

# The Twenty-Ninth Annual North Carolina Workers' Compensation Educational Conference



*Photo credit VisitRaleigh.com and Photographer Brian Strickland*

**Monday - Wednesday  
September 30, 2024 - October 2, 2024**

**Raleigh Convention Center  
500 South Salisbury Street  
Raleigh, North Carolina**



## September 30 - October 2, 2024

The 29th Annual North Carolina Workers' Compensation Conference will be held in person on Monday, September 30 - Wednesday, October 2, 2024, at the Raleigh Convention Center. The North Carolina Industrial Commission organizes this program with the goal of bringing its stakeholders together and educating them about current and noteworthy workers' compensation trends and topics (including medicolegal issues and Industrial Commission processes and procedures) while providing a forum for meaningful dialogue among Conference participants. This year's presenters include members of the Industrial Commission leadership; several Deputy and Special Deputy Commissioners; Industrial Commission Section Heads; plaintiff and defense attorneys; physicians; medical and vocational rehabilitation specialists; and mediators.

### Who Should Attend?

Employers, insurance adjusters, self-insurers, third-party administrators, safety and human resource managers, plaintiff and defense attorneys, paralegals, healthcare providers, medical and vocational rehabilitation specialists, and mediators are encouraged to attend. Anyone with a professional interest in the workers' compensation system in North Carolina will receive valuable information at the Conference.

### Continuing Education Credits

Application is pending for up to 12 hours of continuing education credits in the following occupations: attorneys (CLE), paralegals (CPE), insurance adjusters (CE), human resources professionals (SHRM), and rehabilitation providers (CE for CRC, CDMS, and CCM); and 1 hour of credit for mediators (CME). COHNs, CRRNs, and any other discipline will be provided, upon request, with a certificate of completion for credit submission. For adjusters, the Conference sessions are grouped into three courses. **Adjusters must complete all sessions in each course to receive credits for that course.**

Adjusters also should be aware that the North Carolina Department of Insurance does not award credit to non-resident adjusters with North Carolina licenses unless domiciled in North Carolina as an adjuster. For general information concerning licensing and CE requirements for adjusters in North Carolina, please contact the North Carolina Department of Insurance at (919) 807-6800.

### Materials

Attendees will be able to download the materials prior to the Conference. Please look for the link in an email announcement from [compconference@iwcf.us](mailto:compconference@iwcf.us) when the materials are available. Please provide an accurate and legible email address unique to each individual registrant when you register to ensure receipt of instructions and conference communications. Also, please add [compconference@iwcf.us](mailto:compconference@iwcf.us) to your email "safe sender" list as a trusted contact.

### Hotel Information

The host hotel for our conference is:

#### THE RALEIGH MARRIOTT CITY CENTER

500 Fayetteville Street, Raleigh, NC 27601 • Across the street from the Convention Center

**Conference Rate: \$239.00/night • Rate Cut-Off Date: September 3, 2024**

The Conference group rate will not be available if the room block becomes full prior to the cut-off date, so make your reservations early. [Click here](#) to book your group rate online for the North Carolina Workers' Compensation Conference, or call (800) 228-9290 (hold times may be lengthy).

### Raleigh Convention Center Parking Information

Please visit the Convention Center's website at [www.raleighconvention.com/directions](http://www.raleighconvention.com/directions) and scroll down to Parking for detailed driving directions to the recommended parking garages for Conference attendees (the Performing Arts Deck and the Marriott Deck, both of which are located on the corner of Lenoir and Salisbury Streets). Exhibitors should go to the underground parking garage of the Convention Center located on the corner of Lenoir and Dawson Streets to unload booth materials and equipment; a garage attendant will provide unloading instructions and parking directions upon arrival.



## SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

- 12:45 **Opening Remarks**  
*Philip Baddour, Chair, NCIC*  
**Kids' Chance of North Carolina, Inc.**  
*Kara Faust, President, Kids' Chance of North Carolina, Inc., Colfax, NC*
- 1:00 **Workplace Spinal Injuries in Employees with Pre-Existing Degenerative Conditions**  
*Gurvinder Deol, M.D., Wake Orthopaedics, Raleigh, NC; Susan Briggs, Quintairo, Prieto, Wood & Boyer P.A., Charlotte, NC; Trey Collier, Collier Law PLLC, Charlotte, NC*
- 2:00 **A View from the Bench: Death Claims; Average Weekly Wage Issues; Medical Causation and Competency of Expert Medical Testimony; and Proof of Disability Following Release to Work with Restrictions**  
*Kevin Howell, Chief Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Michelle Denning, Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Thomas Perlungher, Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Wes Saunders, Deputy Commissioner, NCIC*
- 3:00 **Break - Visit Exhibit Hall**
- 3:15 **You Be the Judge!: An Interactive Presentation Based on Real Life Fact Patterns**  
*Larry Baker, Willson Jones Carter & Baxley, P.A., Charlotte, NC; Annemarie Pantazis, Wilder Pantazis Law Group, Charlotte, NC; Stephanie Gay, Aegis Administrative Services, Inc., Raleigh, NC*
- 4:15 **Best Practices for Communicating with Physicians in Workers' Compensation Claims**  
*Sameer Mathur, M.D., Cary Orthopaedics, Cary, NC; Brian Szura, M.D., Cary Orthopaedics, Cary, NC; Kristine Prati, Wilson Ratledge, PLLC, Raleigh, NC; Hunter Eddins-Gentel, Ricci Law Firm, Raleigh, NC*
- 5:15 **Adjourn / Reception Begins**  
*Kids' Chance Silent Auction*
- 6:15 **Reception Ends**

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2024

- 8:00 **Continental Breakfast**  
**Concurrent Break-Out Sessions:**
- 9:00 **Break-Out Sessions - Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below**  
**I. Appellate Law Practice Tips**  
*Judge Allegra Collins, North Carolina Court of Appeals; Judge April Wood, North Carolina Court of Appeals; Angela Farag Craddock, Young Moore and Henderson, P.A., Raleigh, NC; Narendra Ghosh, Patterson Harkavy, LLP, Chapel Hill, NC*  
**II. An Ethical Perspective of the NCIC Rehabilitation Rules**  
*(Fulfills Ethics requirement for CCM, CRC, and CDMS)*  
*Vicki Hewitt, Rehabilitation Nurse Consultant, NCIC; Jodie Nolf, Nolf Case Management & Consulting, LLC, Raleigh, NC*
- 10:00 **Break - Visit Exhibit Hall**
- 10:20 **Break-Out Sessions - Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below**  
**I. Survey and Discussion of North Carolina State Bar Ethics Opinions About Workers' Compensation Issues**  
*(Fulfills one (1) hour Ethics credit for attorneys)*  
*Nichole McLaughlin, North Carolina State Bar, Raleigh, NC; Jarvis Harris, Law Offices of James Scott Farrin, Greensboro, NC; Jerri Simmons, Cranfill Sumner, LLP, Charlotte, NC*  
**II. Update from the Executive Secretary's Office**  
*Meredith Henderson, Executive Secretary, NCIC; Kimberly Fennell, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Carrie Geddie, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Alexandra Hagerty, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Michael Kelly, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC; Jessica Parker, Special Deputy Commissioner, NCIC*

- 11:20 **Break-Out Sessions - Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below**  
**I. ICMS Update and Tips**  
*(Fulfills one (1) hour Technology credit for attorneys)*  
*Tim Frost, Chief Information Officer, NCIC; Meredith Henderson, Executive Secretary, NCIC; Emily Baucom, Clerk of the Industrial Commission, NCIC*  
**II. New Medicare Mandatory Reporting Requirements of Workers' Compensation Claim Data**  
*John Cattie, Jr., Cattie & Gonzalez, PLLC, Charlotte, NC; Shannon Metcalf, Hedrick Gardner Kincheloe & Garofalo LLP, Charlotte, NC; Kathleen Glancy, Law Offices of Kathleen Shannon Glancy, P.A., Wilmington, NC*
- 12:20 **Lunch (included)**
- 1:45 **Break-Out Sessions - Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below**  
**I. Getting By With A Little Help From Our Friends**  
*(Fulfills one (1) hour Substance Abuse and Mental Health credit for attorneys)*  
*Candace Hoffman, North Carolina Lawyer Assistance Program, Raleigh, NC; Warren Savage, Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company, Cary, NC*  
**II. Artificial Intelligence**  
*April Dawson, Associate Dean of Technology and Innovation and Professor, North Carolina Central University School of Law, Durham, NC*
- 2:45 **Break - Visit Exhibit Hall**
- 3:00 **Break-Out Sessions - Choose one (1) session of two (2) listed below**  
**I. A Medley of Ethics Dilemmas**  
*(Fulfills one (1) hour Ethics credit for attorneys and adjusters)*  
*Scarlette Gardner, Director of Safety, Health and Workers' Compensation, North Carolina Office of State Human Resources, Raleigh, NC; Kevin Bunn, Kevin Bunn Attorney at Law PC, Cary, NC; Dawn Steadman, Vice President of Claims, Specialized Contract Administrators, Colfax, NC*  
**II. A Refresher and Update on I.C. Mediation Rules and DRC Standards and Advisory Opinions**  
*(Fulfills one (1) hour Mediator credit (CME))*  
*Collins Barwick, DRC Certified Mediator, Raleigh, NC; Jackie Clare, DRC Certified Mediator, Raleigh, NC; Tom Clare, DRC Certified Mediator, Raleigh, NC*
- 4:00 **Adjourn**

