



VC Spotlight

A Place for Safety Professionals to Meet

April 2020

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Valley Coastal Website

<https://valleycoastal.assp.org/>

President's Message

Greetings ASSP Members,

Considering the developments regarding the COVID-19, I would like to first say that our thoughts are with those affected by the virus. The Valley Coastal Chapter hopes you and your family are safe and taking the appropriate measures to protect yourself and others.

The well-being and safety of our teams and communities are our top priority. In monitoring the evolving impacts of COVID-19, the board considered appropriate measures to ensure the health and safety of our members. As a result, the decision was made to cancel the 2020 Professional Development Conference. We will be hosting WebEx Technical Meetings until further notice. We will also be hosting a *virtual* 5 o'clock Happy Hour to just check in and give you some face time.

We extend a heartfelt thanks and appreciate all our ASSP members for understanding these difficult times, but we will get through them together.

Thank you for your continuous support.

Vanessa de la Torre, CHST
Chapter President

Mark Your Calendars! - May 13, 2020

Webinar Topic:
Leveraging Technology and other Resources to Improve your Safety and Risk Management Programs

Presenters: Steve Nyblom @ Tim Karcz

[See the next page for details](#)



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Please join us for the ASSP Valley Coastal Chapter Technical Meeting

When: Wednesday, May 13, 2020

- 9:30 to 10:00 AM Welcome and Introductions
- 10:00 to 11:00 AM Presentation

Topic & Class Description: *Leveraging Technology and Other Resources to Maximize Your Safety and Risk Management Program*

Organizations large and small must determine how to leverage technology and other resources to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of their safety and risk management programs. With the proper data in hand, organizations can use statistical modeling and predictive analytics methods to target efforts on issues that provide the best return on investment. This session will provide descriptions of available resources and case studies of how this has been accomplished at a variety of public agencies, ranging from the County of Los Angeles to small cities and special districts. They will also describe how dashboards can be developed and displayed to provide executives instant insights and information to make actionable decisions.

Guest Speakers:

| | |
|---|---|
| Steve NyBlom, County of Los Angeles | Tim Karcz, California JPIA |
|  |  |
| <p>Steve has been a manager at the County of Los Angeles Risk Management Branch for sixteen years, where he is responsible for managing twenty-five employees in multiple units, including the Risk Analytics, Risk Management Finance, Loss Control and Prevention, the Office of the Risk Management Inspector General.</p> | <p>Tim is a Senior Risk Manager for the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority. He provides risk management and loss control services to cities and special districts along California's Central Coast and Santa Clara County.</p> |

Location: Goto Webinar

Price: Free

Look for follow up Email with registration instructions.

Valley Coastal 2020/2021 Elections

Another term cycle is closing out fast and Valley Coastal is looking for members who would like to either nominate a fellow member or maybe yourselves to serve. So far, we have the following nominees:

President – Vanessa De La Torre

Vice President – Ross Kocen

Secretary – Jaime Jimenez

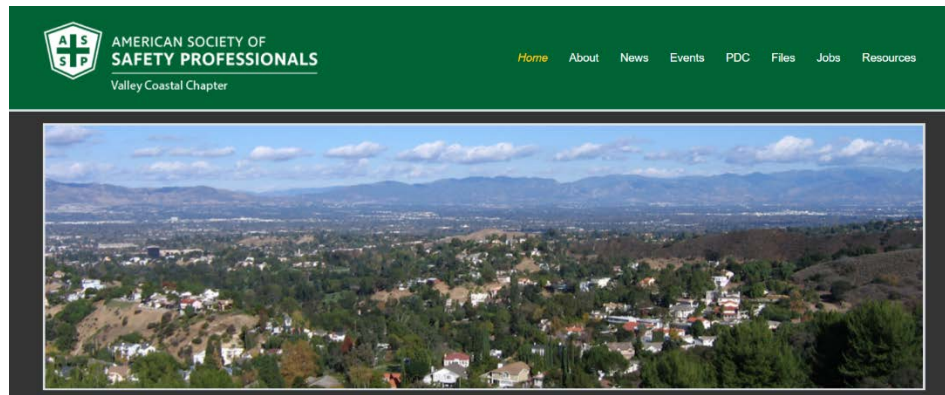
Treasurer – Fabiola Garcia

Delegate – John McCabe

Elections will be held in late May and the next cycle will commence on July 1.

