

The Disability Analyst

Volume 18 Issue 1 Official Newsletter of the American Board and College of Disability Analysts and Affiliated Organizations

Spring 2012

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SUCCESSFUL MONTREAL CONFERENCE 2011

Next Conference: October 12-13, 2013 New Orleans

first in Montreal was an unqualified success. Our roster of faculty presenters included some well known veteran faculty as well as some first time presenters. It was indeed an impressive interdisciplinary effort. Faculty presenters included: Andrew Cox. Eva Mihovich, Catherine Ingebrigtsen, Arwood, Jerrold J. Simon, Ahmed Rady, David Cross, Sandy Hoar. Arlene Katzenberg, Y. Chen and Sadie Strick. Robert S. Spangler of Johnson City, TN was the recipient of the Distinguished Career Award for Excellence in professional practice. His half-century of exemplary leadership as a University

Professor, Vocational Expert in

four states, mentor, research

investigator and community volunteer

has been extraordinary. This award is given

only periodically. Audience participation was high, punctuated by much interaction with presenters both during and following the talks. The annual tradition of

> items from previous conferences once again entertaining part of the meeting with everyone leaving a winner. Of course, the sights, sounds and tastes of Montreal were among the most appealing memorable aspects of this event. The next bi-annual event is scheduled to held in Orleans October 12-13, 2013. The Program Committee is already accepting proposals for that conference which may

be mailed, e-mailed or faxed

(615) 327-9235 at any time.

Hotel information appears on

back page.

distributing organizational logo

■ UPGRADING ■

Those practitioners currently board certified by ABDA as Disability Analyst and Fellow who have now completed at least nine years of professional experience in rehabilitation or healthcare may be eligible to apply for Diplomate status. If you wish to receive information on how to apply, please fax (615) 327-9235 or e-mail: americanbd@aol.com an expression of interest to Ms. Lela Boggs. For current ABDA members no examination will be required at this time.

★ EMERITUS STATUS ★

We are pleased to announce that qualified members with 20 years or more of professional experience as a Senior Disability Analyst and Diplomate and who have been board certified for no less than eight years are eligible to apply to upgrade their credential to Emeritus status. This designation may be used on all correspondence, business cards, letterhead, etc. as appropriate. If interested, please forward a request in writing, current vita and \$124 U.S. processing fee issued to ABDA. Please send items to ABDA Credentialing and Certification Committee, Belle Meade Office Park, 4525 Harding Road, Nashville, TN 37205.

■ E-MAIL ADDRESS ■

So far we have received e-mail addresses from about 80% of the membership. The sooner we receive the remaining e-mail addresses, the more efficient we will be in alerting members to information they need to have before the publication of forthcoming issues of the newsletter and other information. E-mail addresses may be sent to our e-mail address at americanbd@aol.com or faxed to us at 615-327-9235.

★ CONTINUING **★** EDUCATION CREDIT

As a membership driven organization, we accept continuing education credits/continuing medical education credits from all appropriate sources. There is no need to duplicate time spent in continuing education events for your other requirements. Simply remit copies of those certificates or credits along with your annual renewal material.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please keep the ABDA Central Office advised of any change in your postal address so there will be no interruption in your receiving items from the Central Office. All correspondence will be by e-mail unless you notify us otherwise. Feel free to fax (615) 327-9235 or e-mail: americanbd@aol.com that information.

AND POSTERS

Members interested in serving as faculty presenters for the next conference in New Orleans, October 12-13, 2013 (see Calendar on back page for details), please submit a 1-2 page abstract or outline by mail or fax (615) 327-9235. Decisions are generally made within two weeks. Please indicate if any audiovisual equipment may be needed and the amount of time requested (i.e., 30'-45' is optimal). Those who have presented at two or more ABDA or ABMPP national conferences in any five-year period are eligible for appointment to the American College of Disability Analysts (ACDA). Presenters are urged to submit programs that invite audience participation. Case studies, applied research, polemical/ideological talks, ethics, innovative techniques, evaluation strategies, forensic experiences, customized software, economic issues, private practice insights, earnings loss projections, life care plans, hedonic assessments, labor market surveys and other topics of interest to members are encouraged. Please submit to ABDA Program Committee, 4525 Harding Road, Nashville, TN 37205 or by fax: (615) 327-9235.

