



MARCH 2022

LABOR N.C.

For all NCDOL Employees

FROM THE COMMISSIONER

I hope many of you were able to join the department-wide meeting on Feb. 21 during which I announced a \$2,500 bonus for all NCDOL employees who were employed with us as of Feb. 1, 2022. As I said in the call, we all appreciate a verbal “thank you,” but sometimes we should follow that with actions. This is one way that I could take meaningful action to show you my genuine appreciation for the work you do for our department and our citizens each day. The past two years have proven quite challenging, but you’ve risen to the occasion with great professionalism. I said this earlier, but I’ll say it again – I could not be more proud to be your Labor Commissioner.

Later this week, I will join Tommy Petty and some of his staff at the N.C. Association of Agricultural Fairs annual convention. Most people outside NCDOL know that our department inspects elevators, but very few know that those same inspectors are also responsible for inspecting amusement rides each time they are set up at a new location. North Carolina is home to more than 35 agricultural fairs and festivals, which highlight the strong agricultural heritage of our state. Our inspectors spend countless hours at these fairs, ensuring that patrons can have a safe and fun experience. It’s never too early to start thinking about your visit to the fair!

By the end of the month, the annual safety awards banquet season will kick off. Over several months in the spring, I will travel to more than 30 banquets around the state. Meredith Watson and the staff over at the Recognition Program are hard at work, processing applications and readying awards for the season. I look forward to hitting the road with them!

Finally, I’m thankful to see a decline in North Carolina’s COVID numbers. This improvement allows us to lift NCDOL’s current mask mandate effective March 1, although employees are welcome to continue wearing masks voluntarily. Lifting the mask mandate, as well as other small changes we’ll be making throughout our offices, allows us to return to a greater sense of normalcy.

Have a great month, and don’t forget to “spring forward” on Sunday, March 13!

Josh Dobson

EMPLOYEE NEWS

- Condolences to Mine and Quarry field representative Dan Mattfield whose wife, Kelly, passed away on Jan. 26, 2022.
- Gregory Greene received the OSH Construction Safety Specialist designation in January. This internal designation is set up by the Construction SEP committee and is attained after completing six modules of training and all the core courses. He is with the Consultative Services Bureau.

NEW HIRES

- Matthew Quesenberry, Review Commission, administrative specialist II, Raleigh
- John Rosser, Wage and Hour, administrative specialist II, Raleigh
- Kimberly Kirby, OSH East, administrative associate II, Raleigh

PROMOTIONS

- Kirby Atwood, Consultative Services, OSHA safety consultant, Winston-Salem

RETIREMENT

- Robbie Zimmerman, Consultative Services, OSHA safety consultant, Winston-Salem

SEPARATIONS

- Jazmin Ford, Wage and Hour, administrative specialist, Raleigh
- Alexander Lee, OSH East, HCO trainee, Wilmington

March Birthdays!

1 Griselle Negron
4 Deidre Duncan
7 Lisa Culbreth
7 Margaret Harris
8 Jeffrey Johnson
9 Pam Short
10 Chris Jasion
11 Lee Peacock

14 Marshall Tate
17 Horace Dozier
19 Madelyn Edwards
20 Andy Sterlen
21 Felicia Gore Hoover
23 Richard Parker
24 Cynthia Anthony
24 Ken Darnley

25 Jesika Freeman
27 Shirley Curtis
28 Sam Atassi
28 Abigail Torres
29 Mike Saye
30 Art Britt
30 Nancy Hall
31 Steve Hardin



HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE



Your EAP administered by MYgroup is available to all DOL 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, 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

ERC SNACKS



Located in an NCDOL building
near you.

Funds go to the employee
recognition banquet.



Inside NC Labor

Be sure to check out NCDOL's *Inside NC Labor*, a podcast designed to inform and educate North Carolina citizens on the role that the Department of Labor plays in state government.

Episode 48 features Harriet Hopkins, REDB administrator, as she discusses NCDOL's Mediation Settlement Conference Program for REDA complaints.

Inside NC Labor is now available on YouTube, Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Anchor and Google Podcasts.



What's New @Your Library

Online Resources

- **ASSP Sees Uncertainty in Workplace Fatality Report.** ASSP article.
- **Evaluation and Control of Hazards from Preservative Coatings during Hot Work on Vessels.** OSHA Fact Sheet.
- **Evaluation of Exhalation Resistance and Inspired Carbon Dioxide Concentration in Elastomeric Half-Mask Respirators with Modified or Covered Exhalation Valves.** NIOSH Technical Report.
- **Four Futures for Occupational Safety and Health.** NIOSH video.
- **Improving Workplace Ventilation During Cold Weather.** OSHA Alert.
- **Insect Sting.** OSHA Fatal Facts No. 17.
- **NIH News in Health.** February 2022 issue.
- **Prácticas Recomendadas Para Programas De Seguridad y Salud.** Spanish version of OSHA's Recommended Practices for Safety and Health Programs.
- **Protocol for Assessing Human-Robot Interaction Safety Risks.** CPWR report.
- **Safety + Health.** February 2022 issue.
- **What Employers Need to Know about Histoplasmosis.** NIOSH publication.
- **Whistleblower Protection for Employees Reporting Unsafe Intermodal Cargo Containers.** OSHA Fact Sheet.
- **Whistleblower Protection for Workers Concerned About Asbestos in Elementary and Secondary Schools.** OSHA Fact Sheet.

Consensus Standards

- *Below-the-Hook Lifting Devices...* ASME B30.20-2021. ASME, 2021.
- *Graphic Technology...* ANSI B65-1:2011. NPES, 2011.
- *Guideline for Characteristics and Safe Handling of Medical Gases.* CGA P-2-2019. CGA, 2019.
- *...Protective Footwear.* ISO 20346:2021. ISO, 2021.
- *Risk Management-Guidelines.* ISO 31000:2018. ISO, 2018.
- *Risk Management-Techniques.* IEC 31010-2019. IEC/ISO, 2019.
- *Safe Practices for Storage and Handling of Nitrous Oxide.* CGA G-8.3-2019. CGA, 2019.
- *Slings...* ASME B30.9-2021. ASME, 2021.
- *Standard Specification For Barrier Face Coverings.* ASTM F3502-21. ASTM, 2021.
- *Stacker Cranes...* ASME B30.18-2021. ASME, 2021.

Periodical Issues

- *OH&S.* January/February 2022 issue. 1105 Media Inc.
- *Professional Safety.* January 2022 issue. American Society of Safety Professionals, 2021. Donated by Phil Hooper, Standards and Inspections.
- *Safety + Health.* February 2022 issue. National Safety Council, 2021. Donated by Wanda Lagoe, OSH-ETTA.



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Inside NC Labor

