FROM THE COMMISSIONER

February was a busy month for the N.C. Department of Labor (NCDOL), and it's hard to believe we're already two months into this new year.

I had the opportunity at the beginning of February to participate in my first Gold Star Grower awards luncheon at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh. This program recognizes growers who provide farmworker housing that meets and exceeds all of the requirements of the Migrant Housing Act of North Carolina. Congratulations to all the award recipients for their hard work and ensuring the workers who come to North Carolina have a comfortable place to call home while they are here.

On Feb. 8, I attended a Safety and Health Achievement and Recognition Program (SHARP) renewal ceremony at SANS Technical Fibers LLC in Stoneville. The SHARP program is administered through our Consultative Services Bureau and is designed for small and mid-size employers that have established, implemented and maintained exceptional workplace safety standards. I commend SANS Technical Fibers LLC for their commitment to the safety and health of their workers.

I was a speaker at this year's 2023 Labor Legislative Conference put on by the N.C. AFL-CIO. It was a great opportunity to meet with and connect with others that are involved with working to keep North Carolinians safe and healthy on the job.

I was a guest on the *Do Politics Better* podcast, hosted by Brian Lewis and Skye David of New Frame Inc. to discuss my decision to not run for reelection and what is next for me.

The end of March will kick off our Safety Awards Banquet season. I will travel to 30 banquets across the state over the next four months, and I look forward to meeting those of you who qualified for one of our workplace safety awards. Several of these banquets are scheduled in the western part of the state and I invite you to visit our website in the coming weeks to find details about the dates and locations of these banquets.

I hope everyone stays safe and healthy and that you have a blessed March. Spring is just around the corner!

Josh Dobson

EMPLOYEE NEWS

NEW HIRES

- William Cecil, Elevator and Amusement Device, elevator inspector, Randolph County
- Thomas Lyons, OSH West, OSHA safety compliance officer I, Charlotte
- Leslie Hudson, Wage and Hour, wage and hour investigator I, Raleigh
- William Ballard, Elevator and Amusement Device, elevator inspector, New Hanover County
- Lanika Williams, OSH East, health compliance officer trainee safety, Raleigh

PROMOTIONS

- Chris Jasion, Consultative Services, OSHA safety consultant, Wake County
- Robert Maedje, OSH West, OSHA safety and health compliance supervisor, Charlotte
- Michael Greer, OSH West, OSHA safety officer II, Asheville

RETIREMENTS

- Chris Oberst, OSH West, health compliance officer II, Winston-Salem
- Lafayette Atkinson, OSH East, OSHA safety and health supervisor, Wilmington

SEPARATIONS

- Samantha Rivera, Wage and Hour, administrative assistant II, Raleigh
- Jovonah Weeden, ETTA, administrative specialist II, Raleigh
- Carli Alborn, Wage and Hour, case analyst, Raleigh
- Kyle Pflager, Wage and Hour, wage and hour investigator I, Charlotte



March Birthdays!

1 Griselle Negron

4 Deidre Duncan

7 Lisa Culbreth

7 Margaret Harris

8 Jeffrey Johnson

10 Chris Jasion

11 Lee Peacock

14 Marshall Tate

17 Horace Dozier

20 Leslie Hudson

20 Andy Sterlen

21 Felicia Gore Hoover

23 Herman Parker

24 Cynthia Anthony

24 Ken Darnley

27 Shirley Curtis

28 Sam Atassi

28 Abigail Torres

29 Michael Saye

30 Nancy Hall

31 Steve Hardin



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee

By Angela Hamilton, Human Resources

I am excited to announce the launch of a DEI Committee for Labor! The committee will be comprised of a group of peers throughout the department that have a passion for diversity, equity and inclusion with a goal of spreading awareness regarding DEI and finding meaningful ways to strengthen DEI as a value within our agency. NCDOL Leadership believes diversity, equity and inclusion is central to the achievement of a high-performing organization. If you are interested in participating in this committee, please contact me at 919-707-7734 or angela.hamilton@labor.nc.gov.

MYgroup EAP

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 as well as referrals for specialized services.

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USERNAME: nclabor PASSWORD: guest





Morgan Brown and members of the ETTA
Recognition Program team at her baby shower.
Congratulations Morgan!!!

HAPPY RETIREMENT CHRIS OBERST







Online Resources

- 3 Miners Electrocuted in 10 Days. USDOL blog post.
- CPWR's Nano Safety Data Sheet (SDS)
 Improvement Tool. ELCOSH/CPWR webpage.
- Forklift Compliance: Inspection Requirements, Training and FAQs. Recorded webinar posted on NSC/Safety + Health YouTube channel.
- Is Your Written Hazard Communication Program OSHA Compliant? Recorded webinar posted on NSC/Safety + Health YouTube channel.
- The Legacy of the Sago and Aracoma Mine Disasters. USDOL blog post.
- NIH News in Health. February 2023 issue.
- Reducing Workplace Violence in Gasoline Stations and Convenience Stores. NIOSH Workplace Solutions document.
- Safety + Health. February 2023 issue.
- Seasonal Influenza Vaccination... OSHA Fact Sheet.
- Using Virtual Technology for Job Hazard Analysis. CPWR report.

Periodical Issues

- *Professional Safety*. February 2023 issue. American Society of Safety Professionals, 2021. Donated by Phil Hooper, Standards and Inspections.
- *Safety* + *Health*. February 2023 issue. National Safety Council, 2021. Donated by Phil Hooper, Standards and Inspections.

Book

 Personal Protective Equipment. OSHA 3151 - 2023. USDOL-OSHA, 2023.











