

# THE PLEDGE

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER, STRONGER FUTURE

November 2020 Chapter Newsletter (Volume 6, Issue 11)

## American Society of Safety Professionals

## Bakersfield Chapter



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
**SAFETY PROFESSIONALS**

Bakersfield Chapter



**PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER**  
2018-2019



**PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER**  
2017-2018



**PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER**  
2016-2017

**November 4, 2020 Webinar, 7:30AM to 8:45AM**

## **Artificial Intelligence and Risk Management**

*Artificial Intelligence (“AI”) has been a game changer in risk management. Although AI has admittedly created new liabilities for companies, it can be used as a risk management tool in companies large and small. The objectives of this session will be to familiarize businesses with AI and how it can be used in different fields to reduce potential liability or exposure in your companies.*

*AI usage has grown as it relates to claims decisions (machine algorithms calling the shots), the ramifications of taking the human out of decision-making processes, qualifications of AI vendors, data protection and confidentiality, and more.*

[Register here](#). If you miss the live webinar, it will be recorded on GoToWebinar and be made available within a few days after the live session to listen to on your own time. It will also be available [through this link](#).

**Chris Hagan, Attorney**



**Partner at Hagan Law  
Group**

# Feature of the Month

## **ASSP Foundation Scholarship or Professional Development Grant**

Since 1990, the ASSP Foundation has awarded more than \$3 million in scholarships and professional education grants to students beginning their studies in occupational safety and professionals seeking to continue their education. We offer nearly 150 awards each year ranging from \$500 to \$15,000 each. More than 1,300 safety students and professionals have advanced their careers, thanks to the generosity of the safety community.

Apply today for the 2020-2021 ASSP Foundation Academic Scholarship or Professional Development Grant. All applications are due December 1, 2020.

<https://foundation.assp.org/scholarships-and-grants/>



# 5 Tips for Planning a Successful OHSMS Audit

You've implemented an occupational health and safety management system (OHSMS). Now what? While implementing an OHSMS can help reduce injuries, illnesses and fatalities, without periodic checks on that system, you can't expect continuous improvement. That's where auditing comes in. OHSMS audits allow you to assess the effectiveness of your system, identify gaps and find areas for improvement.

ASSP offers up these five things to keep in mind as you prepare to conduct an audit. Full [article here](#).

- 1) Assemble Your Audit Team
- 2) Establish a Realistic Scope
- 3) Know the Questions You Want to Ask
- 4) Set a Schedule
- 5) Prepare Your Documents



# Become an ASSP Member

*General Membership is under \$200 per year!*

*Students can join for only \$15/year and receive a free year membership upon your graduation!*

*Complete the [online application](#) today!*

*As an ASSP member, you will elevate your career; gain knowledge, tools, and resources to prevent worker injuries, illnesses and fatalities; help improve your company's performance; and become part of a vibrant community of over 37,000 safety professionals working together for a safer, stronger future.*

## ***New Member Promotion***

*Keep a look out for future new member promos!*



Complete the Membership application at [www.assp.org](http://www.assp.org).



- ✓ Kristine Ballecer - Fresno Plumbing and Heating Inc
  - ✓ Jessica Hernandez - Bakersfield College
- ✓ James Mason - Pro Tool Services/Student Member
  - ✓ Daniel Newland - Life Saver Safety
  - ✓ Matt Ozanich Sr. - Student Member
- ✓ Bobby Salazar - Signal Energy Constructors
- ✓ Sergio Furtado - Kern County Public Works
- ✓ Katie Lantz, Emily Parker, Nathalie Larios – CSUB
  - ✓ Eddie Varnado - Student Member
  - ✓ Heminee Salinas - Bakersfield College



# WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

## ***December 2, 2020 Webinar Meeting***

***Thomas Kramer, P.E., C.S.P.***

***Managing Principal at LJB Inc***

Fall Protection – The Greatest Challenge in Compliance and Risk

Falls are one of the leading causes of workplace fatalities, and violations related to fall protection have been at the top of OSHA's list for the past nine years. This session addresses why falls continue to occur and how organizations can reduce their risk. First, the session focuses on how entrenched methods of information processing and social influences lull organizations into a false sense of security – leading many to believe they are good, rather than just lucky. The presenter will also discuss practical and evolving methods for reducing falls, including significant equipment advances, Prevention through Design techniques, and the impact of evolving fall protection regulations and standards. Discussion Objectives - summarize the trend of data as it relates to fall from heights; identify areas where you can better engage your co-workers to address falls from heights; determine methods you can employ to increase safety and reduce risk for workers at height.

The meeting will be hosted virtually. Details to be sent out via email at a later date.





When incidents occur, it's the job of safety professionals to determine what happened and how, and what steps the organization needs to take to prevent a similar event from happening again. Read [ASSP's article here](#).

- To conduct an effective investigation, you first have to understand the who, what, when, where, why and how of the investigation process. Learn the basics of [conducting an incident investigation](#) and why they are so important to the outcome.
- In the aftermath of an incident, you need to focus on getting workers the care they need, assessing the scene and investigating the causes so you can take corrective action. Taking these [nine steps can improve](#) your investigation approach.
- The key determining why an incident occurred is asking the right questions. These [sample questions](#) offer guidance on how to collect the information you need to determine incident causes and make your workplace safer.
- A root-cause analysis allows you to dig deeper into the incident causes and examine factors that may not be visible on the surface. Follow [these seven steps](#) to get to the root of your incidents.

# Safety News You Need: Incident Investigation





**Majic Safeeh - MTS Solutions  
Awards & Honors Chair**



**Shawna Beaver –  
Women In Safety Excellence (WISE) Chair**



**Lee'o Whisenant – BBSI/CSUB  
Chapter Operations Chair**

**We would like to welcome Majic, Shawna, and Lee'o to the Bakersfield Chapter ASSP Executive Committee.  
They are volunteering their time and efforts to continue growing and building this Chapter. THANK YOU!**

# **New Bakersfield Chapter Chairs!**

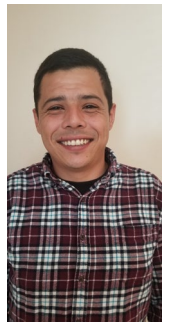
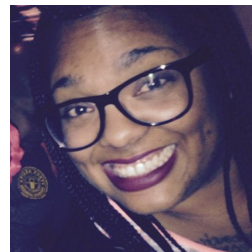
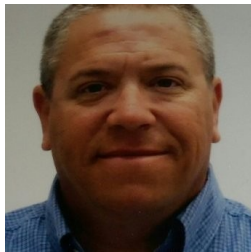
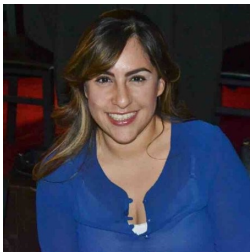
# MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

We love to spotlight and congratulate our chapter members and friends on their professional development, successes, and new positions!

**Chris Miller, CSP** completed his Emergency Medical Technician.

**Sandra Monroy** completed her Construction Health & Safety Technician.

**Joseph Bravo** – Safety Specialist, Buttonwillow Warehouse Company; **Israel Garcia, CHST, OHST** – Area EHS Manager, Oldcastle Infrastructure; **Shane Baird, GSP, CHST** – Health & Safety Coordinator, Ferrovial Agroman US Corp.; **Vicky Furnish** – Senior Manager, Site Assessment & Remediation, SoCal Edison; **Nickolas Romero** – Safety Manager, E.M. Tharp Inc.; **Mayra Cruz** – Safety Consultant, MS; **Tyson Rall** – Health & Safety Specialist/Advisor, Aera Energy LLC; **Kevin James** – Field Safety Advisor, Ponder Environmental Services; **Mark Ruder** – Safety & Security Coordinator, California High Speed Rail; **Oscar Serrato** – Safety Professional, Wonderful Pistachios and Almonds; **Jim Minor** – Field Safety Specialist, IES; **Khalia Chambers** – Health & Safety Coordinator, Pacific Seafood; **Dave Crow** – Safety & Training Manager, Quanta Services, Inc.; **Jose Ramos** – Safety Professional, A-C Electric.





# A Little About ASSP

ASSP publishes the [Professional Safety Journal](#): a flagship monthly journal and top member benefit covering the latest safety management and injury prevention trends.

Our more than 40,000 members are dedicated to making their workplaces safer and healthier, and the Bakersfield Chapter shares in their commitment.

ASSP members create safer work environments by preventing workplace fatalities, injuries and illnesses. Safer organizations enjoy increased productivity, higher employee satisfaction, and a better reputation while recording less lost time, and lower workers' compensation and healthcare costs.

ASSP produces a podcast now - Safety Standards and Tech Pubs Podcast will help you stay up to speed on the latest in industry consensus safety standards and technical publications.





For comments or suggestions on ways we can improve this newsletter as a service to you, our members, please contact Dave Lee at [leed@kerncounty.com](mailto:leed@kerncounty.com).



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