



2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA

Oregon Public Risk Management Association

September 30, 2026 – October 2, 2026

Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2026

11:00 AM – 03:30 PM
Registration Foyer

Registration Open

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Moss Room

Welcome Reception & Lunch

Network and reconnect with fellow risk professionals, sponsors, and OR-PRIMA Board Members while enjoying lunch.

12:30 PM – 01:45 PM
Jasper/Onyx/Rainbow Room

Keynote: Rise Up

Kacey McCallister, Motivational Speaker - RiseUp

Risk Management (RM) Certificate Credits: 1 – Risk Management, Other

01:45 PM – 02:00 PM

Networking Break

02:00 PM – 03:30 PM
Jasper/Onyx/Rainbow Room

Understanding Sexual Abuse and Molestation Claims in Public Entities

Jens Jensen, Director of Claims – Special Districts Association of Oregon

Geoff Sinclair, SVP & Public Sector Practice Leader – Brown & Brown

Luke Reese, Attorney – Garrett Hemann Robertson, P.C.

RM Certificate Credits: 1 – Public Safety, Public Exposure, Liability or Other

Sexual Abuse and Molestation (SAM) claims represent one of the most complex and high-impact areas of liability exposure for public entities, particularly those serving youth and vulnerable populations. These claims can involve significant legal, financial, and reputational risks and require careful coordination between claims professionals, insurance brokers, and legal counsel.

This session will provide a multi-disciplinary perspective on SAM claims management within Oregon for public entities. Three experienced professionals will present short, focused briefings from their respective vantage points:

- Claims Management Perspective – Discussion of claim handling practices, emerging trends in allegations and reporting, reserve and settlement considerations, and the operational challenges public entities face when responding to SAM claims.
- Broker/Risk Financing Perspective – Overview of the insurance marketplace for SAM coverage, coverage structure and limits, underwriting trends, and how evolving risk exposures impact coverage availability and cost for public entities.
- Legal Counsel Perspective – Analysis of litigation trends, statutory and regulatory developments, defense strategies, and the potential legal ramifications for public entities when these claims arise.

Following the presentations, the speakers will participate in a moderated panel

discussion, providing an opportunity to examine how these perspectives intersect with real-world claims. Panelists will discuss emerging concerns, lessons learned from recent cases, and practical strategies for prevention, response, and risk mitigation.

04:00 PM – 06:00 PM

Afternoon Activities

Choose from a bay/river cruise through Marine Discovery Tours, launching from the Newport Bayfront, or a Sip & Paint event held onsite in the Starfish Room at the BW Plus Agate Beach.

06:00 PM – 09:00 PM

Dinner

Dinner is on your own this evening—gather some friends and explore the local dining options.

Thursday, October 1, 2026

07:30 AM – 04:00 PM

Registration Foyer

Registration Open

07:30 AM – 08:30 AM

Moss Room

Breakfast Buffet

08:45 AM – 09:00 AM

Jasper/Onyx/Rainbow Room

President's Welcome and Presentations

Dustin Karstetter, OR-PRIMA President and Senior Risk Management Consultant – CIS

09:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Jasper/Onyx/Rainbow Room

Keynote: The Risk of Standing Still

PRIMA Central Speaker's Bureau Guest

Sarah Curtis, Loss Control Training Consultant - Public Entity Partners (TN)

RM Certificate Credit: 1 – Risk Management, Safety or Other

Change is not just inevitable—it's vital for innovation, resilience, and long-term success. In this session, we'll explore why resisting change can be riskier than the change itself. We'll also introduce a practical change management framework to help guide your organization through transitions smoothly and effectively. Whether you're leading a team or navigating shifts in your role, this presentation will equip you with the mindset and tools needed to thrive in a world of constant transformation.

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM

Networking Break

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Cove Room (Breakout A)

Navigating Workers' Compensation: 801 Reporting, Return to Work, Employer-at-Injury Program, and What Lies Ahead

Jennifer King, Senior Workers' Compensation Account Executive – WHA Insurance

RM Certificate Credits: 1 – Workers' Compensation or Other

Workers' compensation programs face growing regulatory, workforce, and cost challenges. This session highlights key drivers in Oregon, including 801 reporting, return-to-work (RTW) strategies, and EAIP. Attendees will gain practical tools to overcome obstacles, improve claim outcomes, and prepare for emerging trends shaping the future of workers' compensation.

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- Identify key metrics that impact program performance
- Assess their current workers' compensation results

- Apply strategies to reduce claim frequency and severity
- Recognize early signs of adverse claim development
- Understand basic program structure options and considerations

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM
Jasper/Onyx/Rainbow Room
(Breakout B)

Guess Who is Coming to Dinner: The New World of Third-Party Involvement in Today's Claims

Juliana Calistri, Claim Advocacy Leader, Public Sector, Education, GovCon and Non-Profit Risk Control & Claim Advocacy Practice – Willis Towers Watson and Micheal Williams, North American Casualty Broking Leader, Public Sector & Education – Willis Towers Watson

RM Certificate Credits: 1 - State Law, Liability Insurance or Other

This session explores the growing role of third-party litigation funding in today's claims environment and its legal, financial, and operational implications for public entities. Through case studies and practical discussion, presenters will examine claim management strategies, public entity impacts, and available insurance options to help organizations better understand and respond to this evolving exposure.

