



NWCEF Educational Seminar & Annual Meeting

March 13, 2026

Mahoney State Park

8:50 am – 12:30 pm

Registration begins at 8:30 am

8:30 – 8:50 am | *Registration*

8:50 – 9:00 am | *Opening Remarks*

9:00 – 9:40 am | *Offense and Defense: NWCEF in the 2026 Legislative Session*

- Subrogation rules are complicated, confusing, and expensive to apply. *We offered the solution.*
- When you do the right thing and file a FROI, your employees are bombarded by solicitations from trial lawyers telling them you will cheat them, and the lawyer will make them a lot of money. *Will the legislature finally stop it?*
- Labor and trial lawyers want to increase all weekly rates to 75% of the AWW, increase BAW from 300 to 500 weeks, and more. *Will NWCEF and allies prevent it?*

NWCEF lobbyist Ryan McIntosh and State Senator Bob Hallstron will highlight what NWCEF is doing to advance and protect the interests of employers.

9:40 – 10:10 am | *Lessons to be Learned from the Trial Courts*

“Learn from the mistakes of others. You can’t live long enough to make them all yourself.”
Eleanor Roosevelt

Baylor Evnen attorneys Tom Shires and Adam Barrett will decode the lessons from actual trial court decisions, so you’re better equipped to know what to do and not do.

10:10 – 10:25 am | *Networking Break*

10:25 – 10:45 am | *The Power of Presence: Why Legislative Advocacy is the Employer’s Best Defense*

In the legislative arena, *"if you're not at the table, you're on the menu."*

Learn from NWCEF members, Jim Steele from Airlite Plastics and Luke Tieso from Arthur J. Gallagher, why collective participation is vital to shaping business-friendly policy, demonstrate the ROI of NWCEF advocacy, and learn how you can help.

10:45 – 11:25 am | *The Transition from the Reactive to Proactive when Handling Claims*

Harness your strategic power. This panel, populated with an experienced insurance professional, Duana Freeman from Unico, a seasoned employer representative, Jim Townsend from Kawasaki, and Baylor Evnen partner Mike Reisbig, will arm you with strategies to avoid common traps and take advantage of legal realities to reduce costs and control your mod.

11:25 – 12:15 am | *Defining the Line: Pre-existing Hip Pathology vs. Occupational Injury*

Dr. Beau Konigsberg, MD of Merit Medical Evaluations and Nebraska Medicine, and Dallas Jones will examine the complex medical and legal threshold where natural age-related pathology ends and a compensable injury begins. The goal is to provide a framework for determining whether a worker's condition is a consequence of their job or their genetics.

12:15 – 12:30 pm | *Closing Remarks and Brief Membership Meeting*