Web Page Banner Update Contest

Valley Coastal is looking for Creativity out there in helping us develop a new banner to represent more than just San Fernando Valley. Therefore, we would like to ask our creative members to submit a banner of your favorite view or design. The Rolling Banner should be 1500 pixels wide by 448 pixels high. All submissions are due by May 15. The VCASSP Board will choose a winner and award a prize. Submit your ideas to: president@valleycoastal.assp.org



[Upcoming Events](#)

[Job Openings](#)

[Chapter News](#)

[Chapter Newsletters](#)

Government Affairs

As COVID-19 continues to spread throughout the country, government agencies are working diligently to respond. Here are a few specific activities related to COVID-19:

- OSHA guidance document with recommendations for how employers should prepare their workplaces to mitigate the effects of COVID-19. While the document is not a standard or regulation, it is important to note that employers are required by the OSH Act to provide their employees with a workplace free of recognized hazards. [View the document](#)
- OSHA alert with tips on how to protect yourself from the disease. [View the alert](#)
- OSHA temporary enforcement guidance in response to the shortage of N95 masks. The guidance aims to help increase the availability of N95 masks for healthcare providers. [Read the guidance](#)
- OSHA guidance requiring the recording and reporting of workplace exposures to COVID-19. [Read our coverage](#)
- CDC interim guidance for employers to plan and respond to COVID-19. The agency is actively updating the guidance so be sure to check it regularly. [Read the guidance](#)

We continue to closely monitor how this pandemic is affecting occupational safety and health. We encourage you to visit our [COVID-19](#) page for more information.

Trump FY2021 Budget Proposal

The Trump administration has released its proposed federal government budget for the fiscal year 2021. This budget proposes a \$4.5 million cut in OSHA's funding, the elimination of the Chemical Safety Board and a \$152.8 million cut in funding for NIOSH. The proposed budget is the beginning of the government agency funding process, and final appropriations may be different than the amounts proposed. [Read our budget report](#)

OSHA Emphasis on Amputations and Silica

OSHA has continued two National Emphasis Programs (NEPs) on amputations in manufacturing industries, and respirable crystalline silica. For both NEPs, the agency will provide assistance to help employers comply with regulations for 90 days before it begins programmed inspections in the targeted areas. [Read our coverage](#)

Department of Labor News

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has released its [annual report](#) on workplace fatalities. According to the report, there were 5,250 workplace fatalities in 2018, a 2 percent increase from 2017. This

increase in fatalities shows that employers must be more proactive in their occupational safety practices. [Read our press release](#)

Legislation

Listed below are important state and federal legislation that would affect OSH. We encourage all members to write to their representatives in support of these bills. [View our detailed report](#)

U.S. Federal Bills

US HB 1309 would direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an OSH standard that would require healthcare and social service employers to implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan. ASSP has supported this bill since its inception as it furthers the safety of two industries with disproportionately high violence rates. [Read our report](#)

US HB 3668 would require OSHA to issue a standard on protecting workers from heat-related injuries and illnesses. [Read the bill](#)

Below are pending and recently enacted state bills that will impact OSH in their respective states.

California

CA AB 203 is a recently enacted bill that requires construction employers in areas where Valley Fever is endemic to provide effective awareness training on Valley Fever to all employees upon hire and on an annual basis. [Read the bill](#)

CA AB 457 would require CAL OSHA to adopt a standard on lead exposure that created by the OSH Standards Board. [Read the bill](#)

Important Regulations

CA 25528 2018 is a California regulation that requires employers to ensure that when handling a suspension strand that is being installed on poles carrying exposed energized power conductors, employees shall wear insulating gloves and shall avoid body contact with the strand until after it has been tensioned, dead-ended and permanently grounded.

CA 25900 2019 is a California regulation that amends rules to clarify when employers must respond to a heightened risk of employee exposure to wildfire smoke.

If you have any questions, please contact Joe Weiss, government and external affairs specialist, at governmentaffairs@assp.org.

Newsroom

OSHA to Consider Good Faith Efforts for Compliance during COVID-19 Pandemic

As employers continue to grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic, OSHA has announced that it is advising compliance safety and health officers (CSHOs) to evaluate employers' good-faith efforts to comply with safety and health standards.

Under this interim guidance, CSHOs should assess employers' efforts to comply with standards that require annual or recurring audits, reviews, training or assessments and evaluate if an employer:

- Explored all options to comply with apply with applicable standards such as remote communication strategies or the use of virtual training.
- Implemented interim alternative protections such as administrative or engineering controls.
- Rescheduled required annual activity as soon as possible.