12:00 PM – 01:30 PM
Moss Room

Lunch

01:30 PM – 02:45 PM
Jasper/Onyx/Rainbow Room
(Breakout A)

Recreational Immunity (Title TBD)

Spencer Rockwell, Assistant General Counsel – SDAO

RM Certificate Credits: 1 – State Law, Public Exposure, Liability or Other

Session description to come...

01:30 PM – 02:45 PM
Cove Room (Breakout B)

Volunteers Wanted. Liability Not.

Lorin Williams, Senior Public Entities Account Executive – WHA Insurance

Niki Fisher, Senior Risk Management Consultant - SDAO

RM Certificate Credits: 1 – Risk & Volunteers, Risk Management or Other

Volunteers are essential to public entities—and a hidden source of risk. This practical session shows how to spot and manage volunteer exposures, from supervision and conduct to safety and volunteer classification. Using real claim examples, you'll leave with a clear playbook for building a defensible volunteer program that protects your organization and the people who serve it.

02:45 PM – 03:00 PM

Refreshment Break

03:00 PM – 04:00 PM
Cove Room (Breakout A)

Building a Defensible Organizational Culture: Reducing Risks Before Claims Occur

Dan Brown, Strategic Alliance Director, Western Region - Lexipol

RM Certificate Credits: 1 – Public Safety, Workers' Compensation or Other

Organizational culture is one of the strongest predictors of performance and one of the most overlooked drivers of liability. This session examines how leadership, accountability, communication, and employee engagement shape organizational risk. Participants will learn practical strategies to strengthen culture, improve resilience, reduce claims, enhance employee performance, and build greater public trust through proactive leadership and sound organizational practices.

03:00 PM – 04:00 PM
Jasper/Onyx/Rainbow Room
(Breakout B)

Accessible Facilities & Park Access Within the State Parks System

Helena Kesch, ADA Coordinator – Oregon Parks & Recreation

RM Certificate Credits: 1 – State Law, Federal Law, Property Insurance, Risk Management or Other

Session description to come...

04:00 PM – 05:00 PM
Jasper/Onyx/Rainbow Room

Sexual Abuse Prevention: What You Need to Know

McKenzie Nix, Sexual Abuse Prevention Consultant – SDAO

RM Certificate Credits: 1 – Public Exposure, Public Safety or Other

This training provides participants with the knowledge and skills needed to help prevent sexual abuse and misconduct. Attendees will learn to recognize warning signs, maintain appropriate boundaries, understand reporting responsibilities, and respond effectively to concerns. The session focuses on practical prevention strategies that help create safer environments and a culture of accountability.

06:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Room

Annual Banquet Dinner & Evening Event

Please join us for after-hours at the Oregon Coast Aquarium, enjoying an evening of dining, music, and experiencing exhibits throughout the aquarium free from the crowds.

Friday, October 2, 2026

07:30 AM – 08:30 AM
Moss Room

Breakfast

08:30 AM – 08:45 AM
Jasper/Onyx/Rainbow Room

Past-President's Welcome

Niki Fisher, OR-PRIMA Past-President, Senior Risk Management Consultant - SDAO

08:45 AM – 09:45 AM
Jasper/Onyx/Rainbow Room

Keynote: Civility Starts with You

PRIMA Central Speaker's Bureau Guest

Sarah Curtis, Loss Control Training Consultant - Public Entity Partners (TN)

RM Certificate Credits: 1 – Human Resources, Risk Management or Other

As risk managers in our organizations, we have a responsibility to prevent harassment in the workplace. Studies show that creating a culture of civility is an effective way to reduce harassment and other forms of discrimination. In this session, we will focus on self-awareness, the importance of embracing inclusion, and the power of empathy. These topics will challenge us to consider our role in creating a work environment in which everyone feels safe, included, and able to be productive at work.

09:45 AM – 10:00 AM

Networking Break

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Jasper/Onyx/Rainbow Room

Critical Building Systems: Risk, Responsibility & Public Trust

Mohamad Ali, Senior Risk Management Analyst – Clean Water Services

RM Certificate Credits: 1 – Property Insurance, Risk Administration or Other

Public entities operate facilities that support essential services and community programs. While cosmetic issues are visible, the greatest risks lie within critical systems—fire alarms, electrical, boilers, roofing, plumbing, and emergency shutoffs.

This session explores how system reliability impacts safety, compliance, liability, insurance, and public trust, and how failures in oversight and response turn early warning signs into catastrophic events.

11:15 AM – 12:30 PM
Jasper/Onyx/Rainbow Room

Wildfire Risk & Insurance (Title TBD)

Presenter Pending

RM Certificate Credits: 1 – Property Insurance, Public Exposure or Other

Session description to come...