



Giddy up Texas PRIMA!

Summertime is here and Texas is pre-heating. I recently heard this catchy phrase, and it perfectly captures the essence of Texas summer weather. Let's embrace this season and the activities that come with it. May and June mark important milestones for many families as they celebrate the graduations of their loved ones. Summertime also means spending more time with loved ones whether it's soaking up the sun by the pool or at the beach, back yard BBQs or vacations.

As we step in to the summer season, we find ourselves in full swing Wranglin' the Wild West with Texas PRIMA for our annual conference in San Antonio! Looking back, it seems like just yesterday we held our first board meeting and discussed our plans for another successful year. In 2021, our president, Jason Hardy challenged the board of directors with the task of planning the association's resilience and ensuring Texas PRIMA becomes even more robust. The following year, our former president, Robert Warren, issued a similar challenge, urging us to saddle up for our full potential. And in 2022 and 2023, we buckled up and accomplished our goals with incredible leadership.

The Board's unwavering commitment to expanding our membership remains a top priority. In light of this, I have been working closely with the Membership Committee to focus on growing our Texas PRIMA family. We recognized the need to reach out to Texas schools that have not heard of Texas PRIMA. We were able to assemble a comprehensive list of school districts covering over 1,000 Human Resources, Cyber Security and Policy and Safety personnel. The Membership Committee is actively reaching out to these schools highlighting the various resources and networking events.

While membership growth is a top priority, it is important to note that other tough breeds are also diligently working to ensure the continued success of Texas PRIMA. These committees are responsible for planning and implementing educational webinars, newsletters, member spotlights, awards, website and social media updates and content and all the wild west adventures for the upcoming conference. Since January, we partnered with a new conference planner, held two board meetings, met with our top sponsors, hosted six webinars and a virtual summit, sent out to the sponsors and exhibitors invites and the call for presentations. We are reining in all risk professionals to gear up for the Call for Presentations. We want to hear from leaders, innovators, and experts to broaden our knowledge across risk management country land.

Before we wrap up, I would like to highlight an outstanding accomplishment! Texas PRIMA was recently awarded the 2024 Chapter Recognition Award for its Education and Networking Program. Only one award is given for this category. During the course of 2023, we facilitated 12 plus educational webinars, our first ever virtual summit and over 40 continuing education credit hours for risk professionals. Furthermore, the annual conference offered 45 sessions and 31 of those sessions provided continuing education credit as well. Several board members will attend the National PRIMA conference in June to accept the award.

Together we have the courage to stand against all odds!

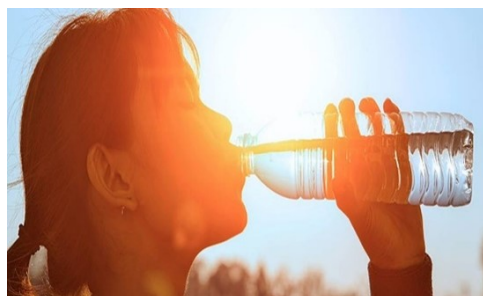
Norma Martinez
2024 Texas PRIMA President



Data Analytics, Artificial Intelligence, and the Internet of Things: Spearheading a New Era in Workplace Safety

The evolution of data analytics and artificial intelligence (AI) technology have created a new era in workplace safety. These new technologies have created opportunities for hazard identification, innovative applications and intelligent monitoring that are re-shaping safety standards and protocols. [Click Here](#) to learn more about new and innovative approaches to workplace safety.

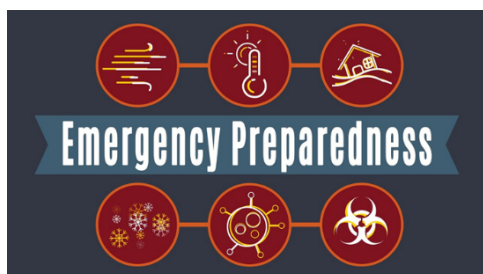
Story Contributor: Bernard Marr, Forbes



Preparing for Extreme Heat

Heat is the number one weather-related cause of death. During bouts of extreme heat, and high humidity, evaporation is slowed which will cause the body to work extra hard to maintain a normal temperature. These are dangerous conditions which require people to take proper precautions when outdoors. [full article here.](#)

Source: ready.gov



The Role of Local Government in Emergency Response and Routine Communications

Local governments are tasked with effective crisis management amongst their communities that ensures a smooth and functional balance between daily life and safety. Maintaining the community engaged and well informed with emergency communication becomes a priority. [Click here](#) to learn more about the diverse role of local government in emergency response.

