

PRIMA PRESS

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR OUR MEMBERS

texasprima.org
Texas Chapter Public Risk Management Association

March 2020

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President's Message: Roaring into 2020!



Just a few short months ago, we were in Galveston networking with colleagues, visiting with sponsors and exhibitors and welcoming over 100 first time attendees to the annual conference! We are taking the momentum built in 2019 and roaring into 2020!

When I began working for the City of Bryan in 2008 as Wellness Coordinator, I knew plenty about health and wellness, but had limited knowledge about the many different facets of risk management. I have learned so much in the past twelve years, and much of what I've learned is due to Texas PRIMA and the many colleagues I've met through this association-Texas PRIMA truly is the "Cat's Meow"!

While the 1920's were a time of economic prosperity and growth, there were also challenges such as Prohibition, the Teapot Dome Scandal, and over-confidence in the stock market. As risk management professionals we continue to face challenges including compliance with regulatory and legislative changes, cybersecurity, embracing and integrating the ERM model, and managing the risks and costs associated with health care. While these challenges might make you want to retreat to a dark Speakeasy, or leave you feeling like a Rag-a-Muffin, don't take any wooden nickels-let Texas PRIMA and its many resources help you better "know your onions" so you can keep "hitting on all sixes"!

The Board of Directors held their first meeting in January and we are busy making plans for regional educational seminars, webinars, carrying out a social media plan and exploring new ways to engage and retain members. Of course, we are also preparing for the annual conference-get ready to Lindy Hop into La Cantera Resort & Spa in San Antonio this November! In addition to our next board meeting, we will also host the annual Partnership Meeting to meet with our generous and dedicated sponsors. We welcome their feedback, as they are vital to Texas PRIMA and our ability to continue growing and improving as an association.

As we continue roaring through 2020, my hope is you will take full advantage of the many resources Texas PRIMA has to offer. Visit our website to access educational resources, post and reply on the Community Forum, engage with Texas PRIMA on social media and consider serving on a committee.

I am thrilled and honored to represent Texas PRIMA as President in 2020. Get your "Glad Rags" on and I hope to see you at an educational seminar or the annual conference- let's put the glitz in Risk!

Lesley Ward
2020 Texas PRIMA President



Texas PRIMA Educational Programs

Regional Risk Management Seminars



We are pleased to continue to offer regional seminars throughout the state with exciting topics this year, such as PTSD/presumptive claims, risk management 101, cyber risks, benefits, severe weather, and more.

Thanks to the City of Sugarland for hosting the Southeast Texas Regional Seminar at their beautiful facility on February 20, 2020. We had

record-breaking attendance, with over 60 participants. We want to thank all of our members and sponsors who braved the rainy weather to attend. We had informative presentations, delicious food, and engaging conversations around various risk management topics.

Upcoming Regional Seminars:

Central Texas - Wednesday, June 10, 2020, the City of Austin, Austin, TX

North Texas – Date and Time: TBD Dallas, Texas

This year's education committee is already hard at work to develop content for the June seminar in Austin. Please follow us on Facebook, Linked In, and Instagram to keep up with information on upcoming regional seminars, webinars, and all that is happening at Texas PRIMA!!

You can find these events and register to attend a regional seminar on the Texas PRIMA website under Upcoming Events or under the Events & Training tab. Registration costs are \$10/TX PRIMA members and \$25/non-members. For additional information, please contact Belinda Raindl, Education Committee Chair, at braindl@sjra.net.

Belinda Raindl
Education Committee Chair

Webinars

Webinars are another educational opportunity offered by Texas PRIMA to satisfy those with travel, time, and budget constraints who still need the valuable information. We are now entering our third year providing webinars, and our committee is hard at work arranging a schedule full of topics relevant to you, our members.

Join Texas PRIMA online on **March 12, 2020 at 10:00 AM**, as we host our first webinar of 2020. The focus of this webinar will be a **Property Insurance Market update by Mike Kessler of Gallagher Risk Management Services**. Webinars are free for Texas PRIMA members. Must be a current member of Texas PRIMA to register. For more information or to register please visit texasprima.org.

Melissa Steger
Webinar Committee Chair

Public Risk Management Awareness Day - March 1st!



