rendition of "America the Beautiful". We hope you enjoyed the networking events and opportunities, from the Putt n Pamper and Welcome Reception on Sunday, to the Opening Night Reception Monday as you were greeted by the Godfather of Risk, Gilbert Sanchez, and the PRIMA family. We are also proud of all those honored at Tuesday's Awards luncheon and hope you consider submitting a nomination for 2016.

As always, we are grateful for our generous sponsors, exhibitors and corporate members who continue to provide a wealth of information and support to make our conference affordable and beneficial for all. We hope you spent time with as many exhibitors as possible during the breaks and exhibit hall networking events. There is no way Texas PRIMA could continue to put on such an exceptional conference without the patronage of our fine group of 47 sponsors and 26 exhibitors. We thank you and appreciate your continued participation.

SAVE THE DATE!

Join us in Austin at the beautiful Renaissance Hotel **November 6-9, 2016** for the 27th Annual Texas PRIMA Conference. Mark your calendar now to make sure you don't miss out on this educational and networking opportunity!

2015 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

What an awesome 26th conference it was at the beautiful Moody Gardens Hotel and Convention Center in Galveston. All the hard work from the many wise guys and gals made the gathering of the PRIMA Family come together like ricotta in the cannoli!!

This was my fourth year to serve as the Chair for Conference Scholarships and

ISD

Melissa Saxton, City of Houston

Kenny Smith, OneBeacon Government Risks

Mannix Smith, Vantage Benefits Administrators

Terene Sudds-Johnson, City of Pearland

Mark Sulek, AON Risk Solutions

Julie Sun, Allen ISD

Elizabeth Sutherland, Texas Association of Counties

Sharon Swan,

UnitedHealthcare

Stella Tetevi, City of Houston

Rosa Tinajero, El Paso

State Supported Living Center

Joanna M Tollenaere, Roach

Howard Smith & Barton

Sam Trujillo, El Paso County

Rosalva Valdez-Liscano,

Texas Hospital Insurance Exchange

Athena Vargas, 1-2-1-Claims Inc.

Crystal Walker, AON Risk Solutions

Matt Ward, Medical Equation

Randal Wilkerson, Texas

Hospital Insurance Exchange

Sharon Williams, SASSLC

David Witt, City of San Antonio

Tyler Wolkenhauer, TASB Risk Management Fund

what an honor it has been. We had 17 applications submitted, of which 15 were eligible, and were able to award all 15 a scholarship to attend. We started the conference Sunday afternoon with a private reception in the President's Suite honoring our recipients and scholarship sponsors. I can't thank our generous sponsors enough. Each year, the number of sponsors who give grows, and the amount of their contribution grows as well. A heartfelt thank you goes out to Aetna, Delta Dental, IMO, McGriff, Seibels & Williams, Munich Re, Trinity Review Services, United Healthcare and York Risk Services. We look forward to your continued support in 2016.

I proudly introduce our 2015 Texas PRIMA Conference Scholarship Recipients:

Michelle Brewer, Denton County

Renee Brown, Fort Bend ISD

Windi Delgado, City of South Padre Island

Ivan Flores, El Paso Community College

Peter Harrison, North Texas Tollway Authority

Estella Hinojosa, City of Edinburg

Sarah Johnson, Keller ISD

Cathryn Morgan, Jefferson County

Telissa Murillo, City of Huntsville

Guadalupe Ruiz, City of Corinth

Monica Sandoval, Comal ISD

Julie Sun, Allen ISD

Rosa Tinajero, DADS, El Paso Supported Living Center

Sharon Williams, DADS, San Antonio State Supported Living Center

I'd like to share some excerpts from several emails I received after conference.

Windi Delgado, "The educational sessions provided me with new information on

ways to improve our existing return to work program. Receiving the scholarship

allowed me the opportunity to attend the conference and meet many new people in

the field of risk management and human resources."; Cathryn Morgan, "It was

a great honor to be a recipient of the 2015 Texas PRIMA scholarship, I am truly

Thank you Sponsors!

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grateful. I had the opportunity to meet many seasoned Risk professionals and was able to gain insight into what Risk Management is as a whole, and how vital our role as risk professionals is to the organization. I gained so much from the sessions, but one session stuck out above the rest for me. The session on FMLA, ADA and Workers' Comp really painted a picture of how each of the three impacts each other."; Estella Solis, "I was one of the elected participants who was awarded a scholarship and it felt as if I had won the lottery. When we met the scholarship donors I was feeling nervous, but it turned out to be the opposite. They welcomed us with such kindness, warmth and interested in who we were. The whole PRIMA Conference was wonderful, well planned and each speaker kept the topic interesting and kept us alert."; Sarah Johnson, "I had a wonderful time networking with surrounding school districts and learning from the leading experts in risk management and workers' compensation. I feel honored and thankful to have been chosen as a scholarship recipient and look forward to attending next year."; Rosa Tinajero, "I felt welcomed into the PRIMA family immediately with the wonderful meet and greet hosted by the board members. The educational tracks were awesome! The presenters were so knowledgeable and willing to share the wealth of information they possess. This was truly an amazing experience and the connection made with other Risk Management professionals is priceless. Being awarded the PRIMA scholarship has helped me establish a network of people I can turn to for ideas and advice that I would have not otherwise had access to."; Monica Sandoval, "The Texas PRIMA Conference was an amazing experience, and I enjoyed every minute of it (from the training courses which were presented by a great team of presenters, to the well-coordinated networking opportunities). But the highlight of the conference by far, which was very inspiring, was the motivational guest speakers."; Ivan Flores, "What I enjoyed about the conference was getting to meet different people from other areas in Texas who are a part of the risk management field and other areas corresponding to it. By receiving this scholarship, it allowed me to attend this wonderful conference and get to learn more about risk management and safety."; Michelle Brewer, "I want to thank you for the scholarship. We have a small budget for an office of 11 and this opportunity will

Texas Political Subdivisions
UnitedHealthcare
Vantage Benefits
Administrators

Silver

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ACE Westchester
AIG
Ameritas
Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.
Carlisle Insurance Agency,
Inc.
CCMSI
Claims Administrative
Services, Inc.
Concentra Urgent Care
Davis Vision
Delta Dental Insurance
Company
First Financial
Frost Insurance Agency, Inc.
Genesis Management &
Insurance Services

allow our training dollars to stretch farther this year. I think what I enjoyed the most about the conference was the networking opportunity with fellow peers. I am fairly new to some areas of risk management and there were several people who gave me their business cards and told me to call them whenever I had questions or needed anything.”

It was a pleasure meeting each of these fine Risk Professionals and I look forward to seeing you in 2016 at the Renaissance Hotel in Austin.

Donna Parker Stirman

Conference Scholarship Chair
Chair, Conference Committee

Thank You 2015 Platinum Sponsors!

McGriff, Seibels & Williams of Texas, Inc.



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OneBeacon Government Risks
Origami Risk
PMOA, Inc.
Select Physical Therapy
Texas Association of Counties
Texas Medical Screening
The Law Office of Ricky D. Green, PLLC
TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool
Travelers
Trident Insurance Services
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Aetna



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