



**NEWS & EVENTS**  
*POSTED BY SCOTT W. DUTTON*  
**FIFEC Conference is Next Week!**

Next week is the Florida Insurance Fraud Education Committee (FIFEC) Conference [www.fifec.org](http://www.fifec.org). For those who are unfamiliar, the Florida Insurance Fraud Education Committee began its existence as the DIF/SIU Annual Training Seminar representing the Florida Department of Insurance's Division of Insurance Fraud and the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) community in 1992 at the Altamonte Springs Hilton. Frank Doolittle, the Director of the Division of Insurance Fraud (DIF), given the rapid growth of the SIUs within the insurance industry, and with his own office, believed that the two groups should establish a formal relationship. The DIF hosted this first seminar, which was actually a one-day open forum-type workshop, with no agenda other than to foster a favorable working environment between the public and private sectors involved in the fight against insurance fraud.

This seminar has subsequently been held each year since 1992. It was co-hosted by the DIF each year, with Blue Cross/Blue Shield in Jacksonville in 1993; back in Altamonte Springs with State Farm in 1994; at the Radisson in Orlando in 1995 and 1996, co-hosted by the Central and South Florida Chapters of the IASIU; and with Nationwide, respectively; and from 1997 through 2003, it was held at the Hyatt at the Orlando International Airport. However, with the attendance increasing, it was necessary to move in 2004 to the Caribe Royale Convention Center, West of Orlando on World Center Drive where it still remains.

Prior to 1997, except for 1995 when the seminar was co-hosted with DIF by the Presidents of the two existing Florida Chapters of the International Association of Special Investigation Units, an insurance company SIU co-hosted with DIF. It was determined by 1997 that the seminar had grown far too large an endeavor for a single SIU. Also, by that time, the North Florida Chapter of the IASIU had been established, so the leadership of the three IASIU Chapters and the Director of DIF decided to form FIFEC, a non-profit organization specifically established to direct the operations of the seminar each year.

In 2003, the National Society of Professional Insurance Investigators was added as a Committee Member, but in 2006, two additional Florida IASIU chapters were chartered and FIFEC amended the Articles of Incorporation and replaced the Operating Agreement with Bylaws which mandate membership on the Executive Committee to come only from the ranks of the Florida IASIU Chapters' membership.

**This year, as is the past, Hayes Wood, Jim Rinaman and I will be presenting on the currents trends in PIP litigation.**

- **Hayes will address the investigation and litigation of staged accidents and related fraud issues, and speak on when such issues are really "litigable" to a jury.**
- **Jim Rinaman will address the NCCI litigation, and billing issues relating to nursing services.**



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· Lastly, I will be providing a discussion of current legal issues such as where we are with EUOs post-Custer Medical, the permissive v. mandatory issues post Kingsway Amigo with recommendations for handling presuit demands, cases post presuit but presuit, class actions, and cases in suit (we will discuss options for handling in the 4<sup>th</sup> DCA v. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>d</sup>, 3<sup>d</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> DCAs), the pending permissive v. mandatory case pending in the 3<sup>d</sup> DCA, and other hot button issues (will include a case law summary of the DCA decision since January 1, 2010) and key county court and circuit court opinions.

Importantly, if there are issues that you would like to have discussed at the seminar, please let us know! We will be finalizing our presentations over the weekend. Hayes, Jim and I hope to see you next Thursday morning!

T-AM I Thursday, June 9th – 8:00am - 9:50am

310 <b>LAW &amp; POLICY CEU</b>	<b>Current Trends and Case Law Update in PIP Litigation</b>	This presentation will cover current trends in Florida PIP litigation including tricks of the trade, and case law update.	<b>Scott Dutton, Esq.</b> <i>Dutton Law Group, P.A.</i> <b>Hayes Wood, Esq.</b> <i>Law Offices of Bronstein &amp; Wood</i> <b>James Rinaman, Esq.</b> <i>Rinaman &amp; Associates, P.A.</i>
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