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2024

- 8:00 **Continental Breakfast**
- 9:00 **Utilizing Retraining and Education to Help Injured Workers Successfully Return to Suitable Work**  
*Anthony Caison, Vice President of Workforce Continuing Education, Wake Technical Community College, Raleigh, NC; Dana Leonard, Willson Jones Carter & Baxley, P.A., Raleigh, NC; Heather Hodgman Jahnes, Hodgman, Rowlett & Jahnes, P.A., Greensboro, NC; Amy Kelly, Senior Vocational Case Manager, GENEX Services, Inc., Charlotte, NC*
- 10:00 **Break - Visit Exhibit Hall**
- 10:30 **Back to the Basics: Injuries by Accident and Specific Traumatic Incidents**  
*Martha Ramsay, Ramsay Law Firm, P.A., Charlotte, NC; Daniel Pope, Jr., Wilson Ratledge, PLLC, Raleigh, NC*
- 11:30 **Workers' Compensation Appellate Case Law Update**  
*Stewart Poisson, Poisson, Poisson & Bower, PLLC, Wadesboro, NC; Kyla Block, Teague Campbell Dennis & Gorham, LLP, Raleigh, NC*
- 12:30 **Adjourn**

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Registration Fees: \$400.00 per person paid on or before August 15, 2024  
\$425.00 per person paid after August 15, 2024, but on or before September 15, 2024  
\$475.00 per person paid after September 15, 2024

*Registration fees include sessions, access to presentation materials and exhibit hall, reception, lunch, and two breakfasts.*

Two registration options are available.

1. **Payment by Credit Card** (MasterCard, VISA, or American Express) - go to [www.workcompevent.com/north\\_carolina](http://www.workcompevent.com/north_carolina).
2. **Payment by Check** - Complete, copy, and return this form for each attendee, along with a check made payable to the IWCF (International Workers' Compensation Foundation, Inc.), and mail to IWCF, 570 Memorial Circle, Suite 320, Ormond Beach, FL 32174.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name for Name Badge: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Area of Practice:  Employer  Employee  Health & Safety Specialist  Insurer  TPA  Attorney  Mediator  
 Paralegal  Occup. Health Nurse  Healthcare Provider  Medical Rehab Specialist  Vocational Rehab Specialist  
 Human Resources Professional  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS** - Application is pending for up to 12 hours of credit for Attorney CLE, Paralegal CPE, Adjuster CE, SHRM CE, and Rehabilitation CRC/CDMS/CCM credits, and 1 hour of credit for mediator CME. COHN, CRRN, and any other discipline will be provided, upon request, with a certificate of completion. Please note special Department of Insurance rules for adjusters.

**Please indicate the CE credits you will be seeking:**

NC Attorney - Bar #: \_\_\_\_\_ NC Adjuster - NPN #: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Mediator \_\_\_\_\_ Paralegal \_\_\_\_\_ SHRM \_\_\_\_\_ CRC \_\_\_\_\_ CCM \_\_\_\_\_ CDMS \_\_\_\_\_ OHN

**LODGING** - The host hotel is: THE RALEIGH MARRIOTT CITY CENTER - 500 Fayetteville Street, Raleigh, NC 27601 • Across the street from the Raleigh Convention Center; Conference Rate: \$239.00/night • Rate cut-off September 3, 2024. The Conference group rate will not be available if the room block becomes full prior to the cut-off date; make your reservations early. Click here to **book your group rate for the North Carolina Workers' Compensation Conference**, or call (800) 228-9290 (hold times may be lengthy).