→ URGENT! ←

If you received this printed issue of <u>The Disability Analyst</u> newsletter in hard copy, it is because we do not have your E-mail address. As our organization strives to become increasingly green, we have sent out the great majority of this volume via e-mail. In the future we hope to approach 100% of our mailings using e-mails. Your help is greatly needed. If you have not yet provided your e-mail to the Central Office, please do so at your earliest convenience by contacting us at americanbd@aol.com or by fax 615 327-9235. Recent issues of our newsletter and other valuable information and research links can always be accessed at no cost by members at our website: **www.americandisability.org.**

CHARMING NEW ORLEANS BECKONS IN 2013

Our prior conferences in this magical city have always been special. Oct. 12-13, 2013 will be no exception. Our three diamond hotel is all suites, full hot breakfast, hot tub, fitness center and superb location in center of cultural district only 8 blocks from the French Quarter. Other city attractions include the Aquarium of the Americas, Audubon Zoo, Superdome, National D-Day Museum, Harrah's Casino, Tulane, Loyola and Xavier Universities, authentic New Orleans and Cajun cuisine, unique art galleries, colorful shopping, breweries, and walking tours. Our room block with a rate \$195 plus tax will fill early - so do not delay and register now at the Embassy Suites New Orleans Convention Center, 315 Julia Street, New Orleans, LA 70130. (504) 525-1993. Request "American Board" room rate. Please act now.

* * * 2012 ABDA Board Certification Renewal Notice * *

Optional Gold seal can be obtained by sending in a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Please respond immediately to help us avoid the unnecessary time and expense of reminder mailings.

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Rene	ewal Fee (one year) .	(\$105 after January 1		\$90 (U.S. Funds)
Rene	ewal Fee (three years)	(\$270 after January 1		\$240 (U.S. Funds)
Rene	ewal Fee (five years) .	(\$450 after January 1		\$420 (U.S. Funds)
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Return to ABDA Central Office, Belle Meade Office Park, 4525 Harding Road, Nashville TN 37205 website: www.americandisability.org

★ DISABILITY HEADLINES ★

A huge wave of applicants joined the **Social Security Disability** program over past decade, boosting it from 6.6 million beneficiaries in 2000 to 10.2 million in 2010. New recipients have come from across the country, with an 85% increase in Texas over 10 years and a 69% increase in New Hampshire. Benefits can be modest. In 2009, they averaged \$1,064 per

month. However, SSDI recipients tend to remain tethered to the program for years, and the government's lifetime financial commitment averages \$300,000 per person. One judge in San Juan, approved 98% of the disability cases brought to him in 2010. In 2006, just 36% of applicants in Puerto Rico were approved for benefits. By 2010, the rate had rocketed to 69% being approved.

Recent Congressional estimates report the trust fund that supports **Social Security Disability** will run out of money by 2017, leaving the program unable to pay full benefits, unless Congress acts. About two decades later, Social Security's much larger retirement fund is projected to run dry as well. There has been a nearly 50% rise in applications for Social Security Disability since a decade ago.

Puerto Rico has emerged in recent years as one of the easiest places in the U.S. to get payments from the **Social Security Disability insurance program**, created during the Eisenhower Administration, to help people who can't work because of a health problem. In 2010, 63% of applicants there won approval, 4% points higher than New Jersey and Wyoming, the most generous US states. In fact nine of the top ten US zip codes for disabled workers receiving benefits can be found in Puerto Rico.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the **worth of a mother** (for purposes of various kinds of litigation) should be considered to be \$61,436 per year.