To read more [click here](#).

Three Keys to Addressing COVID-19 in Your Workplace

The spread of COVID-19 has required safety professionals to reevaluate the steps they can take to protect the health of their workers. Integrating pandemic planning into safety and health management systems is crucial to both preventing the spread of the virus and preventing future viruses from proliferating in the workplace.

As you take steps to address the virus among your workforce, keep these three points in mind.

To read more [click here](#).

U.S. Department of Labor | April 10, 2020

U.S. Department of Labor Issues Enforcement Guidance for Recording Cases of COVID-19

WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued [interim guidance](#) for enforcing OSHA’s recordkeeping requirements ([29 CFR Part 1904](#)) as it relates to recording cases of COVID-19.

Under OSHA’s recordkeeping requirements, COVID-19 is a recordable illness, and employers are responsible for recording cases of COVID-19, if the case:

- Is confirmed as a COVID-19 illness;
- Is [work-related](#) as defined by 29 CFR 1904.5; and
- Involves one or more of the [general recording criteria](#) in 29 CFR 1904.7, such as medical treatment beyond first aid or days away from work.

In areas where there is ongoing community transmission, employers other than those in the healthcare industry, emergency response organizations (e.g., emergency medical, firefighting and law enforcement services), and correctional institutions may have difficulty making determinations about whether workers who contracted COVID-19 did so due to exposures at work. Accordingly, until further notice, OSHA will not enforce its recordkeeping requirements to require these employers to make work-relatedness determinations for COVID-19 cases, except where: (1) There is objective evidence that a COVID-19 case may be work-related; and (2) The evidence was reasonably available to the employer. Employers of workers in the healthcare industry, emergency response organizations and correctional institutions must continue to make work-relatedness determinations pursuant to 29 CFR Part 1904.

OSHA’s enforcement policy will provide certainty to the regulated community and help employers focus their response efforts on implementing good hygiene practices in their workplaces and otherwise mitigating COVID-19’s effects.

For further information and resources about the coronavirus disease, please visit OSHA’s [COVID-19 webpage](#).

U.S. Department of Labor news materials are accessible at <http://www.dol.gov>. The Department’s [Reasonable Accommodation Resource Center](#) converts departmental information and documents into alternative formats, which include Braille and large print. For alternative format requests, please contact the Department at (202) 693-7828 (voice) or (800) 877-8339 (federal relay).

For up to date news and industry relevant information, visit [ASSP’s Newsroom](#).

ASSP Education - Learn and Earn CEU's for FREE!

Education You Can Trust and Access

ASSP is a trusted source among safety professionals for relevant occupational safety and health (OSH) training and education that you can immediately apply in your workplace and use to advance your career. Sharing knowledge is at the heart of what we do, which is why we strive to make learning immersive, accessible and practical through several virtual learning avenues.

Earn CEUs through **free** access to 330 recorded sessions from Safety 2019.

Visit [our store](#) and use code **LEARNFREE**.

Featured Webinars:

COVID-19 and Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems

- View our [COVID-19 and Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems](#) webinar with Vic Toy to learn how your organization can use its occupational safety and health management system in responding to COVID-19.

The COVID-19 Challenge: Managing Sick and Exposed Employees at Work and Returning to Work

- In a webinar recorded April 3, 2020, ASSP President-Elect Deborah Roy shares insight on how to manage employees who have COVID-19 or have been exposed to it at work and reviews guidelines for their return to work.

