



SEPTEMBER 2022

# LABOR N.C.

*For all NCDOL Employees*

## FROM THE COMMISSIONER

It's hard to believe that summer is nearly over and we're headed into the cooler days of September. For many of us, that means a busier schedule with conferences, meetings and other annual events. I'm looking forward to attending several of these NCDOL-sponsored events throughout September.

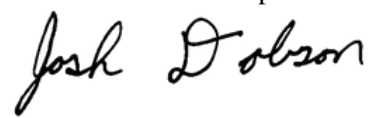
In last month's column, I mentioned that August kicks off the traditional county fair season. September opens with one of the largest fairs in our state – the N.C. Mountain State Fair in Fletcher. I will participate in the fair's safety press conference with Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler on Sept. 8 and will tour the fairgrounds with Tommy Petty and our Elevator and Amusement Device Bureau staff. Later this month, I will visit several additional fairs including the Pitt County Fair in Greenville and the Carolina Classic Fair in Winston-Salem.

The N.C. Mine Safety and Health Conference is Sept. 14-16 in Atlantic Beach. The conference is jointly sponsored by NCDOL's Mine and Quarry Bureau and the N.C. Aggregates Association. The Mine and Quarry Bureau, led by Chief Beau Thomas, provides critical safety and health services to operators, employees and contractors in the aggregate industry. During the conference, I will visit with folks from the industry, as well as representatives from the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration. As part of the event, we will record an episode of *Inside NC Labor* with several conference attendees, discussing the value of the conference and the partnership between the public and private sector.

I am equally excited to attend the Carolina Star Safety Conference, also Sept. 14-16, at the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro. LaMont Smith, his Recognition Program team and the Carolina Star Safety Conference Board of Directors put in a tremendous effort to host hundreds of Carolina Star site employees (and potential Star employers) for an informative and fun event. Last year's conference was held in a hybrid in-person and virtual format, which was necessary given the ongoing pandemic. However, I am pleased that this year's meeting will be held entirely in person, which will add to the energy and excitement of the conference activities.

On Aug. 29, I sent a department-wide memo regarding the Flexible Work-at-Home (WAH) Policy. This new policy, effective Sept. 1, is part of my long-term efforts to enhance morale across the department and help retain our hard-working, experienced and qualified staff. This policy will be applied differently in each bureau depending on each area's business needs. Your supervisor will share information specific to your job.

I hope you enjoy the upcoming Labor Day weekend. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to the department and to the citizens of North Carolina!



Josh Dobson

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# EMPLOYEE NEWS

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- Congratulations to Ushang Desai on his appointment as a Member Candidate to the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) Bioaerosols Committee. Ushang is a health compliance officer in the OSH Division, Winston-Salem field office.
- Congratulations to Jill Warren, OSH West, who recently passed the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) certified safety professional (CSP) certification exam. Jill is now a CIH and a CSP.

## NEW HIRES

- Miroslava Hernandez, ASH, OSH agricultural safety officer I, Raleigh
- Kristy Lacayo, Elevator and Amusement Device Bureau, administrative supervisor, Raleigh
- Wesley Holder, Elevator and Amusement Device Bureau, elevator inspector, Raleigh
- Glenn Key, OSH West, OSHA safety officer, Winston-Salem
- Claudia Larrain-Campbell, Wage and Hour, wage and hour investigator, Raleigh
- Odassey McMillian, OSH West, administrative specialist, Charlotte
- Ana Zetina-Ortiz, Wage and Hour, wage and hour case analyst, Raleigh

## PROMOTIONS

- Kelli Fisk, Financial Services, procurement specialist, Raleigh
- Scott Mabry, Commissioner's Office, chief of staff, Raleigh
- Lee Peacock, OSH West, OSHA bureau chief, Charlotte
- Paul Sullivan, OSH, OSHA assistant deputy commissioner, Raleigh

## RETIREMENTS

- Art Britt, Commissioner's Office, chief of staff, Raleigh
- Steve Burris, Elevator and Amusement Device Bureau, supervisor, Central Area

## SEPARATIONS

- Anitra Nalls, REDB, employment retaliation investigator, Raleigh
- Scott Justice, OSH East, OSHA industrial hygienist, Raleigh
- Clifton Brown, OSH East, HCO trainee, Raleigh
- Ernest Burgess, Information Technology, user support analyst, Raleigh
- John Jaskolka, OSH East, OSHA safety and health supervisor, Raleigh
- Deane Mills, OSH East, OSHA safety officer, Raleigh

