

# THE PLEDGE

*WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER, STRONGER FUTURE*  
*October 2024 Chapter Newsletter (Volume 10, Issue 10)*



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
**SAFETY PROFESSIONALS**

Bakersfield Chapter

## Chapter Recognition



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER  
2023-2024



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER  
2022-2023



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER  
2021-2022



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER  
2020-2021



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER  
2019-2020



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER  
2018-2019



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER  
2017-2018



PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER  
2016-2017



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER  
2015-2016



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER  
2014-2015



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER  
2013-2014



GOLD LEVEL CHAPTER  
2012-2013

# ***ASSP Membership is incredibly valuable!***

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 38,000 safety professionals working together for a safer, stronger future.

*NEW MEMBER PROMO! Use code 2408Bakersfield to waive the \$25 application fee and receive a \$25 restaurant.com gift card. Complete an application at [ASSP Membership | ASSP](#).*



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

# ***October 2, 2024 Chapter Meeting***

***Shane Gardner, Fire Marshal  
Bakersfield Fire Department***

## ***What do the Fire Inspectors look for during a Fire and Life Safety Inspection?***

Are you up to date with the Fire Code and Standards at your facility? Planning on putting up that new building or adding to an existing one? What operational permits are required for certain uses and/or types of storage by the California Fire Code (CFC)?

*The mission of the Bakersfield Fire Department (BFD) is to protect, engage, and inspire a safe community while delivering legendary customer service. Complex inspections are conducted at all new construction, major remodels, and fire protection systems revisions to ensure compliance with the Fire Code, but what exactly does a fire inspector look for during a Fire and Life Safety inspection? Shane will provide a detailed look at the inspection process, challenges and resolutions, code updates, and provide the tools on how to ensure compliance at your next Fire and Life Safety Inspection. The Bakersfield Fire Department is also a CUPA Fire Agency so he will touch on the Hazardous Materials requirements for reporting as well. Shane has been teaching lessons learned from the recent hydrogen fire including some basic chemistry of hydrogen and lithium (a “hot” topic for organizations going that way). He’ll give insight on the latest fire suppression strategy for Electric and hybrid vehicle fires as well.*

**Attend in person at Hodel’s (7:00AM-8:45AM).**

**Zoom option available for January, April, July, and October meetings.**



# ***November 6, 2024 Chapter Meeting***

***Robby Deford, MS, CSP – Safety & Industrial Hygiene Professional @ California Resources Corporation***

## ***Test your knowledge about Personal Protective Assessments and Equipment (PPE)***

This session will introduce PPE Assessments. What are the regulatory requirements and to which employers do they apply? What are good methodologies/best practices to fulfill the requirements? Robby will also discuss PPE basics and try to stretch even the most seasoned HSE Professional! Do vented hard hats comply with Grade C, D, E standards? Are side shields required by the ANZI 87 Standard? What do you really understand about the (ASTM) Safety Footwear standard? And much more.

*Robby Deford is a Safety & Industrial Hygiene Professional with California Resources Corporation (CRC). His undergraduate degree is in Political Science and Government from CSUB. He has a MS in Industrial Hygiene from Montana Tech. He previously worked for Safety Management Systems (SMS) as an Industrial Hygiene Technician and C&J Well Servicing as a QHSE Coordinator.*

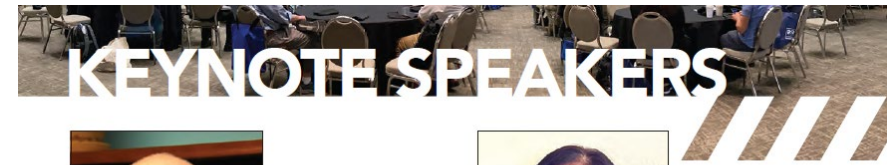




# JOINT TECHNICAL SYMPOSIUM

JTS registration is open – [Southern California Joint Technical Symposium](#)

JTS is brought to you by dedicated volunteers from regional ASSP Chapters and the American Industrial Hygiene Association. The symposium features 4 breakout tracks, an exhibit hall, breakfast, lunch, two keynote speakers, and lots of networking!



**David T. Dyjack, Dr.PH, CIH**  
National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)

**OPENING GENERAL SESSION**  
A Memo from Teller: Unsaid Things



**Charlene Gloriani**  
Cal/OSHA

**MIDDAY GENERAL SESSION**  
Cal/OSHA Update: Heat, Violence and More



# Safety Loves Recognition

Congratulations to Sam Wimmer, Baltazar Rojas, and Jose Casimiro on being recognized at our Chapter meetings for having a significant EHS impact.



