

Commission on Health & Safety and Workers Compensation

July 14, 2023
(Oakland)

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Cal/OSHA Chief



State of California
Gavin Newsom
Governor

Highlights Since December Meeting

- Hiring – first half of 2023 (Jan-June)
- Enforcement
 - Automation Project
 - Silica Special Emphasis Program (SEP)
 - WPV Citations for Half Moon Bay shootings
 - Reorg
- Consultation
- Outreach

Highlights Since November Meeting

- Rulemaking
- 1643 – Heat Advisory Committee
- Agriculture
 - Heat & Wildfire Smoke Season/Heat SEP/Caravans
 - Farmworker meetings
 - Cal Farm Bureau Board Meeting

- Hand off

Hiring

- No Meetings / Hiring Mondays!
- 2020/31; 2021/72; 2022/113; 2023/21 positions filled
 - 41 accepted offers
 - 81 job postings
 - 132 positions to fill
- Vacancy rate: ~ 37%
 - Note: 21 recent retirements/separations + 19 added BCP positions increased vacancy rate [= 40 more positions to fill]

Hiring

- Jan 1 – June 30, 2023
 - Several critical positions in Enforcement, Research & Standards (health), Elevator, Administrative, and Legal Units.
 - Actively recruiting for Enforcement, Research & Standards, Amusement Rides & Tramway, and Crane Units.
- Another priority is recruiting for the recently approved 19 Extreme Heat BCP positions (legal, enforcement, consultation, outreach, research and standards).
- A high priority is to recruit bilingual Associate Safety Engineers and will target the following languages: Punjabi, Spanish, Mandarin, Vietnamese, and Indigenous (Mixtec).
 - 42 Certified bilingual (39 Spanish, 1 Mandarin, 1 Cantonese, 1 Vietnamese)

Enforcement

- Automation Project
- Silica Initiative
- Heat enforcement – heat sweeps

- Cal/OSHA cited two employers in Half Moon Bay for health and safety violations following investigation into workplace violence that killed seven.
 - Combined penalties totaled over \$165,000.
- Reorganization, Expansion, and Restructuring of Enforcement Branch
 - New Fresno Regional Office
 - New Fresno High Hazard Office
 - New District Office in the Central Coastal area: Santa Barbara County
 - New District Office in Southern California: Riverside County area

Agriculture

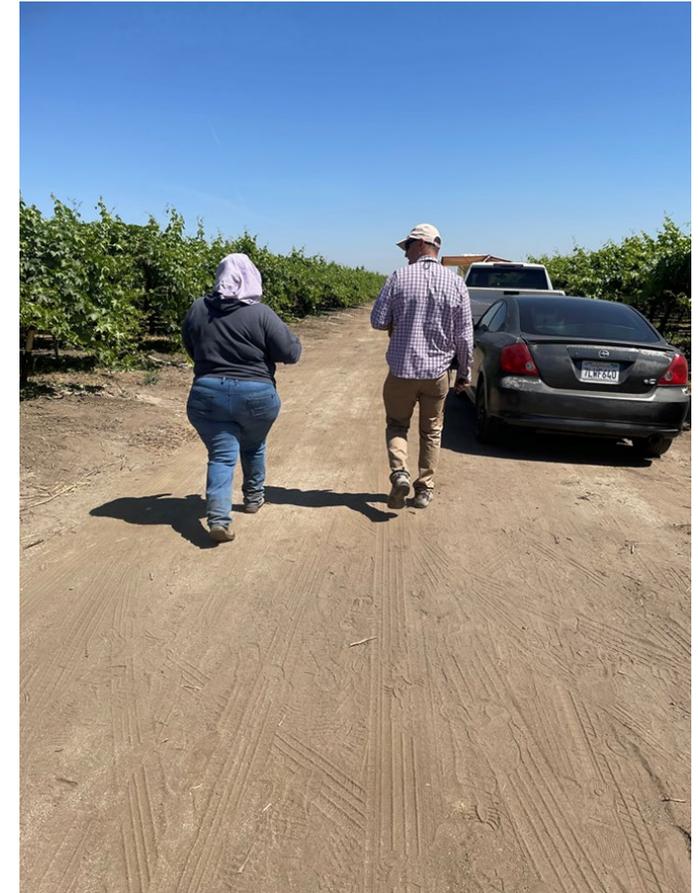
- Heat & Wildfire Smoke / Heat SEP / Caravans