According to the White House in the past three decades the **earnings gap between men and women** narrowed for most age groups. The percentage of men's earnings made in 1979 versus 2009 are as follows: Among 25 to 34 year olds the percentage of earnings women made was 68% of male income compared to 89% in 2009. Among 45 to 54 year olds, the jump was from 57% to 74%. Women still make only three fourths the pay that men do but have caught up to and even passed men on educational attainment.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, **state workers pay is superior to private workers pay** in some areas. The US median wage for workers with a college degree in the private sector is \$64,000 compared to \$51,258 for state workers. The US median wage for workers without a college degree in the United States is \$32,000 in the private sector but \$34,000 in the public sector. Examining median wages in the U.S. for four specific professions is as follows:

Four Occupations	Private	State	Who makes more
janitors	\$23,000	\$24,922	State workers by 8%
counselors	\$30,000	\$33,230	State workers by 11%
secretaries	\$32,000	\$31,153	Private workers by 3%
professors	N/A	N/A	N/A

Workers with a college degree compare as follows:

Four Occupations	<u>Private</u>	<u>State</u>	Who makes more
janitors	N/A	N/A	N/A
counselors	\$38,978	\$41,537	State workers by 7%
secretaries	\$36,735	\$33,104	Private workers by 11%
professors	\$62,305	\$60,000	Private workers by 4%
_			-

According to new Census data, the **recession and uneven recovery have erased** decades of minority gains, leaving Whites on average with 20 times the net worth of Blacks and 18 times that of Hispanics. Across all race and ethnic groups, the wealth gap between rich and poor widened. The share of wealth held by the top 10 percent of U.S. households increased from 49% in 2005 to 56% in 2009. The threshold for entry into the wealthiest 10%, however, dipped; from \$646,327 in 2005 to \$598,435.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2008, the **deadliest accidents** were from drowning and car accident victims. Deaths by unintentional injury ages one to four are as follows:

drowning 28.8%	blunt force (non-vehicular) 2.8%
car accident 27%	fall 2.3%
fires/burns 12.8%	poisoning 2.1%
suffocation 9.4%	firearm 1.1%
pedestrian 7.8%	

The European Heart Journal reports that **taking short breaks from sitting of even a minute or two** throughout the day helps trim waistlines and reduce levels of C-reactive protein, an important inflammatory marker for heart disease.

The ten \boldsymbol{most} dangerous cities for \boldsymbol{UV} exposure are as follows:

Cities	Total days of Extreme Risk	<u>Annual Percentage</u>
San Juan	279	76.4
Honolulu	227	62.2
Miami	210	57.5
Tampa Bay	181	49.6
New Orleans	165	45.2
Jacksonville	160	43.8
Houston	147	40.3
Mobile	144	39.5
Los Angeles	141	38.6
Phoenix	136	37.3

A study reported in the <u>Wall Street Journal</u>, June 8, 2011 explained that the **typical cost of writing a journal article** is about \$72,000.

Joint replacement patients these days are younger and more active than ever before. More than half of all hip replacement surgeries performed this year are expected to be on people under 65, with the same percentage projected for knee replacements by 2016. The fastest growing group is patients 46 to 64, according to the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery.

(continued on page 5)

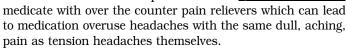
DISABILITY HEADLINES

(continued from page 4)

Studying **how astronauts' bodies change in space** may help patients on Earth. Their heart mass decreases up to 25%. Their blood volume decreases up to 20%. Bone density decreases about 3%. Blood pressure stays relatively the same but back on Earth it can decrease by 20% or even more, according to NASA researchers.

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Disability analysts have been struggling to better understand the various types of **painful headaches** from which patients suffer. Tension headaches are the most common kind of headache, affecting about 40% of people in a given year. Yet they are also the most neglected by medical science and the least understood. Too often patients self-



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In 1988, the International Headache Society which officially classifies headache disorders, moved to adopt the term **tension headache** as a category distinct from other types of headaches. Tension headaches are dull, aching, non-pulsating vise-like pain, usually on both sides that primarily occurs in the forehead and temples. 78% of adults experience them at some point. 40% have had one in the past year. They can last 30 minutes to several days. Over the counter painkillers such as aspirin, acetaminophen, ibuprofen and naproxen sodium can alleviate pain but can also cause headaches if used too often. Tricyclic anti-depressants and some other medication may prevent them. Triggers include stress, poor posture, lack of sleep, skipping meals, excess caffeine, or alcohol and eye strain, according to the National Headache Foundation.

