



STARK COUNTY

S A F E T Y C O U N C I L

A committee of the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce

news

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StarkCountySafetyCouncil.com

OSHA proposes new rule to improve tracking of workplace injuries and illnesses

By Jacqueline Bollas Caldwell, Esq.

On November 7, OSHA issued a proposed rule to improve workplace safety and health through improved tracking of workplace injuries and illnesses. The announcement follows the Bureau of Labor Statistics' release of its annual Occupational Injuries and Illnesses report, which estimates that three million workers were injured on the job in 2012.

"Three million injuries are three million too many," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels. "With the changes being proposed in this rule, employers, employees, the government and researchers will have better access to data that will encourage earlier abatement of hazards and result in improved programs to reduce workplace hazards and prevent injuries, illnesses and fatalities. The proposal does not add any new requirement to keep records; it only modifies an employer's obligation to transmit these records to OSHA."

The new proposal would require that establishments with more than 250 employees who are already required to keep records to electronically submit the records on a quarterly basis to OSHA. The agency is also proposing that establishments with 20 or more employees, in certain industries with high injury and illness rates, electronically submit their summary of work-related injuries and illnesses to OSHA once a year. For more information on the proposed rule, read the [press release](#) and visit the Improved Tracking of Workplace Injuries and Illnesses Rulemaking [Web page](#).

The public will have 90 days, through Feb. 6, 2014, to submit written comments on the proposed rule. On Jan. 9, 2014, OSHA will hold a public meeting on the proposed rule in Washington, D.C. For information on how to participate, read the [Federal Register notice](#).

If you need any additional information, please feel free to contact Jacqueline Bollas Caldwell of Krugliak, Wilkins, Griffiths & Dougherty Co., L.P.A. at: 330-244-2864 or jcaldwell@kwgd.com.

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.



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Stark County 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.*

December 14, 2013

"The Winning "Attitude" of Today's Leaders!"

Speaker: Mike Gallina, Director of Outreach & Organizational Development at AultCare

The last Stark County Safety Council Luncheon of the year will take a look back on our 2013 Safety Council achievements and share plans for an exciting 2014. You will also be inspired by Mike Gallina, Director of Outreach & Organizational Development at AultCare as he will help us energize our "safety attitudes"!

We often think and believe that engaging our employees and clients takes a special recipe or a special program. Seventy percent of our power to produce results with our employees and clients comes from the environment that we create around ourselves and the personality that we insert into that environment. With safety being such a critical need in all of our environments, Mike Gallina will energize our "safety attitudes" through our personal power to lead our employees!

Thank you to everyone who makes the December SCSC Toys For Tots Drive so great!



ROBIN'S CORNER

By Robin Watson, Ohio BWC Representative

Q: What should I do if OSHA shows up at my facility?

A: I have been asked this question often, recently, and over the years. The first thing to realize is that OSHA could show up for a number of reasons. They respond to fatalities, multiple injuries and serious injuries. They also do inspections on their emphasis programs like fork lift training and machines that can cause amputations (Machine Guarding). Probably to most, the common cause is in response to employee complaints.

I have a few suggestions on what to do if OSHA does show up...these are just my suggestions...

1. Greet them pleasantly and ask for their credentials. Have them sign in and register just like you would any other visitor. Also, go over any safety procedures that you would do with your normal visitors.
2. Steer them (politely) to a conference room, office or lunch room to have the opening conference. Make sure a "host" is able to meet and stay with the OSHA compliance officer the entire time. The host should be the highest ranking person at the facility like the CEO, president, plant manager or main supervisor. If they are not there, you can nicely ask the compliance officer to wait for a reasonable amount of time (but check with them about this first). If you have a dedicated safety person, they should be involved the entire time as well.
3. Ask questions (nicely)! Find out why they are there and what the compliance officer wishes to see. OSHA has the right to meet with employees in private. If this is needed, then make sure the host stays close by. Once the compliance officer is finished talking to an employee, the host should ensure the OSHA compliance officer is not wandering around. They should always be accompanied while in your facility. If they take pictures, you should take pictures as well.
4. Show them what they wish to see, but only what they wish to see (including paperwork). Some folks will walk OSHA outside the facility to go in a separate entrance where the items are located. This is acceptable (but, be smart about it...especially in bad weather).
5. If any items are found by OSHA during the walkthrough, try to fix them while they are still present if possible (this makes a good impression).
6. Once the compliance officer's done looking at items and/or talking to employees, gather in the conference room for the closing conference. Again, ask questions about what they saw and if they have immediate questions or concerns. They will probably set up another meeting, ask for additional information to be sent to them or inform you that you will receive a letter in the future if there are citation items.
7. Finally, it's important to think about this before it happens. Create a plan on what will be done if a government official shows up for an inspection and who will handle this event (including backups).