Local community-based organizations and state agencies announced on Nov. 14 the Labor Rights Caravan and Week of Action in Imperial County at the north side of Bucklin Park in front of a mural near the Imperial Valley LGBT Resource Center on Ross Avenue, Nov. 14, in El Centro.

ELIZABETH MAYORAL CORPUS PHOTO

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Consultation: May- June 2023

- 138 onsite consultations (49 in Spanish)
 - 53 Construction
 - 51 High Hazard employers
 - 26 Ag
- 28 Formal Trainings (4 in Spanish) with >3,000 attendees
 - *Partnering with Labor Occupational Health Program (LOHP – funded by CHSWC) for numerous seminars/webinars. Thank you!*
- Partnership Programs –
 - 72 Golden Gate
 - **70 VPP** with 9 pending applications
 - 16 VPP-C
 - 15 SHARP
- Addressed “emphasis” hazards during consultation
 - Heat
 - COVID-19

Cal/OSHA - Outreach

Publications & Educational Resources (May - June)

- May - Warehouse Workers Safety Fact Sheets ([English](#) & [Spanish](#))
- June - Construction Pocket Guide in [Spanish](#)
- June - New Training Video - Voluntary Use of Filtering Face-piece Respirators - [Spanish](#)

Cal/OSHA - Outreach

Workers' Memorial Day (April 28)

- DOSH participated in events throughout the state to remember those who lost their lives on the job and share important information about Cal/OSHA worker safety and health resources & workers' rights at caravan events.
- Participated in an [event](#) that hosted by WorkSafe
 - DOSH Outreach hosted booth and shared Cal/OSHA resources with attendees and Chief Killip presented along with Senator Dave Cortese & FedOSHA

Cal/OSHA - Outreach

Workers' Memorial Day (April 28)



Cal/OSHA - Outreach

- **Central Valley Regional Relationship Building (June 6)**
- UC Merced Labor Center hosted event in Fresno on June 6, involving several community-based organizations, UC Merced Labor Center, Enforcement Managers, Outreach Manager, and Bilingual Community Engagement Liaisons
- Purpose - Build & strengthen relationships in the Central Valley between Cal/OSHA regional and district managers, workers, and worker organizations to improve working conditions and enforcement activities in the Central Valley region.

Cal/OSHA - Outreach

- Central Valley Regional Relationship Building (June 6)



Rulemaking

Silica (title 8 section 5204)

- CDPH notified Cal/OSHA of over 70 cases of silicosis in artificial stone countertop workers at just one California hospital with a 17 to 20 percent fatality rate.
- There is no cure for silicosis and the disease progresses even after all exposures are eliminated.
- DOSH is working on draft language for an emergency regulation to eliminate silicosis in the countertop industry in response to petition 597 to the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board.
- The Standards Board is expected to vote on Petition 597 at its July 20, 2023 meeting.

Lead (title 8 sections 1532.1, 5155, 1598)

- Public Hearing on proposed regulation to prevent lead poisoning was held on April 20, 2023.
- Changes to the proposal to address public comments are expected to be posted soon on the Standards Board website. These changes will have an additional 15-day comment period.
- Vote on the proposal by the Standards Board is expected in Q1 2024.

Rulemaking

Indoor Heat (title 8 section 3396)

- Public Hearing on proposed regulation to prevent indoor heat illness was held on May 18, 2023.
- Changes to the proposal to address public comments are expected to be posted soon on the Standards Board website. These changes will have an additional 15-day comment period.
- Vote on the proposal by the Standards Board is expected in Q1 2024.

