

### **SAUL ALLWEISS**

Saul Allweiss is an attorney whose practice focuses on the basic defense of workers' compensation disputes defending claims administrators in disputes arising out of Compliance Audits conducted by the Division of Workers Compensation and the Department of Insurance.

He has been involved and is highly respected in the California Workers Compensation Community for over 50 years. His experience spans working claims as an examiner, hearing representative, claims counsel, legislative consultant, regulations and reforms consultant, as well as serving as an advisor on ad hoc committees for Division of Workers' Compensation and the Commission on Health Safety and Workers Compensation.

He has been honored by the State Bar of California as the Workers Compensation defense attorney of the year 2006 and received the Tim East Award by the California Coalition on Workers Compensation.

### **BASIL R. BESH, M.D.**

Basil R. Besh, M.D. is board-certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery. He specializes in Hand, Wrist, and Elbow conditions, and is one of the few hand surgeons in Silicon Valley that has the Subspecialty Certificate in Surgery of the Hand.

He has over 15 years of experience focused on orthopedic hand conditions. He is a leader in the field of orthopedic surgery and holds various leadership positions within the orthopedic medical association community. In addition to his leadership contributions, he is an active member of several medical societies. His expertise and commitment to personalized patient care have earned him several prestigious awards and recognition including Vitals' Top 10 Hand Surgeons in California Award, East Bay's Best Doctors Award, Global Who's Who Top Doctors Award, four Vitals' Patient Choice Awards, two Vitals' Compassionate Doctor Awards, and a Vitals' On-Time Physician Award.

### **KANDICE KAPINOS**

Kandice Kapinos (PhD, Labor Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign; MS, Epidemiology, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health) is a Senior Economist at RAND and a Professor at the RAND School of Public Policy and former Director of the RAND Center for Causal Inference. She brings 18 years of experience leading health and labor economic studies. Dr. Kapinos specializes in access to and costs of health care in the United States, with particular interest in vulnerable populations, including low-income individuals, children, and mothers. She combines applied microeconomics and epidemiological models with advanced econometrics and causal inference tools to understand how social, environmental, and structural factors influence health behaviors and the extent to which policies and programs can improve outcomes. She has effectively served as Principal Investigator/Project Director on 14 studies, and has contributed to two dozen other interdisciplinary studies, leading health econometric and evaluation analyses on collaborative teams. She led the 2016-2019 Medical Access Study for DIR.

### **JASON MARCUS**

Jason Marcus is an applicant attorney with the law firm of Marcus & Pulley. He received his law degree from University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law and was admitted to the Bar in 2008. He has extensive experience in workers' compensation and is a certified specialist in workers' compensation per the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization. In addition to his law practice, he is heavily involved with the California Applicants' Attorneys Association. He is a past-president of CAAA and currently serves as the chair of CAAA's Legislative Committee.

### **JASON SCHMELZER**

Jason Schmelzer is a leading advocate in the areas of workers' compensation insurance, environmental regulation, solid waste management, and arts funding, among his many areas of interest and expertise.

A legislative advocate with the firm since 2009, and a partner since 2016. Prior to joining the firm, He served as a lobbyist for four years, most recently for the California Chamber of Commerce. His primary responsibilities at the California Chamber of Commerce included directing legislative advocacy for their more than 15,000 member companies on issues such as transportation, air quality, chemicals policy, workers' compensation, and other lines of insurance.

Previously, he was the Legislative Director for the California Manufacturers and Technology Association. He served as the association's voice in the legislature, governor's office, and administrative agencies on issues including labor law, workers' compensation insurance, and health care.

He spent five years working in the insurance industry prior to beginning his career as an advocate. In this role, he attained valuable hands-on experience working with private and public sector entities attempting to navigate California's workers' compensation system