## September Birthdays!



3 Kisha Holmes  
3 Edgar Starnes  
4 Danielle Knowland  
5 Tomas Castillo  
8 Paulette Geddes  
10 Brent Wood  
11 Starsky Martin  
12 Jennifer Hartle



12 Todd McNoldy  
13 Greg Sims  
13 Stephen Way  
14 Thomas McHugh  
15 Jennifer Haigwood  
20 Charity Locklear  
21 Dean Edwards  
21 Danny Harrell



22 Tyler Smith  
23 Jacopo Wiggins  
24 Kimberly Kirby  
26 Carol Wells  
28 James McCloud  
29 Michael Johnson  
29 Benjamin Teal  
30 Alexa Cherry

**Congratulations Steve Burris on you retirement!  
Thank you for your service with the Elevator and  
Amusement Device Bureau.**



## 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 55 features Scott Mabry, Chief of Staff, as he discusses his career in safety and health and his new role as chief of staff at the N.C. Department of Labor.

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







# HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

## **Mental Health Matters: Suicide Prevention Awareness Month**

*By Angela Hamilton, Human Resources*

Mental health is as important as ever in the world we live in and could be affected at any stage of life. The challenges we face today are unprecedented as we share widespread struggles faced by many, such as those brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and other challenges. But there are other things that go on individually that vary from person to person that we can't always see. The EAP is available to assist with individualized support by providing three free counseling sessions as well as hundreds of online resources in the form of online webinars and articles covering a wide range of mental health topics. The EAP will also offer referrals to other specialists as needed on a case-by-case basis. Please use the login credentials below to access these items or call them at 888-298-3907 to use this free and confidential service and initiate your free counseling services.

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. If you are currently experiencing a crisis or if you or someone you know may be thinking about suicide, call or text 988. As of July 16, 2022, 988 is the new three-digit dialing code for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The previous 1-800-273-TALK (8255) number for the Lifeline will continue to function indefinitely. The updated website is [988lifeline.org](https://988lifeline.org). Don't wait, contact them for immediate help.

To access your EAP benefits just call or log on to get started.

TOLL-FREE: 888-298-3907

WEBSITE: [www.mygroup.com](https://www.mygroup.com)>My Portal Login>Work-Life>Balancing>Mental Health

USERNAME: nclabor

PASSWORD: guest

# What's New @Your Library

## Online Resources

- **Exposure to Outdoor and Indoor Heat-Related Hazards.** OSHA TWI Bulletin No. 12.
- **Human Error: Preventing Electrical Safety Problems...** Recorded webinar posted on NSC's Safety + Health YouTube channel.
- **Indicators of Workplace Violence, 2019.** BJS/BLS/NIOSH publication.
- **NIH News in Health.** August 2022.
- **New HUD Toolkit Emphasizes Resilient Capacity Of Modern Building Codes.** Article in ICC's "Building Safety Journal."
- **Poultry Workers: Protect Your Health.** OSHA Wallet Card.
- **Protect Your Health: Report Your Injuries.** OSHA/USDA Poster.
- **Quick Indoor CO2 (QICO2) Tool.** New NIST tool.
- **Protecting Temporary Workers: Best Practices For Host Employers.** NIOSH publication.
- **Protecting the Rights of Workers with Disabilities and Advancing Competitive Integrated Employment.** USDOL blog post.
- **Reducing Work-Related Needlestick and Other Sharps Injuries Among Law Enforcement Officers.** NIOSH Workplace Solutions document.

## Online Resources Cont.

- **Safety + Health.** August 2022 issue.
- **Underlying Causes of Falls from Heights.** "Highlighted Findings from a CPWR Survey."

## Books

- *2021 OSHSPA Report: Grassroots Worker Protection.* Call No. HD 7654 .G73 2021. OSHSPA, 2022S. Donated by Wanda Lagoe, OSH-ETTA.
- *Occupational Exposure Sampling for Engineered Nanomaterials.* Call No. TD 196.N36 O23 2022. CDC-NIOSH, 2022.
- *Using Total Worker Health® Concepts to Address Hearing Health.* NIOSH 2019-155. NIOSH, 2019.

## Periodical Issues

- *Bulletin.* Summer 2022 issue. National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors, 2022.
- *OH&S.* March-September 2021 and July 2022 issues. 1105 Media Inc., 2022. 2021 issues donated by Starsky Martin, OSH-ETTA.
- *Professional Safety.* July 2022 issue. American Society of Safety Professionals, 2021. Donated by Phil Hooper, Standards and Inspections.
- *Safety + Health.* August 2022 issue. National Safety Council, 2021. Donated by Phil Hooper, Standards and Inspections.



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Inside NC Labor