# Bakersfield Chapter Scholarships

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**Deadline is January 31, 2025**

Part of the driving force behind why we exist is to promote and support programs that advance the safety profession. One of the ways we accomplish this is by awarding up to \$10,000 in scholarships every year for eligible students.



Your ASSP Bakersfield Chapter Scholarship Program:

Please visit our [Scholarship Program](#) webpage for current information on the program, to download the application, and to learn about our [previous recipients](#).

A couple items to note:

1. Applications must be postmarked by January 31, 2025
2. Must fulfill the student requirements to be eligible.
3. Applicants must submit a completed [APPLICATION](#)

Please feel free to contact [David Mersereau](#) – Bakersfield Chapter Scholarship Chair with any questions.



# State of California – Department of Industrial Relations

Cal/OSHA bolsters staff to investigate the most egregious violations, referring them for criminal prosecution.

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:** Cal/OSHA is strengthening its efforts to increase workplace safety by ramping up recruitment and hiring more investigator staff for its Bureau of Investigations (BOI). This important unit is responsible for investigations related to the most serious workplace injuries, including death and makes recommendations for criminal prosecutions.

**WHY IT MATTERS:** Previously, the BOI unit operated statewide with just a fraction of its current staffing. This latest announcement will allow BOI to tackle more cases and ensure that the most negligent of employers are held accountable.

Learn more at [Cal/OSHA Bolsters Staff | California Department of Industrial Relations](#)





# Standards Development



**STANDARDS  
UPDATE**

Safety is so much more than OSHA compliance. Voluntary consensus standards can transform your safety program from a compliance-driven cost center into a corporate sustainability initiative that can save lives and boost profits.

As an advocate for workplace safety and OSH professionals, ASSP understands the importance of leading the discussion and evolution of voluntary safety standards. ASSP is the secretariat for multiple standards committees. This means ASSP organizes the committees and ensures that the standards are developed, revised, and published in a timely manner and in accordance with ANSI procedures.

[Safety Standards Beyond OSHA Regulations | ASSP](#)

## OSHA QuickTakes & Did You Know?

OSHA's [rulemaking](#) on Emergency Response is focused on providing long overdue protections to emergency responders. OSHA has tremendous respect for both the work that emergency responders do and their unique role providing essential public safety services to every community in America. This [statement](#) describes the rulemaking's applicability to volunteer responders.

## October is National Protect Your Hearing Month

Safeguard your hearing! OSHA has a dedicated webpage for [Hearing Loss in Construction](#). The references on the webpage provide information related to noise in construction including OSHA's noise construction regulations, national consensus standards, and recommendations from other professional organizations, health effects, and general resources.

October is   
**National Protect  
Your Hearing Month**

[OSHA.gov/construction](https://www.osha.gov/construction)



# ASSP Resources

- [Business and Leadership Skills for Safety Professionals](#) – Safety professionals in every industry are required to not only keep their company's workers safe, but to understand and support the goals of their business. How can you establish safety as one of the "table stakes" of your company's operations and culture? Whether you are part of a large corporate team or a safety team of one, the right business and leadership insights can help you promote operational integrity and continue to elevate your safety successes.
- [Construction Safety Resources for Safety Professionals](#) – Construction and demolition worksites present some of the most hazardous conditions for workers. Our construction safety resources provide guidance on identifying and controlling risks and implementing best practices to reduce worker injuries and improve productivity.



Current Safety Programs

Category	Percentage	
42%	79%	93%

**You're not alone!**

**87%** of safety professionals said that **business skills** are one of their top professional development needs.

SafetyFOCUS 2021 attendee survey  
Image does not reflect current health and safety protocols.



# EHS PROS ON THE MOVE

- Clay Wattenbarger, Senior WHS Manager - Amazon
- Phillip Portillo, Safety Director - Lyles Services Company
- Mike Jaurena, Director of Health & Safety - Community Tree Service
- Cole Sarver, Lead Environmental & Regulatory Specialist - Chevron



- Charles Boone with CBO Consulting LLC completed his AS in OS&H from Columbia Southern University
- Arturo Gudino with Granite completed the requirements to become a Construction Health & Safety Technician
- Tyson Rall with CRC completed his BS in OS&H from Columbia Southern



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ADVANCEMENT



# 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.



If you are looking for job postings, find current opportunities shared with the Chapter on the [Chapter website](#).

You can find Chapter Documents, Member Updates, Newsletters, and Presentations on our [Chapter Library page](#).

Is your company looking for a qualified safety professional? Contact [Chris Vochoska](#) to have the opening posted on this page.

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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