The goal of Public Risk Management Awareness Day is to bring a heightened level of awareness and education throughout communities by giving public risk management a platform to use as a springboard to create special activities, proclamations and publications commemorating every March 1st as Public Risk Management Awareness Day!

Please share how your entity celebrated Public Risk Management Awareness Day with Texas PRIMA on social media!

Donna James-Spruce, A.R.M.
Director of Risk Management, Port of Corpus Christi Authority



Members on the Move

Congratulations to **Carla Coleman** for her promotion to Assistant Director in the City of Houston's Human Resources department, Finance & Accounting Management division.

Keep Texas PRIMA members informed by sending your "Members on the Move" updates to our newsletter, PRIMA Press. Tell us about your new position, promotion or designation. Send submissions to info@texasprima.org.

Welcome New Members

Micheon Balmer Director, Pool Management, Texas Water Conservation Association Risk Management Fund (TWCARMF)
Richelle Brasher, Safety and Risk Coordinator, City of Pasadena
Laura Camcioglu, Director of Administration, Port of Galveston
Laura De Le  n-Rueda, Risk Management Specialist, Alamo Colleges
James Duff, Assistant Vice President Risk Management, Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART)
Natasha Fenton, Project Administrator, Port of Galveston
Karina Garza, Coordinator for Risk Management, McAllen ISD
Katina Gordon, Director of Benefits, Safety & Risk Management, Alief ISD
Zach Harmon, Risk Manager, City of Abilene
Dia Mahmoud, Chief Risk Officer, Musharaka Capital
Connie Marroquin, HR Coordinator, City of Angleton
Lisa Marshall, Personnel Generalist, City of Lake Jackson
Michele Mosher, Commercial Account Manager, Blackmon Mooring/BMS CAT
Bill Philibert, HR Director and Risk Manager, City of Deer Park
Jose Sanchez, Personnel Director, City of Lake Jackson
Kerry Scott, Patrice Marshall, Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County
Peter Simonsen, Business Development Consultant, Charlesworth Consulting
Lisa Smith-Robertson, Occupational Health Account Rep., NextCare Urgent Care

Sponsor Highlight



AS&G Claims Administration, Inc. is the nation's premier provider of claims administration services to the public risk sector. Since 1983, they have been a single source provider of workers compensation, general liability, automobile liability, professional liability and property claims expertise to local governments and municipal organizations. Their goal is to reduce clients' costs through proactive claims handling and experienced decision-making. AS&G's dedication is to deliver quality service that exceeds expectations.



Injury Management Organization (IMO) has managed delivery of quality and cost-effective medical services to injured employees in Texas for 29 years. Its best-practice services include preauthorization, telephonic and field case-management, return-to-work, and medical bill review. IMO's health-care network contracts with 3,000 doctors serving 11,000 locations/specialties in 84 counties, where 90 percent of Texas workers reside. IMO is also expanding with medical-delivery innovations. Recently launched was IMO Telemed, a telemedicine program offering 24-hour multilingual services to injured employees who need immediate non-emergency services. With the advent of laptops, tablets, Smart phones, and encouraging laws, IMO also leads in bringing telemedicine to Texas workers.

IMO's expertise, expansion, and innovations also provide solid dividends to employers and insurance carriers. The Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) Network Report Card shows that IMO's average claim costs decreased four of the past five years and are the lowest for costly lost-time claims. But IMO is not just about cost-containment. Injured employees also benefit from IMO's professional case-management services. The same report shows that IMO's injured employees receive medical care sooner, return to work faster, and achieve higher physical functioning scores than most other injured employees. At IMO, the best is yet to come.
<https://injurymanagement.com/about/>

Thank you Sponsors!

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Silver

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Letter From the Editor



Thank you for reading our March 2020 Newsletter. We appreciate your support of Texas PRIMA and are committed towards providing you a forum to collaborate with your peers. In the coming months, the Newsletter Committee would love to hear your ideas for future articles, promotions and the successes you are realizing in your programs. These can be submitted to Betsy Ramos, at txprimabetsyramos@gmail.com. We leave you with an excerpt from The Carpenter by Jon Gordon, "No challenge can stop you if you have the courage to keep moving forward in the face of your greatest fears and biggest challenges. Be courageous." (page 103)

Betsy Ramos, CPM
2020 Newsletter Committee Chair

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