Heart patients with an optimistic outlook are more likely to be healthier down the road and survive longer than those with less rosy views, according to the <u>Archives of International Medicine</u>. Heart patients with more positive attitudes about their recovery had about a 30% greater chance of survival after 15 years than patients with pessimistic leanings.

. . .

According to Census Bureau data, the difference between earning an average income and a well-above average income is only \$3.65 per hour. An annual income of \$44,410 per year or \$21.35 an hour will put you in the middle of U.S. earners. Earning \$52,000 per year works out to about \$25 an hour and puts the worker in the top 20% of U.S. earners. This above average salary can be earned in all industries and at all education levels. Below is a sampling of jobs that pay about \$25 an hour: curators, interior designers, dietitians and nutritionists, occupational therapy assistants, real estate sales agent, postal service clerks, plumbers, pipe fitters and steamfitters, education administrators at pre-school and childcare centers, food service managers, probation officers and correctional treatment specialists, tax examiners and collectors and revenue agents, mechanical drafters, mechanical engineering technicians, foresters, educational, guidance school and vocational counselors, social workers, court reporters, vocational education teachers, post secondary, fine artists, including painters, sculptors and illustrators, subway and streetcar operators, railroad conductors and yard masters, electricians, telecommunications equipment installers and repairers, aircraft mechanics and service technicians, precision instrument and equipment repairers, aircraft mechanics and service technicians and precision instrument and equipment repairers. Supplement source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

NEW ABDA LIFETIME MEMBERS



The following individuals deserve special recognition. By becoming Lifetime Members, during the past 24 months the organization benefits in many ways by being able to plan new projects enabling ABDA to grow in a planful manner. If interested in joining this list of Lifetime Members, exempt from all future renewal fees, and entitled to 25% discount at all ABDA training events and meetings, please write, fax or call our Central Office at Belle Meade Office Park, 4525 Harding Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37205. Fax number (615) 327-9235.

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Frances A.	Breslin	AL	Elie Joseph	Hercule	FL	Cynthia M.	Osborne	WV	Kelly A.	Supple	NM
Marcel	Brysk	CA	Annette K.	Holder	MI	Jorge	Padilla	FL	Xinmin	Tang	FL
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Ronald J.	Fleck	HI	William B.	Meneese	AL	Eddy G.	Rodriguez	NY	Timothy M.	Zgleszewski	SC
Orlando G.	Florete, Jr.	FL				1					

PASSAGES AND MILESTONES



The <u>2012 ABDA International Membership Directory</u> is now available on diskette (\$120 Members).

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Thank you again for providing your e-mail addresses. If you have not done so, please be sure to do so as soon as possible. We communicate regularly with members who have e-mail addresses and we do not want anyone to miss keeping abreast of important new developments and announcements.

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The next bi-annual conference for ABDA will be held October 12-13, 2013 in New Orleans. Details of that meeting are on back page and will appear in future e-mail correspondence. However, the Program Committee is already prepared to accept paper proposals for that conference. E-mail to Americanbd@aol.com

ABDA continues its research survey of all Job Titles that have been created since the last published edition of <u>The Dictionary of Occupational Titles</u>. Please e-mail us any that you know: Americanbd@aol.com.

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ABDA is preparing a study of **disclaimers** that appear in reports by members of every discipline. Please send us any that you use in your practice and we will make them available at the next bi-annual conference.

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Adele M. Gill, advises that copies of <u>7 Pathways To Hope</u> are now available. Information is available at www.silverlininghope.squarespace.com\. We wish her every success with her latest publication.

Seizures in the Workplace

A survey of employers by the Center for Disability Studies in Nashville with 23 to 279 workers were asked how accepting they are of job applicants with seizure disorders. Understandably, what they say in a survey and what they actually do may be inconsistent. Consequently, these data should be considered only as a general estimate and not a fixed benchmark.

Only 19% indicated they would not hire an employee with a history of a seizure disorder. Over half (56%) reportedly would accept an employee whose grand mal seizures do not occur more than three to four times annually. An even greater proportion of respondents (71%) responded they would accept an employee with a seizure disorder whose petit mal seizures do not exceed six to eight per year in the workplace.

