



Winter 2015-2016

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Top Stories/National News

Safety and Health Program Management Guidelines

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration is updating its Safety and Health Program Management Guidelines and wants your help in shaping the new document.

Intended to help employers establish safety and health management plans at their workplaces, the guidelines were first published in 1989. They are being updated to reflect modern technology and practices. As revised, the guidelines should be particularly helpful to small- and medium-sized businesses. And for the first time, they address ways in which multiple employers at the same worksite can coordinate efforts to make sure all workers are protected.

The guidelines are advisory only and do not create any

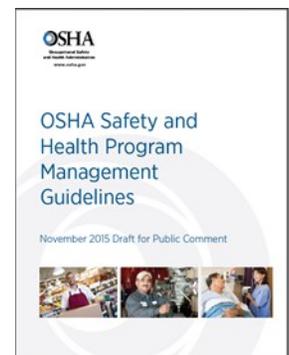
new legal obligations or alter existing obligations under OSHA standards or regulations.

OSHA has made available a draft of the revised document on its website, at www.osha.gov/shpmguidelines, along with a set of questions to consider when reviewing the guidelines. The page also has a direct link **to post comments, which will be accepted until February 22.** Comments will be taken into consideration when creating a final set of guidelines.

"The goal of safety and health management is to prevent workplace injuries, illnesses and deaths," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels. "Employers who embrace these guidelines will experi-

ence lower injury and illness rates, and their progress in improving the safety culture at their worksites will contribute to higher productivity, reduced costs and greater worker satisfaction."

OSHA invites interested parties to attend a day-long roundtable discussion on the agency's draft updated guidelines on March 10, 2016, at the U.S. Department of Labor's Frances Perkins Building in Washington, D.C. Those wishing to attend must register [here](#) by March 3.



Recordkeeping and Reporting for 2016

The online system for reporting of fatalities and severe injuries is now [available](#). Employers must report:

Fatalities within 8 hours.

Hospitalization (1 or more) within 24 hours.

Eye loss within 24 hours.

Amputations within 24 hours.

Don't forget that OSHA 300A summary forms for 2015 **must be certified and posted by February 1, 2016.** Forms and directions can be found [here](#).

Lists of both [exempt](#) and [newly covered](#) industries are available on OSHA's website.

You can report to OSHA by:

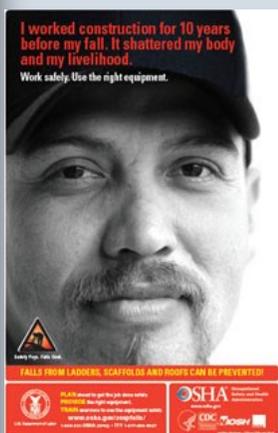
Calling OSHA's free and confidential number at 1-800-321-OSHA (6742).

Calling your closest [Area Office](#) during normal business hours.

Using the new [online form](#).



OSHA's On-site Consultation Program offers free and confidential safety and occupational health advice to small and medium-sized businesses. To find a program office near you, click on the map above.



Posters, videos and other fall prevention resources in English and Spanish can be found at the Fall Stand-Down [resources page](#).



Compliance Assistance News and Resources

OSHA Resources

OSHA has compiled a list of compliance assistance resources that were issued in the fourth quarter of FY 2015. The [quarterly new resources report](#) is available for download and can be found, along with many other updated compliance assistance resources, on the [New Compliance Assistance Page](#). The quarterly report outlines new products in the categories of OSHA compliance assistance materials, [Harwood Grant](#) Materials, [Alliance Program](#) Materials and NIOSH Resources.

Materials on the New Compliance Assistance Page include:

- [Apps](#)
- [Booklets and Guidance](#)
- [Documents](#)
- [Cards](#)
- [Fact Sheets](#)
- [Industry/Hazard Alerts](#)
- [Pamphlets](#)
- [Posters](#)
- [Reports](#)
- [Safety and Health Information Bulletins \(SHIBs\)](#)
- [Training Resources](#)
- [Videos](#)
- [Web Resources](#)

NIOSH Resources

NIOSH (the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health) has created a series of multi-media communication products for Spanish-speaking immigrant workers. The NIOSH web page entitled [Protect Yourself at Work/Protejase en el Trabajo](#) has a collection of new brochures, posters and [videos](#) that will aid employers and employees in thinking about safety and health hazards they might find in their workplace.

National Fall Stand-Down

OSHA, NIOSH and the Center for Construction Research and Training (CPWR) have announced that the third-annual Fall Safety Stand-Down will occur from May 2-6, 2016. The purpose of the Stand-Down is to raise awareness of preventing fall hazards in construction. Falls are the top cause of construction fatalities and account for 1/3 of on-the-job injuries and deaths in the industry. Last year's Stand-Down was a tremendous success, reaching more than 2.5 million workers. Highlights from the previous Stand-Downs can be found [here](#).