Coming Next Month

January 9, 2014

Topic : What is the Stark County LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Commission)? How does it really affect my business?

**Speaker: Don McDonald
Program Director, LEPC**

These questions and more will be answered at our first safety council luncheon of 2014! After retiring with the rank of Captain with the Jackson Township Fire Department in 2005, Don McDonald was appointed as the Program Director of the Stark County LEPC. Don will educate us on the crucial role that the LEPC plays when it comes to local hazardous materials planning and community right-to-know programs.

January Spotlight Co.



UPCOMING SCSC EVENTS & DATES

February 1, 2014 Deadline for Ohio public employers to submit their calendar year 2013 PERRP 300AP Summaries.

March 25-27, 2014 Annual Safety Congress at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

Safety Council Officers & Contributing Members

Chairman: Deb Schlabach

(dschlabach@aaultcompmpco.com)

Vice Chair: (Chris Zabel czabel@USSafetyGear.com)

Newsletter Editor: Jacqueline Bollas Caldwell
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Representative: Connie Cerny
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Ohio BWC Representatives: Robin Watson

(robin.w.1@bwc.state.oh.us) and

Steve Hanna

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A Message from Your SCSC Chairman

Dear Safety Council Friends,

We are approaching the end of yet another year, one that has brought much success to the Stark County Safety Council.

At the core of the Stark County Safety Council is our personal commitment to our members, it is our interest to provide you with innovative luncheons, unique and educational seminars and events, up-to-the-minute information as well as a safety council that improves the quality of our professional and personal lives. It is through this commitment that we continue to inspire excellence and efficiency from each other.

When we look back on 2013, we can certainly count our successes:

- Collectively our members received \$324,966.76 through
- the Safety Council Rebate Program
- Held 12 monthly safety inspired luncheons
- Sponsored 6 industry specific seminars
- Hosted Several Special Events:
 - ⇒ Safety Awards Banquet
 - ⇒ Safety, Health & Human Resource Fair
 - ⇒ Fire Prevention Breakfast
 - ⇒ CEO Breakfast (in partnership w/ the Eastern Stark County Safety Council)
 - ⇒ Participated in & sponsored the Seat Belt Challenge held at Fawcett Stadium
 - ⇒ Launched the Stark County Safety Council Facebook page
 - ⇒ Continued our AED Initiative Program
 - ⇒ Safety Grant Program continued

As we welcome the New Year, let us reaffirm our collective dedication to the Stark County Safety Council. Together, we will continue to strive to become the #1 safety council in Ohio.

I wish you and yours- safety, good health, love and happiness in 2013!

Warm Holiday Wishes,

Deb

Deb Schlabach
2013- 2014 SCSC Chairman
Account Coordinator, AultComp MCO

OSC 14
Ohio Safety Congress & Expo
Your Pathway to Safety
Save the date!

01 Education
02 Exhibition
03 Innovation

While safety takes many forms and each journey is unique, all pathways lead to one thing – keeping your workforce safe and healthy. Attend OSC14 and follow *Your Pathway to Safety*.
Registration opens in January

March 25 to 27, 2014
Greater Columbus Convention Center

www.bwc.ohio.gov 1-800-644-6292 Twitter @OhioBWC #OSC14

Public Employer State Mandated Annual Recordkeeping Due



Mark your calendar! Deadline is February 1.

Notice from: Public Employment Risk Reduction Program

- Submit a *Summary of Work – Related Injuries and Illnesses Form* (PERRP 300AP) online annually between Jan. 1 – Feb. 1.
- Forms and instructions are available at <http://www.ohiobwc.com/employer/forms/InjuryIllnessSummary/default.aspx>.
- For assistance, call PERRP at 800-671-6858, or e-mail PERRPRequests@bwc.state.oh.us.

Governor John R. Kasich
Administrator/CEO Stephen Buehrer

Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation