

# Texas Conference for Employers

## Employment Law Update

### Conference Agenda

**Texarkana, July 10, 2026**

- 7:30 – 8:15 a.m. Registration  
8:15 – 8:30 a.m. Welcome & Preconference Recognitions  
Joe Esparza, Chairman, Texas Workforce Commission  
Bart Spivey, Executive Director, Workforce Solutions Northeast Texas  
We Hire Vets Recognitions  
8:30 – 8:40 a.m. Meet the Exhibitors

#### **Conference Topics: Morning Sessions**

- 8:40 – 9:40 a.m. How to Fairly and Legally Evaluate Applicants' Criminal History Information (1.0 hour)  
Mike Coffey  
9:40 – 9:55 a.m. Exhibit Hall & Networking Break  
9:55 – 10:40 a.m. Independent Contractors (.75 hour)  
Naomi Howze  
10:40 – 11:25 a.m. Workers' Compensation for Texas Employers (.75 hour)  
Andrea Medina  
11:25 a.m. – 12:30p.m. Lunch (lunch on your own)

#### **Conference Topics: Afternoon Sessions**

- 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Wage and Hour Law and Other Payroll Issues (1.0 hour)  
Samantha Acuña  
1:30 – 2:30 p.m. An Introduction to Creating an Effective Policy Handbook (1.0 hour)  
Jikku John  
2:30 – 2:45 p.m. Exhibit Hall & Networking Break  
2:45 – 4:00 p.m. Handling Unemployment Claims & Appeals (1.25 hours)  
Mario Hernandez  
4:00 – 4:15 p.m. Question and Answer Session (.25 hour)  
(CPA, MCLE, General Credit & SHRM Certificates of Attendance will be available)