Companies can participate

and conduct a Safety Stand-Down by taking a break to have a toolbox talk or another safety activity such as conducting safety equipment inspections, developing rescue plans, or discussing job specific hazards. More information and tools including [suggestions to prepare for a successful Stand-Down](#) are available on OSHA's [website](#).

On February 16, 2016, a webinar was held to assist stakeholders in understanding and planning for this year's Stand-Down. A [recording](#) of the webinar is available on [CPWR's website](#).

Following the Stand-Down,

employers will be able to provide feedback and download a completion certificate from [OSHA](#) or the [National Safety Council website](#).

If you would like a representative from OSHA to attend your Stand-Down event, please call one of the Area Offices listed on page four or contact John Olaechea at 720-264-6586.



Click on the image above for CPWR's interactive map of fatalities in the construction industry.

New Regional Emphasis Program on Workplace Violence

Region VIII has finalized the regional emphasis program entitled Workplace Violence Hazards at Residential Intellectual and Developmental Disability Facilities. This directive will focus on inspections of NAICS 623210 because of the history of complaints and enforcement pertaining to workplace violence (WPV) within this industry.

NIOSH defines WPV as violent acts directed toward persons at work or on duty. WPV is a recognized hazard in the healthcare industry and, in 2013, 76% of workplace assaults occurred in healthcare and social service settings. For workers

in this industry, assaults comprise 6% of workplace injuries involving days away from work, as compared to 2% of injuries of all private sector employees.

OSHA will implement a 90 day outreach program to the affected employers before the initiation of inspections. Inspections under this directive will be conducted in accordance with [CPL 02-01-052 \(Enforcement Procedures for Investigating or Inspecting Workplace Violence Incidents\)](#).

WVP Resources for employers can be found at [OSHA's website](#) and include strategies for assessing the hazards and risk factors in different settings and developing WVP plans for different work sites.

Tools available to employers include:

[Guidelines for Preventing WVP for Health Care and Social Service Workers](#)

[Training Resources](#)

[WVP Prevention Programs for various industries](#)



Preventing Workplace Violence: A Road Map for Healthcare Facilities

Additional Resources pertaining to general safety and health hazards in the healthcare industry can be found [here](#).



Hazard Identification Training Tool

Alternative Dispute Resolution Program for Whistleblower Complaints

The Whistleblower Protection Program (WPP) in OSHA's Region VIII has implemented a new regional Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) program which is an approach to resolving whistleblower complaints by means other than investigation and litigation. Recently, the WPP hired an ADR Coordinator and has started the process of mediating whis-

tleblower cases. ADR is a voluntary program that involves the intervention of a neutral party to assist the parties in the resolution of whistleblower complaints. Some of the benefits of the ADR program are that it allows parties to resolve their disputes in a mutually satisfactory manner and more quickly than through investigation and litigation. In addi-

tion, ADR may also help the parties preserve or repair their employment relationship. There is no charge to participate in the ADR process and ADR is available to all parties seeking mediation of a whistleblower complaint. To learn more about ADR, or if you have any questions, please contact the Region VIII WPP at 720-264-6550.



Regional News

OSHA AREA OFFICES

IN COLORADO

[Denver Area Office](#) (303-844-5285)

[Englewood Area Office](#) (303-843-4500)

IN NORTH DAKOTA

[Bismarck Area Office](#) (701-250-4521)

IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Sioux Falls Area Office (605-251-2021)

IN MONTANA

[Billings Area Office](#) (406-247-7494)

Free Course in Oil and Gas Exploration and Production

Rocky Mountain Education Center is offering OGOP 120 (Field Leadership for Oil and Gas E&P) in March at it's Lakewood facility (3/14-3/16/16) and in Bismarck, ND (3/29/16-3/31/16). This is a free "train the trainer" course made possible through a Susan Harwood Grant. This course can be used toward achieving the Oil and Gas Specialist Certificate. Spaces are still available. Click [here](#) to register.



Meet the Compliance Officer

Willie Cox is a compliance officer with the Englewood Area Office. He is a Safety Specialist and has been with OSHA for three years. Prior to that, Willie spent 24 years in the United States Air Force as a law enforcement officer and an electrician.

Fun Facts About Willie:

Willie is married with four kids who are now all young adults.

Willie enjoys bowling, fishing, softball, cooking and concerts.

Willie is originally from Chicago. Go Bears!



This newsletter is distributed quarterly. Call John Olaechea (720-264-6586) or send an e-mail to olaechea.john@dol.gov to subscribe or to submit comments, questions or suggestions.