**PRESENTATION MATERIALS** - Download the presentation materials prior to the Conference. Please look for the link in an email announcement when the materials are available. Please be sure to provide an accurate and legible email address unique to each individual registrant when you register to ensure receipt of the instructions and conference communications.

**DRESS CODE** - Casual clothing is appropriate for all events.

**CANCELLATION REFUND POLICY** - Cancellation of pre-registration must be made before 5:00 p.m. on September 15, 2024. Substitution of attendee is recommended in lieu of cancellation. The full registration fee will be forfeited if you fail to attend or cancel timely.

**SPECIAL NEEDS** - Individuals attending the Conference who may need auxiliary aids or special services are requested to provide notice of their needs in writing no later than 10 working days before the Conference so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

*For further information contact the IWCF at Tel: (386) 677-0041; Fax: (386) 677-0155; Email: [comconference@iwcf.us](mailto:comconference@iwcf.us)  
International Workers' Compensation Foundation, 570 Memorial Circle, Suite 320, Ormond Beach, FL 32174.*

Net proceeds from this event, if any, go to the International Workers' Compensation Foundation (FEIN# 35-1737364), a non-profit organization, to further its work in workers' compensation education and outreach.



## ATTENTION EXHIBITORS

The Conference includes an exhibit hall. Fee of \$1,000 includes two (2) complimentary registrations for exhibitor representatives. A separate registration form should be completed for each additional registrant.

Space is offered on a first-come, first-served basis and will only be reserved upon our receipt of your registration. Register online or send an advance copy of this form and your first three choices of booth location by fax to (386) 677-0155 or email to [dearrest@iwcf.us](mailto:dearrest@iwcf.us). For additional information regarding exhibit area, contact the IWCF at (386) 677-0041. Booth set-up will be in the exhibitor area on Monday, September 30th, 10 A.M. - 1 P.M. Tear down will be on Wednesday, October 2nd, 12:50 P.M.

The reception, continental breakfasts, and refreshment breaks will be held in the Exhibition Ballroom. Registration fee includes one 8'x10' booth or 6' draped table and two chairs, identification sign, and registration for two representatives. Full fee forfeiture if unable to attend.

**Kids' Chance of North Carolina** ([www.kidschancenc.org](http://www.kidschancenc.org)) invites all vendors to donate an item to be auctioned during the Wednesday reception. All donations are tax deductible and donors will be recognized. For more information, please contact:

**Marty Baier, Silent Auction Chair**  
(919) 622-5995 or email: [marty@baierinvestigations.com](mailto:marty@baierinvestigations.com)  
**Kara Faust**  
(704) 678-5272 or email: [kfaust@carolinacasegmt.com](mailto:kfaust@carolinacasegmt.com)

## EXHIBITOR INSURANCE HOLD/HARMLESS CLAUSE

Exhibitor assumes entire responsibility and hereby agrees to protect, indemnify, defend, save, and hold harmless the International Workers' Compensation Foundation (IWCF), its employees and agents, and Chelsea Place Meetings and its employees and agents, against all claims, losses, and damages to persons or property, governmental charges, or fines and attorney fees arising out of its exhibits, excluding any such liability caused by the sole negligence of Chelsea Place Meetings and its employees and agents, as well as the IWCF, its members, employees, and agents.

In addition, exhibitor acknowledges that Chelsea Place Meetings and the IWCF do not maintain insurance covering exhibitors' property or potential liabilities and that it is the sole responsibility of the exhibitor to obtain insurance covering such losses by exhibitor. Exhibitor shall obtain and keep in force during the exhibit period policies of comprehensive general liability insurance and contractual liability insurance and specifically referring to contractual liability set forth in the foregoing paragraphs hereof, in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 combined single limit for personal injury and property damage. Chelsea Place Meetings and the IWCF shall be included in such policies as additionally named insureds for this convention only.

## AUTHORIZED

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

You are invited to register as a sponsor for the Twenty-Ninth Annual North Carolina Workers' Compensation Educational Conference. The following sponsorship levels are available:

### Gold: \$1,250 Contribution

- Complimentary Attendee Registration.
- Organization name and contact information will appear in Conference program.
- Organization name will appear on a large "Thank You Sponsor" sign in exhibit area.

### Silver: \$750 Contribution

- Organization name will appear on a large "Thank You Sponsor" sign in exhibit area.