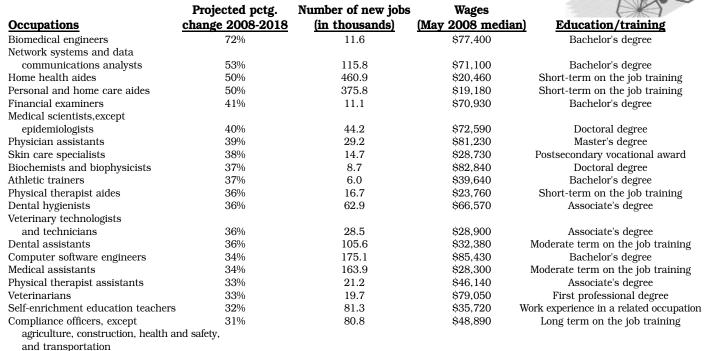
Understandably, no employer would knowingly assign a worker with a seizure disorder that would put him/her, co-workers and/or the public at risk. Workers with tics or faux seizures that are so fleeting they are not easily discernible or significantly disruptive to the workplace were not considered in this study.

New Guidelines For Fall Prevention Among Elderly

The American Geriatrics Society issued new guidelines on the prevention of falls in the elderly. Effective interventions can include exercises, such as tai chi for balance; gait and strength training; environmental adaptations to reduce risk factors in the home; cataract surgery where needed; medication reductions; assessment for postural hypotension; management of heart rate and rhythm abnormalities; and Vitamin D supplementation.

Occupations Where the Fastest Growth is Expected

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, for the first time in four years, the technology sector is on a hiring binge especially in Silicon Valley. Below are occupations where the fastest growth is expected.



Average Income Per Person, By StateAccording to the Bureau of Economic Analysis and Bureau of

According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis and Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington DC enjoyed the fastest rise in income per person from 2000 to 2010. Among the states energy rich North Dakota, Louisiana, South Dakota and Wyoming advanced the most in state rankings of average income per person. Michigan, Georgia, Ohio and Nevada fell the most, dropping ten or more places from 2009 in the state rankings.

dropping ten or i	nore pia	ces iroin 2009 iii ule s	_		
State	State rank	Average income per person, 2010	Pct. Change <u>2000-10</u>		
Connecticut	1	\$56,001	34%		
Massachusetts	2	\$51,552	35%		
New Jersey	3	\$50,781	31%		
Maryland	4	\$49,025	41%		
New York	5	\$48,821	41%		
Wyoming	6	\$47,851	63%		
Virginia	7	\$44,762	41%		
Alaska	8	\$44,174	45%		
New Hampshire	9	\$44,084	29%		
Washington	10	\$43,564	34%		
Illinois	11	\$43,159	32%		
California	12	\$43,104	29%		
Minnesota	13	\$42,843	31%		
Colorado	14	\$42,802	26%		
Rhode Island	15	\$42,579	44%		
Pennsylvania	16	\$41,152	37%		
Hawaii	17	\$41,021	41%		
North Dakota	18	\$40,596	58%		
Vermont	19	\$40,283	43%		
Delaware	20	\$39,962	29%		
Kansas	21	\$39,737	40%		
Nebraska	22	\$39,557	38%		
Texas	23	\$39,493	39%		
Florida	24	\$39,272	35%		
South Dakota	25	\$38,865	47%		
Louisiana	26	\$38,446	63%		
Wisconsin	27	\$38,432	32%		
Iowa	28	\$38,281	40%		
Maine	29	\$37,300	40%		
Oregon	30	\$37,095	29%		
Nevada	31	\$36,997	19%		
Missouri	32	\$36,979	33%		
Oklahoma	33	\$36,421	48%		
Ohio	34	\$36,395	17%		
North Carolina	35	\$35,638	28%		
Michigan	36	\$35,597	21%		
Georgia	37	\$35,490	24%		
Montana	38	\$35,317	50%		
Tennessee	39	\$35,307	32%		
Arizona	40	\$34,999	33%		
Indiana	41	\$34,943	27%		
Alabama	42	\$33,945	41%		
New Mexico	43	\$33,837	49%		
Kentucky	44	\$33,348	35%		
South Carolina	45	\$33,163	32%		
Arkansas	46	\$33,150	47%		
West Virginia	47	\$32,641	47%		
Utah	48	\$32,595	33%		
Idaho	49	\$32,257	31%		
Mississippi	50	\$31,186	45%		
District of Colu		\$71,044	75%		
United States	iibia	\$ 40,584	34%		
Note: Inflation was 27% from 2000 to 2010					

