

THE PLEDGE

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER, STRONGER FUTURE
June 2026 Chapter Newsletter (Volume 12, Issue 6)



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Bakersfield Chapter

Chapter Recognition

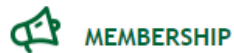


ASSP Membership is incredibly valuable!



ASSP Membership is incredibly valuable! As a 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 40,000 safety professionals working together for a safer, stronger future. Complete the membership application at [ASSP.org](https://www.assp.org).

Use the coupon code 2512BAKERSFIELD and the \$25 application fee is waived!



Announcements

[Online ASSP Community](#) →

Our exclusive online member community connects you with great resources and great people to help you grow professionally and engage with colleagues on a global scale.

[Build Your Leadership Skills](#) →

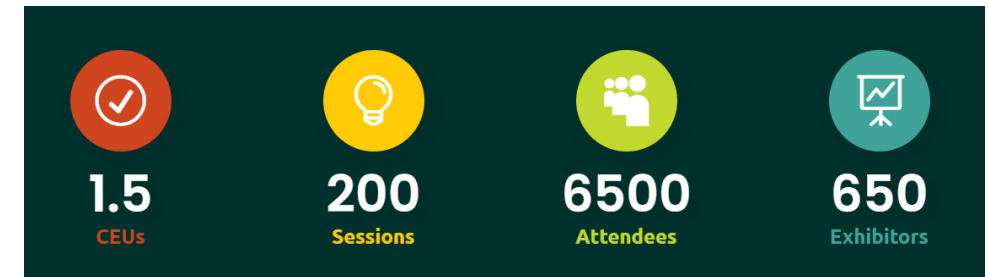
Serving on an ASSP committee is a great way to build new skills, meet new contacts and make a difference in the OSH profession. We have opportunities in member communities, education, standards and advocacy areas.

Safety 2026 – Anaheim, CA

June 15-17

Registration for [Safety 2026](#) is now open! For more than 60 years, the ASSP Professional Development Conference has been and will continue to be the direct reflection of what is taking place in the occupational, safety and health industry.

Workplace safety and health will continue to evolve, and the American Society of Safety Professionals will continue to connect you with industry expertise, a network of like-minded peers and the latest innovations. 2026 is shaping up to be a historic year, so be sure to stay tuned as we unveil what's in store for the 65th annual Conference and Expo.



Bakersfield Chapter WISE Group

WISE (Women in Safety Excellence) is sharing to remember SAFETY FIRST as the July 4th celebrations approach.

Keep the following safety tips in mind when preparing and handling fireworks this season.



WISE

Women in Safety Excellence

Remember: Safety first!

FIREWORK Safety Tips

A graphic of colorful fireworks exploding in the night sky, with red, white, and blue bursts.

- ★ Never allow **children** to play with or ignite fireworks, supervise children at all times
- ★ Always maintain a **safe distance** from people, structures, vehicles and flammable materials
- ★ Keep a **bucket of water** or **garden hose** handy in case of fire or other mishap
- ★ Never **hold** a firework in your hand
- ★ **Light** fireworks **one** at a **time** and move away once fireworks have been lighted
- ★ Never try to **re-light** or **pick up** fireworks that have not ignited fully
- ★ Properly **dispose** of fireworks

June 3, 2026 Chapter Meeting

James Boretti, CSP – President/CEO of Boretti, Inc

Influencing to get buy-in from the C-Suite

Safety professionals often struggle with the perception of safety as a "cost center" rather than a driver of business value. To gain executive buy-in, you must bridge the communication gap between technical safety requirements and the strategic priorities of the C-Suite. In this session, James Boretti, a seasoned business owner and board consultant, shares proven strategies for engaging executives by speaking the language of the business. Participants will learn how to frame safety initiatives such as investments that improve operational efficiency, reduce hidden costs, and protect long-term financial sustainability.

James Boretti, CSP, is the CEO and President of Boretti, Inc., a firm specializing in professional safety and health solutions. With over 30 years of experience, he has served as a Regional Vice President for the ASSP and is a frequent speaker on the intersection of safety and business efficiency.



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

Zoom option [available](#) for January, April, July, and October meetings.

July 1, 2026 Chapter Meeting

Catherine Houlihan, Attorney with Barsamian & Moody

Cal/OSHA Citation Insights: Protecting Your Business from Enforcement

In California's complex regulatory environment, even minor oversights can lead to severe Cal/OSHA penalties. This session provides an essential deep dive into the current enforcement landscape, helping employers move beyond "paper compliance" to build a defensible safety program. Attorney Catherine Houlihan will share practical insights on identifying the most common citation triggers and navigating the high-stakes inspection process. Attendees will walk away with actionable strategies to mitigate risk and handle potential litigation with confidence. Key Takeaways: A breakdown of the most frequently cited Cal/OSHA violations, from IIPP gaps to heat illness prevention. Anatomy of an Inspection: What to expect when a Cal/OSHA inspector arrives and how to manage the interaction. Defense & Appeals: Understanding citation classifications and the critical steps to take when a citation is issued. Regulatory Outlook: A brief look at emerging standards, including indoor heat regulations, to stay ahead of 2026 enforcement trends.



New Chapter Members

- Ted Vandervert – Consultant
- Jose Hernandez – Plains All American
- Josh Sweaney – The Wonderful Company
- Danny Soto – The Wonderful Company



Professional Development

- Don Reimer with Continental Labor & Staffing Resources recently completed the requirements to become a Construction Health & Safety Technician.
- Michael Carrillo recently completed the requirements to become a Safety Trained Supervisor.
- Heath Taylor with The Wonderful Company recently completed the requirements to become a Certified Industrial Hygienist.



NEW MEMBERS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

EHS Professionals on the Move

- ❖ Jose Lozano, Director of Environmental Compliance, US Landfills – Clean Harbors
- ❖ Estela Llamas, Compliance Auditor – POM Wonderful
- ❖ Matthew Perry, Senior EHS Advisor – California Resources Corporation
- ❖ Ronnie Fowler, EH&S Specialist – Crimson Resource Management
- ❖ Mark Kirven, Safety Director – EMCOR Group Inc,



News, Information, and Resources from ASSP

- [Free Learning Resources](#) – Get started with these key topics in safety with webinars, articles and more. Topics include compliance, safety management systems, fall protection, total work health, and much more. Resources are updated frequently with the latest information.
- [OSHA Training Starts Here](#) – ASSP offers online access to OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 courses – built to deepen your knowledge of safety standards, strengthen regulatory compliance, and support safer workplaces. These flexible, self-paced programs are ideal for safety professionals looking to enhance their credentials and stay current in an evolving field.
- [Professional Safety Journal](#) – Professional Safety, American Society of Safety Professionals' flagship monthly journal and top member benefit, covers the latest safety management and injury prevention trends. Each peer-reviewed issue offers practical guidance, techniques and solutions to help EHS professionals identify hazards, protect people, prevent injuries, and improve work environments. This is also to assist educate management and executives that investing in safety is a sound business strategy.

The Nominations Committee proudly announces the newly elected Chapter officers.

President – Jason Kibbey

President-Elect – Lisa Marriott-Smith

Secretary – Michael Martinez

Treasurer – Javier Gonzalez

Advisory Group Members – Michael Garcia & Albert Lopez



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Bakersfield Chapter

The Bakersfield ASSP Chapter provides accessible, face-to-face, and virtual opportunities for ASSP members to become better safety professionals.

Learn more at [ASSP Bakersfield Chapter](#).



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 sent via email to our members and mailing list.

For comments or suggestions on ways we can improve this newsletter, please contact [Dave Lee](#).



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