Workplace Violence in General Industry

- Cal/OSHA continues to work on the development of the workplace violence prevention standard for general industry.
- Cal/OSHA will notify the public once there is a new draft available for public review and hold an advisory meeting accordingly.

Rulemaking

Aerosol Transmissible Diseases (ATD) (title 8 section 5199)

- Cal/OSHA is finalizing proposal to clarify requirements in the Aerosol Transmissible Diseases regulation for COVID-19, recognize COVID-19 as an airborne infectious disease
- and include COVID-19 vaccinations in the list of vaccination offered to workers.

Infectious Diseases

- Cal/OSHA is working on a discussion draft to protect employees not protected by section 5199 from aerosol transmissible diseases.

Rulemaking

Trichloroethylene (title 8 section 5155)

- Cal/OSHA is finalizing proposal to lower the Permissible Exposure Limit for trichloroethylene.

First Aid Kits (title 8 section 1512 and 3400)

- Cal/OSHA is finalizing proposal to updated first aid kit requirements.
- The Standards Board staff terminated the previous proposal in January 2023.

Respiratory Protection for Wildland Firefighters

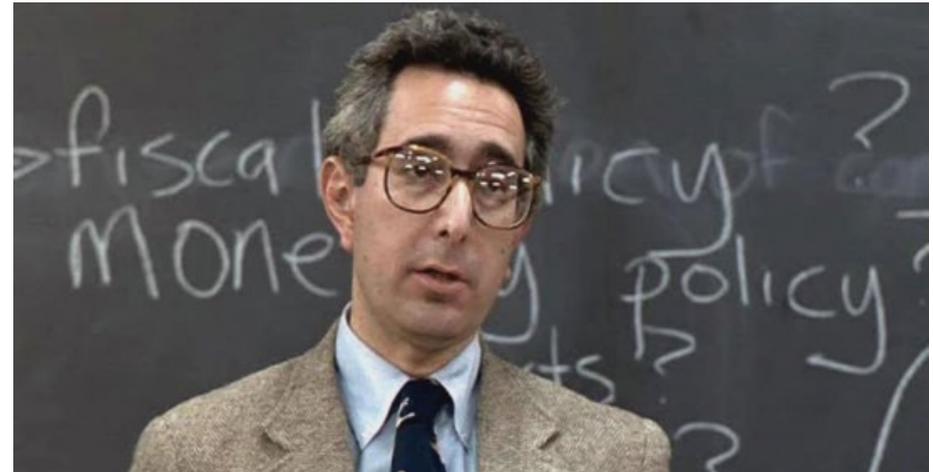
- Cal/OSHA is meeting biweekly with CalFire, LA County Fire Dept., respirator manufacturers, and other experts on developing, studying, testing, and implementing new technologies to protect wildland and wildland-urban interface firefighters.
- The new technologies will be the basis for the new regulations.
- On August 30, 2023, Cal/OSHA and LA County Fire will be co-hosting a study with about 20 frontline firefighters from LA County Fire Dept. and Cal/Fire to field test (without smoke or flames) four different prototype powered air purifying respirators (PAPRs).

Cal/OSHA -

AB 1643 - California Heat Study Advisory Committee (June 27)

- June 27, 2023 - Cal/OSHA hosted its first Advisory Committee Meeting
 - [webpage](#) with agenda and recording of meeting
 - Background:
 - Per AB 1643 (Rivas, Chapter 263, Statutes of 2022)
 - Advisory Committee shall study and evaluate the effects of heat on California's workers, businesses, and the economy.
 - The committee is composed of a diverse group representatives from labor, management, government, and academia, who are tasked with the responsibility of discussing and recommending the scope of the study to the Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

Questions?



We appreciate our collaboration on behalf of worker safety and health!



(Alameda Shoreline Trail – July 8, 2023)