

Stark County Safety Council Newsletter

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COMMON SAFETY LAPSES ARE PRIMARY CAUSE OF LARGE OSHA PENALTIES

Routine violations, not catastrophic events or fatalities, are most likely to expose companies to large OSHA fines. Some of these routine violations include supervisors neglecting to ensure fire extinguishers are inspected every month, and marking the extinguisher inspection tags; failing to perform the annual lock-out tag-out inspection of each machine; blocked exits; personal protective equipment issues; improper materials handling and racks; record keeping, and housekeeping issues.

These violations alone do not usually generate large penalties. However, if the violations are deemed willful or repeat (as a result of previous violation anywhere at any facility of the company within the last five years), each violation can lead to a proposed fine of up to \$70,000. Large OSHA fines are on the increase for a number of reasons: (1) under President Obama, OSHA has a high penalty enforcement focus; (2) inspectors are evaluated on how many citations they issue; (3) the window for repeat violations has increased from three to five years.

Employers can take steps to reduce the risk of large OSHA penalties, including the following steps:

- (1) Ensure that each company facility responds to all citations issued to any facility in order to avoid repeat violations;
- (2) Determine if your company is covered by an OSHA emphasis program that increases inspection opportunity, and comply with that program;
- (3) Conduct job safety analysis;
- (4) Pay attention to paperwork details such as having written certifications for personal protective equipment hazardous assessments;
- (5) Engage employees and managers in company's safety plans.

There are many steps that employers can take today to decrease the risk of large OSHA penalties. Please contact Jacqueline Bollas Caldwell at 330-244-2864 or at jcaldwell@kwgd.com to discuss specific ways that your company can reduce its risk of large OSHA penalties.

NOTE: This general summary of the law should not be used to solve individual problems since slight changes in the fact situation may require a material variance in the applicable legal advice.

Today's Program December 8, 2011

Chairman Colleen Maurer and Members of the SCSC Steering Committee will provide an overview of 2011 and focus on plans and issues for 2012; following with entertainment by the Perry High School Perry Pipers



Thanks to everyone for participating in our holiday giving - our hats, gloves & mitten drive in November and Toys for Tots in December!

Have a safe holiday season!



Safety Council Officers & Contributing Members

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Safety Council Mission Statement: *To provide a forum for safety and health information, education and networking in Stark County, through leadership, innovation, facilitation, program, and support, in partnership with other public and private organizations.*

Chairman's Message

WOW - Can you believe that 2012 is knocking on the door? This past year has been an incredible year for the Stark County Safety Council. We were named 3rd best out of 81 Safety Councils in the State for 2010. How incredible is that? It is the strength of all committee members that meet the growing needs of our Safety Council. This is a wonderful group that needs a special THANK YOU

This incredible group assembled and organized twelve monthly meetings, eight seminars, two morning breakfasts, an annual safety awards banquet, awarded safety grants, and held our first ever photo contest. The SCSC participated in the community with the Safe Kids Day, Great Pumpkin race, Hat & Mitten drive, as well as Toys for Tots.

Most importantly, I need to express a very warm and sincere THANK YOU to Connie Cerny. She is the quiet force behind the success of our committee – She keeps us all on track and directs all the activities from behind the scenes.

I am just as excited to be Chairman for 2012. We have all spotlight companies booked! Each month in 2012 we will hand out raffle tickets for one of our lucky members to win a door prize provided by the spotlight company!! Also, the first six months of speakers are lined up and ready to present to you safety topics that will impact your workplace. We encourage our members to contact any of the steering committee members with ideas and suggestions for topics.

I also need to THANK YOU our members for your continued support of the Council and your dedication to safety in the workplace.

Best wishes for a Wonderful and Safe Holiday Season -

Colleen Maurer
Chairman – Stark County Safety Council



Steering Committee (left to right) Stephen Gronow, Stark County Engineers, Chris Zabel, US Safety Gear, Bob Nicoll, CareWorks Inc., Larry Baum, Koch Knight, Dave Dennison, RG Smith, Program Manager Connie Cerny, CRCC, Chairman Colleen Maurer, Paarlo Plastics, Robin Watson, BWC Division of Safety & Hygiene, Barb Friedman, Union Metal, Deb Schlabach, AultComp. Members not present: Gust Callas, Black McCuskey, Jacqueline Caldwell, Krugliak Wilkins, Dave Demeo, Design Restoration, Steve Hanna, BWC Division of Safety & Hygiene, Kristina Harless, Day Ketterer, Steve Katz, CRCC, Stephanie Mueller, AultCare, Hans Hilges, Morrow & Meyers LLC, Curtis Speck, Safety Resources, Curt Werren, Red Cross of Stark County

Upcoming Program *January 12, 2011*

**Topic: "Who's got your back?"
PREVENTION and treatment of
low back injuries**

**Speaker: Brian Walker, DPT, Senior
PT & Clinic Coordinator, Mercy
Sports Medicine**

January Spotlight
Company:

**KRUGLIAK, WILKINS, GRIFFITHS
& DOUGHERTY CO., L.P.A.**

Attorneys At Law

Robin's Corner

Q: How long do I need to keep and update my OSHA 300 logs?

A: According to 29 CFR 1904.33 you must save the OSHA 300 log, the annual summary 300A (Private) or 300AP (Public), and the OSHA 301 Incident Report Forms (or equivalent) for five (5) years following the end of the calendar year that these records cover. You are only required to update the OSHA 300 log (not the 301 or 300A/300AP) during the retention time.

Also, REMEMBER – you must post the summary (300A/300AP) no later than February 1 of the year following the year covered by the records and keep the posting in place until April 30.

Save the Date!

**Ohio Safety Congress & Expo 2012
"Well at Home. Safe at Work"**

Congress: March 27-29

Expo: March 28-29

Registration opens in January, 2012

Important items to make note of:

1. **Semi-Annual Reports** are required to maintain your membership with the SCSC. Reports are due July 15th and January 15th each year.
2. **Don't forget to sign-in.** If you do not sign the "sign-in sheet" your company will not receive credit for attending. This could hurt your company's chances of receiving the BWC's discount.
3. **NOTE: July 1, 2011 began a new 12 month period** for the BWC's rebate program. If your company is eligible, you must attend a minimum of 10 events, with your company's CEO or a senior level manager attending one of these 10, and submit two semi-annual reports. See BWC website for complete rebate details.