ANSI 45001 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems

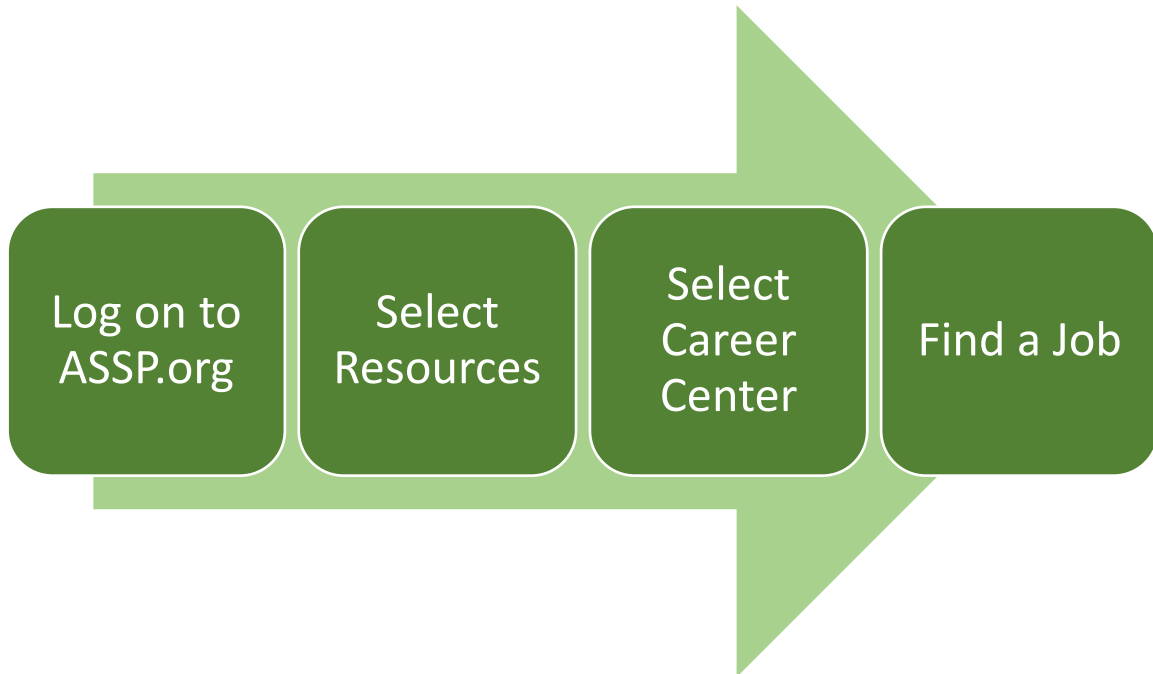
- This document specifies requirements for an occupational health and safety (OH&S) management system, and gives guidance for its use, to enable organizations to provide safe and healthy workplaces by preventing work-related injury and ill health, as well as by proactively improving its OH&S performance.

[Click Here to View More Online Learning Opportunities](#)

Career Central

Post Your Resume to Have Nationwide Career Exposure

Visit ASSP Career Center if you are Seeking Employment or Career Advancement



This brings you to the Career Center home page with Job search, scroll down to Resume Review and further down to Featured Services including Create a Job Alert:

Job Seeker Login / Create Account

This Gives you access to:

- **Improving your resume**
- **Interview Coaching**
- **Posting your Resume for others to search**
- **Career Advancement Advice**
- **Using Social Networking**

<https://jobs.assp.org/>

ASSP and Continuing Education Units (CEU's)

Active participation with your local ASSP Chapter can earn CEU's!

| Activity | Points |
|---|---------------|
| Just be a member each year earns | 1.00 |
| Hold a chapter office or a chair position | 2.00 |
| Service to Conference – Chair or Committee Member | 1.00 |
| Present a Technical Meeting Topic | 0.25 |
| Attend Chapter meetings with /CEU's (2 or more designated meetings; you must sign attendance sheet) | 0.20 |
| Attend Chapter meetings without /CEU's | 0.10 |
| Attend Chapter Professional Development Conference | 0.50 |

If you need CEU's and would like to volunteer, we have opportunities for you to support the chapter and give back to your career.

See the CSP Recertification Guide on the BCSP website for additional ways to earn CEU's
<https://www.bcsp.org/Portals/0/Assets/DocumentLibrary/RecertGuide.pdf>

Member Spotlight

John McCabe CSP, QEP, CEM, ENV SP

John McCabe has experience in national and international environmental, health and safety (EHS) programs and management in industry and consulting. He currently is President of MEHS Consulting LLC who assists organizations in understanding and complying their EHS and energy programs. He has previously worked several large corporations including IBM, Baxter, Grifols, and AECOM. He is currently on the board of several professional non-profits. He holds a B.S. in Biology and an M.S. in Environmental Engineering and is accredited in energy management (CEM), safety (CSP), environmental (QEP), and sustainability (Env-SP).



Interested in Presenting?

Valley Coastal ASSP invites those interested in presenting at one of its Professional Development Meetings to submit a proposal to Programs@valleycoastal.assp.org. Valley Coastal ASSP endeavors to provide a forum for attendees to learn the profession's best practices and to:

- Identify key issues facing SH&E professionals
- Expand their knowledge to improve their professional skills
- Prepare for the challenges in the SH&E fields
- Engage in the discourse concerning the profession
- Identify emerging issues relevant to the profession

