

DECEMBER 2023

LABOR N.C.

For all NCDOL Employees

FROM THE COMMISSIONER

I hope everyone enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday. Thanksgiving is personally my favorite holiday, and I enjoy it the most because of time spent with family and friends. It also provides me with the opportunity to reflect on how blessed I am and that I have so much to be thankful for.

The General Assembly adopted a biennial state budget in September. The governor let the budget become law without his signature. There were a number of provisions he was opposed to, but he did not want to veto the budget since it included a provision to expand Medicaid. The budget included several items which will benefit NCDOL, most notable is a new appropriation to fund six administrative positions. State employees received a 4% salary increase this year and will receive an additional increase of 3% on July 1, 2024. Retirees will receive a one-time bonus of 4%.

We are now entering the month of December and the busy holiday season. Our annual Toys for Tots collection is already underway, and our drive will culminate on Wednesday, Dec. 13 from noon until 3 p.m. in front of the Labor Building. I encourage you to drop by, bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate and enjoy a Christmas cookie. Toys for Tots is a great opportunity to help our community and brighten the day of a child's life. I want to thank Lee Peacock for overseeing the entire Toys for Tots operation on behalf of the department. I also want to thank all of the Labor Department elves for promoting the Toys for Tots program and preparing for the drive on Dec. 13. Thank you everyone for your generosity which will ensure that no child is without a gift under the tree Christmas morning.

I want to wish each of you a blessed holiday season. Enjoy the festivities and time with your family and friends. Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to all of you!

Josh Dobson

EMPLOYEE NEWS

- Tyler Smith, ASP, Compliance East

NEW HIRES

- Keller Pate, OSH East, OSHA safety officer I, Wilmington
- Roberto Santana, Wage and Hour, wage and hour investigator I, Raleigh
- Grace Lewis, OSH West, OSHA safety officer I, Charlotte
- James McCloud, Elevator and Amusement Device, elevator inspector, Wake County

SEPARATIONS

- Wesley Herron, OSH East, OSHA safety officer II, Raleigh
- Elizabeth Anderson, Wage and Hour, wage and hour investigator II, Raleigh



December Birthdays!



1 Jackie Haley
2 Altagracia Guzman
3 Janie Judd
3 Lillian Oxendine
4 Beth Henley
4 Jennifer Stackpole
6 Phil Hooper
6 Indira Jagdeo
6 Anthony Pacitti
6 LaMont Smith



8 Christina Medina
9 George Harper
10 Jaleesa Thomas
11 James Thomas
12 Christopher Sholar
14 Donell Sanders
14 Jeff Wilson
16 Gabriel Valente
17 Maya Cromuel



17 John Kirkland
18 Alvin Vocalan
20 Thomas Lyons
21 Japonica Wilkes
22 Christopher Bellis
22 Thomas Norwood
23 Lee McKinney
24 Matthew Fairfield
28 Don Kinney
30 Judyth Forte



HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

Your Mygroup EAP

By Angela Hamilton, Human Resources

Your EAP administered by MYgroup is available to all NCDOL employees. This service is free and confidential. It is available 24 hours a day and can help in all areas of life. It includes up to three free counseling sessions for employees and members of their household. The EAP is not just a resource for mental health, they can assist with work-life balance issues as well as referrals for specialized services.

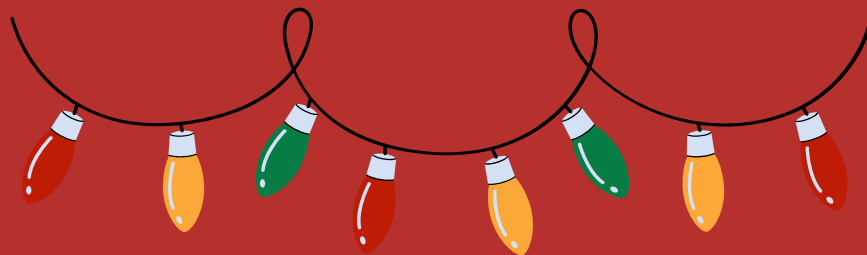
Just call or log on to get started.

TOLL-FREE: 888-298-3907

WEBSITE: www.mygroup.com>My Portal Login>Work-Life

USERNAME: nclabor

PASSWORD: guest



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Nicole Brown, Compliance East bureau chief, on completing the 2023 Performance Management Academy. This 20-hour program is offered annually by the N.C. Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM). The program is designed to improve performance management skills among state employees who develop, implement, manage or evaluate programs or policies. Congratulations Nicole!

What's New @Your Library

Online Resources

- **Employer-Reported Workplace Injuries and Illnesses, 2021-2022.** BLS News Release.
- **Epoxy Resin Systems.** CPWR Hazard Alert.
- **Ergonomics for the Prevention of Musculoskeletal Disorders.** OSHA TWI Bulletin No. 13 in English and Spanish.
- **Forklift Safety and Compliance: Your Toughest Questions Answered.** Recorded webinar posted on NSC's YouTube channel.
- **Guy Wires.** OSHA Hazard Alert in English and Spanish.
- **Heat Stress: First Aid for Heat Illness.** NIOSH Fact Sheet.
- **Holiday Safety.** OSHA webpage.
- **Leave Lead at Work.** NIOSH Fact Sheet.
- **Mental Health, Alcohol Use and Substance Use Resources for Workers and Employers.** NIOSH Science blog post.
- **NIH News in Health.** November 2023 issue.
- **Preventing Excavator Quick Coupler Attachment Struck-by Fatalities and Injuries.** NIOSH fact sheet.
- **Protecting Workers from the Effects of Heat.** Revised OSHA fact sheet in English and Spanish.

Online Resources Cont.

- **Reducing Workers' Lead Exposure during Water Service Line Removal and Replacement.** NIOSH Workplace Solutions publication.
- **Safety + Health.** November 2023 issue.
- **Safety Practices Reported Among Construction Contractors.** CPWR Data Bulletin.
- **Social Connection and Worker Well-being.** NIOSH Science blog post.
- **Warehousing Industry Employment.** OSHA TWI Bulletin No. 14 in English and Spanish.
- **Working in Cold Weather.** CPWR webpage.

Periodical Issues

- *Safety + Health.* November 2023 issue. National Safety Council, 2023. Donated by Wanda Lagoe, OSH-ETTA.

Books

- *Elevator Field Employees Safety Handbook.* Call No. TJ 1377 .E45 2005. Elevator World/NEII, 2005. Donated by Tommy Petty, Standards and Inspections, Elevator and Amusement Devices Bureau.
- *Minimum Requirements for a Comprehensive Managed Fall Protection Program.* ANSI/ASSP Z359.2--2023. American Society of Safety Professionals, 2023.



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