Source: Civic plus



Education Update

June 6th- [DOT Oral Fluid Testing](#)

July 9th- [Leveraging Technology to Empower Employees to Be Safe While Working](#)

August 22nd- The Need to Develop a Heart Safe Workplace

September 6th – Coffee Talk: Let's Talk Accident Reporting

September 17th – Disaster Preparedness Planning for Facilities

Don't forget that recordings of our webinars are in your [Community](#) under the Resources header.



Celebrating National Safety Month

June is National Safety Month – the annual observance created to promote personal and workplace safety. Since 1996, the National Safety Council, during the month of June, has provided a month's worth of free safety resources to highlight leading causes of preventable injury and death.

[Click here](#) for resources and be sure to tag #texasprima on social media so we can all celebrate together.



Members on the Move



Congratulations to Zachary Cain, *ARM, Risk Manager, City of Allen* who obtained his associate in risk management (ARM) designation.



Congratulations to Kaltrina Minick *ARM, CRM, Human Resources Manager, City of Beaumont* for recently obtaining her Certified Risk Manager (CRM) certification.



Member Spotlight

Eddie Hernandez

**Deputy Assistant Director of Workers' Compensation
City of Houston**

Eddie joined the field of risk management in 2010, and he joined Texas PRIMA in 2012. Eddie enjoys "the complexity of Risk Management because there is always something new to learn." During his time with Texas PRIMA, Eddie has been mentored by subject matter experts in risk management and has had the opportunity to mentor other newcomers to the industry. Eddie attributes his current role to the amazing relationships he's been able to cultivate through his membership in Texas PRIMA. Members can learn more about Eddie in the members only community.



Texas PRIMA Awards

It's about time to saddle up and boot, scoot, and boogie on down to the Texas PRIMA Annual Conference, where you will find the toughest risk management outlaws in Texas. As John Wayne famously said, "Courage is being scared to death and saddling up anyway!" I think this quote embodies each of us. We are the Risk Management Sheriffs of our jurisdictions, hoping to minimize and reduce risk. The O.K. Corral is not happening on our watch! Texas PRIMA is looking for our brightest cowboys and cowgirls to take center stage in recognition of their acts and accomplishments in their own roundup. We hope you consider nominating the most trail-blazing cowboy or cowgirl for the following awards:

The **Risk Professional of the Year Award** recognizes an individual who exemplifies excellence, innovation, and commitment to the risk and insurance management field.

The **Rising Star Award** recognizes someone with between 2-7 years of professional experience in the public risk and insurance management industry who has exemplified leadership potential, achievement, and professional development.

The **Risk Management Program Achievement Award** honors programs, projects, or products that are creative and successful, and highlights the success of our public entity organizations.

Recipients of both the Risk Professional of the Year Award and the Rising Star Award receive complimentary conference registration and one-night hotel accommodations. Yee-Haw! More information and nomination forms can be found [here](#).



Letter From the Editor

Welcome to our latest edition of our June 2024 Texas PRIMA Press newsletter. We hope all of you have enjoyed the updates and content. As always, please feel free to share your ideas for future articles, promotions, and the successes you are realizing in your organizations and programs. Enjoy your summer and remember to make your summer shine with memories and not just sunshine!

Yolanda Perez, MS, C-DER
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Sponsor Highlight



Marsh McLennan Agency (MMA) provides business insurance, employee health & benefits, retirement, and private client insurance solutions to organizations and individuals seeking limitless possibilities. With over 10,000 colleagues and 170 offices across North America, MMA combines the personalized service model of a local consultant with the global resources of the world's leading professional services firm, Marsh McLennan (NYSE: MMC).



As a privately-owned and operated company, Athens Administrators has long-standing ties to the great state of Texas. Having handled Workers' Compensation claims in the state going back to 1989, Athens knows the unique Texas market and can deliver the results our client partners need.



The employee benefits experts at Insgroup, a Baldwin Risk Partner, understand the critical role a comprehensive benefits package plays in attracting and retaining top-notch employees. By leveraging data analytics and bench-marking, our advisors develop and implement benefits programs that bring financial security and wellness together in an integrated approach designed to help clients reach their goals.

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