## Thursday, October 2 at 11:30 a.m.

## **Haunted Minds: Unmasking PTSD in the Injured Worker**

Presenter: Lauren Woodruff Rasmussen, PsyD, ABN, Jefferson Neurobehavioral Group

**Description:** PTSD can linger long after an injury heals, silently disrupting an injured worker's recovery and return to work. In this session, Dr. Lauren Rasmussen uncovers the chilling realities of PTSD in the workplace—how it develops, how it presents, and

how it can be treated. From cognitive impacts to cutting-edge therapies like EMDR and virtual reality, attendees will leave better equipped to support workers haunted by trauma.

**Objective:** Attendees will learn how to identify the symptoms and diagnostic criteria of PTSD in injured workers, understand its impact on work performance and recovery, and explore evidence-based treatment options—including emerging therapies—for effective intervention and support.

## Lauren Woodruff Rasmussen, PsyD, ABN Jefferson Neurobehavioral Group

Dr. Rasmussen is a board-certified clinical neuropsychologist who specializes in diagnosis and treatment planning of neurological diseases and disorders and health-related conditions.

Dr. Rasmussen has served as an expert in many cases involving traumatic brain injury, competency, posttraumatic stress disorder, and other psychological conditions as part of a claim involved in litigation. Dr. Rasmussen also specializes in workers' compensation claims and often provides second medical opinions on injuries/damages in question. She has a special interest in fitness for duty evaluations for individuals looking to return to work or whose capacity to complete their workplace duties are being questioned.

From a clinical perspective, Dr. Rasmussen frequently evaluates patients who are concerned about their memory or who have been diagnosed with progressive neurocognitive conditions. She also assesses for Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), learning disabilities in adults (and for accommodations needed on standardized testing or in the classroom), and psychiatric conditions.

Dr. Rasmussen often works with bariatric surgery candidates and patients who need presurgical clearance for major spinal surgeries and implantable devices such as spinal cord stimulators and intrathecal pain pumps.

Outside of the office environment, Dr. Rasmussen enjoys rigorous fitness endeavors, spending time with her family, and traveling. She is also involved in consultation work with several neurorehabilitation hospitals throughout the state of Louisiana and occasionally has the privilege to serve as an adjunct faculty member at LSU. She offers practicum training experiences for LSU graduate students specializing in neuropsychology.