Note: Inflation was 27% from 2000 to 2010

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistic, Bureau of Business and Economic Research at the University of New Mexico

How State Economic Clout Ranks

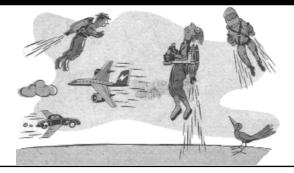
According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the following table ranks each state in economic size and how the states output has changed in the past decade after adjusting for inflation.

past decad	de after adjustin	100	
Economic	2	Change	
rank	State	2010 GDP	from 2000
1	Calif.	\$1,901	17.8%
2	Texas	\$1,207	26.8%
3	N.Y.	\$1,160	19.8%
4	Fla.	\$ 748	22.7%
5	Ill.	\$ 652	8.2%
6	Pa.	\$ 570	11.8%
7	N.J.	\$ 487	11.6%
8	Ohio	\$ 478	-0.7%
9	N.C.	\$ 425	20.3%
10	Va.	\$ 424	27.3%
11	Ga.	\$ 403	9.8%
12	Mich.	\$ 384	-7.1%
13	Mass.	\$ 379	13.5%
14	Wash.	\$ 340	18.3%
15	Md.	\$ 295	26.3%
16	Ind.	\$ 276	10.6%
17	Minn	\$ 270	15.3%
18	Colo.	\$ 258	20.5%
19	Tenn.	\$ 255	15.5%
20		\$ 254	27.5%
	Ariz.		
21	Wis.	\$ 248	11.1%
22	Mo.	\$ 244	6.1%
23	Conn.	\$ 237	14.1%
24	La.	\$ 219	16.2%
25	Ore.	\$ 174	37.5%
26	Ala.	\$ 173	16.2%
27	S.C.	\$ 164	10.9%
28	Ky.	\$ 163	12.7%
29	Okla.	\$ 148	21%
30	Iowa	\$ 143	21.3%
31	Kan.	\$ 127	16.5%
32	Nev.	\$ 126	26.7%
33	Utah	\$ 115	29.1%
34	Ark.	\$ 103	18.8%
35	Miss.	\$ 97	14.6%
36	Neb.	\$ 90	22.3%
37	N.M.	\$ 80	24.4%
38	Hawaii	\$ 67	21.8%
39	W. Va.	\$ 65	13%
40	Del.	\$ 62	19.9%
41	N.H.	\$ 60	12%
42	Idaho	\$ 55	28.6%
43	Maine	\$ 52	10.3%
44	R.I.	\$ 49	14.8%
45	Alaska	\$ 49	32%
46	S.D.	\$ 40	35.1%
47	Wyo.	\$ 39	48.7%
48	Mont.	\$ 36	23.4%
49	N.D.	\$ 35	47.1%
50	Vt.	\$ 26	15.9%
	USA	\$14, 552	16.7%
Source: Ruse	au of Economic Ana		2011 /0
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MEETING CALENDAR

October 12-13, 2013 Seventeenth Annual ABDA/ABMPP International Conference New Orleans, Louisiana

Embassy Suites Convention Center 315 Julia Street • New Orleans Tel: 504 525 1993



Future sites under consideration: New Mexico, South Carolina, Florida, NYC

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION • Act Now Please

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Pre-registration fee includes extensive resource packet and certificates for Fourteen Continuing Education Units (CEU's) \$200 US Member • Guest \$90 US • Non-member \$275 US Please type or print. No refunds 45 days prior to event. Request "American Board" room rate. Special conference room rate \$195 includes full hot breakfast.

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