

THE PLEDGE

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER, STRONGER FUTURE
November 2024 Chapter Newsletter (Volume 10, Issue 11)



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Bakersfield Chapter

Chapter Recognition



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

CALL FOR SPEAKERS – 2025 Bakersfield ASSP Symposium

The Bakersfield ASSP Chapter is seeking speakers to be a part of the 2025 Bakersfield ASSP Symposium on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at the Mechanics Bank Convention Center located at 1001 Truxtun Ave in Bakersfield, California.

Interested speakers must submit a proposal for review by the Symposium Planning Committee. The committee is interested in dynamic, technically oriented presentations with case studies but is open to all topical ideas including environmental, health & safety, human resources, Workers' Compensation, industrial hygiene, chemical safety, workplace wellness, regulatory updates, and much more. Sessions at the Symposium are expected to be one full hour.

Visit [Bakersfield ASSP Symposium](#) to submit your speaker proposal and to learn a bit more about the upcoming symposium. Please be prepared to provide your presentation title, presentation description, three learning objectives, and topic category.

November 6, 2024 Chapter Meeting

Robby Deford, MS, CSP – Safety & Industrial Hygiene Professional @ CRC

Test your knowledge about Personal Protective Assessments and Equipment

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.



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

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

December 4, 2024 Chapter Meeting

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

What do the Fire Inspectors look for during a Fire & 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.



Bakersfield Chapter Scholarships

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.

EHS PROS ON THE MOVE

- Stephanie Truvillion, Safety Specialist – Amazon
- Juan De La Torre Jr., Safety Manager – Dragados USA, Inc.
- Jesse Hernandez, Senior Safety Inspector – AECOM
- Kevin James, Field Safety Manager – Safework
- Quinlan Brown, Principal Program Manager – PG&E
- Andrew Hollaway, Senior Safety Manager – CSI Electric



- Andrew Hollaway with CSI Electric recently completed the requirements to become an Associate Safety Professional® (ASP®)
- J.T Parnell with Boretti Inc. recently completed the requirements to become a Certified Safety Professional® (CSP®)



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ADVANCEMENT

Bakersfield WISE Group

The WISE (Women in Safety Excellence) group hosted a wonderful professional development session. Special thanks to Catherine Jones from Bakersfield College for an insightful presentation on the incredible educational opportunities available in the field of safety and health.

The tour of the virtual reality lab was a great bonus, and it was exciting to see how virtual reality (VR) technology is being used to train future forklift drivers!

A huge thank you to Jose Perez with The Wonderful Company for generously hosting the event at their Wonderful Career Center and providing a delicious lunch for everyone in attendance. It's inspiring to be part of such a supportive community that champions growth and learning in our profession.



Bakersfield Chapter HSP Group

What an incredible evening at the Hispanic Safety Professional (HSP) Networking Mixer, hosted by the Hispanic Safety Professionals of the ASSP Bakersfield Chapter! This event was not only a chance to connect with colleagues but also an opportunity to celebrate the rich and diverse cultures that make up our community. We honored the invaluable contributions of Hispanic professionals to the safety and health profession. Thank you to everyone who joined us in celebrating heritage, culture, and the vital role we all play in advancing workplace safety! Thank you to Javier Gonzalez and his lovely wife for hosting this event in their home. Thank you to Janie Dyer and Erik Cadena for organizing the event.



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Hispanic Safety Professionals
Common Interest Group

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.



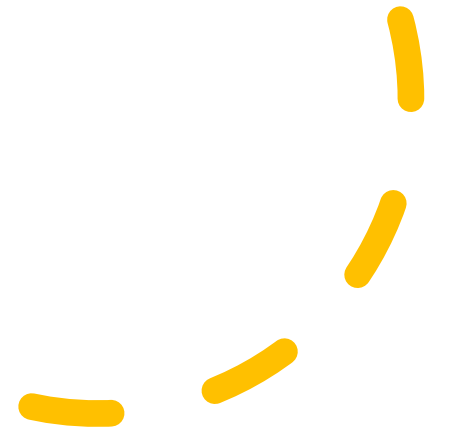
Current Safety Programs

42%	79%	93%
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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.



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](#)



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.



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