### CHECK CATEGORY WHICH APPLIES:

- EXHIBITOR  
 SPONSORSHIP  Gold  Silver

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Specialty: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## EXHIBITORS & GOLD SPONSORS

Comp. Registrant #1: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Name & Title*

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## EXHIBITORS ONLY

Comp. Registrant #2: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Name & Title*

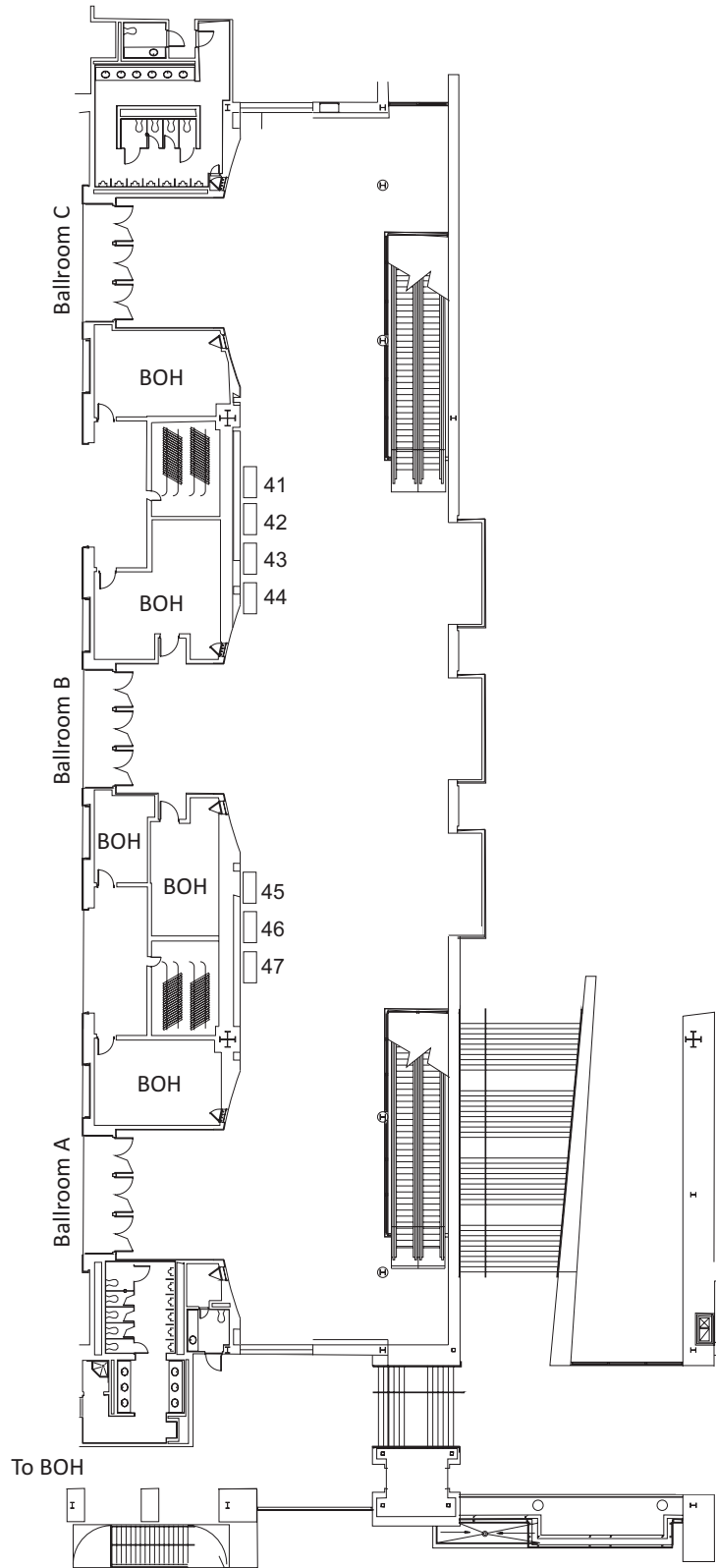
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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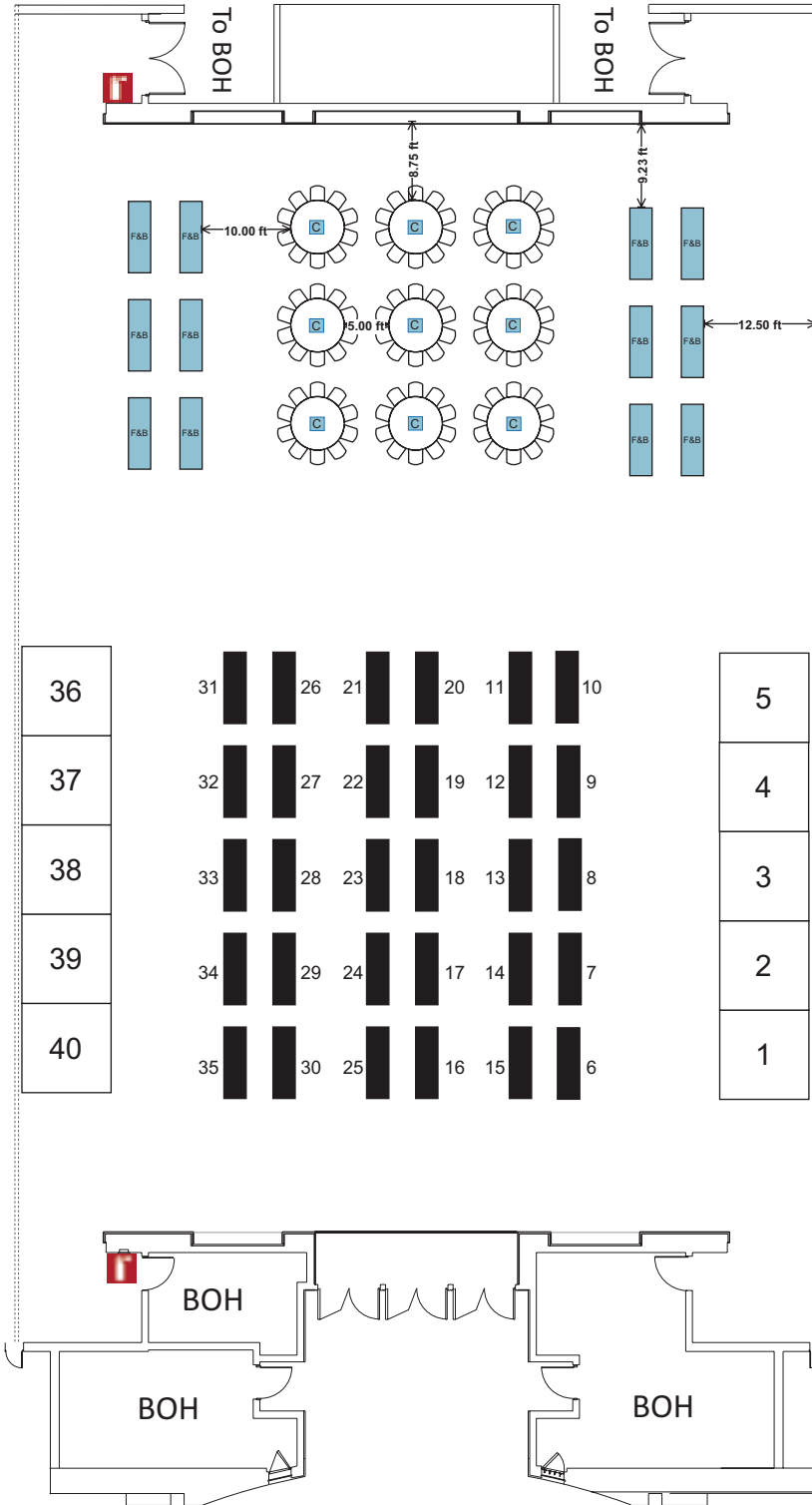
For additional information contact the IWCF at: Phone (386) 677-0041 • Fax (386) 677-0155 • [comconference@iwcf.us](mailto:comconference@iwcf.us).



## Ballroom Lobby



## Ballroom B



### BOOTH DIMENSIONS

1-5; 36-40: 10' wide / 8' deep  
8-49; -  
6-35; 41-47: 6' wide / 4' deep  
(recommend using table top displays  
for booths 6-35 and 41-47)

**PLEASE PROVIDE US WITH YOUR TOP  
THREE CHOICES OF LOCATION  
WHEN YOU SEND IN  
YOUR REGISTRATION  
FORM:**

Choice #1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Choice #2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Choice #3 \_\_\_\_\_

Your booth location will be  
confirmed promptly.

PLEASE SEND TO:  
**IWCF**  
**dearrest@IWCF.us**  
or  
**Fax (386) 677-0155**