



Point

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This newsletter is to inform you of recent changes & trends regarding health and safety.

The Turning Point is a monthly newsletter covering topics from various industries and sectors. The Turning Point will respond to your inquiries and inform you of current services and updates regarding

Raising the Standard Consulting Inc.



US DEPARTMENT OF LABOR UNVEILS PROPOSALS TO PUT AMERICAN WORKERS, BUSINESSES FIRST IN RELEASE OF SEMIANNUAL REGULATORY AGENDA

The Trump Administration today announced its Unified Agenda of Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions, which provides the American people with a transparent look at regulations being considered by the Administration and ensures the public is engaged throughout the process.

Including nearly 150 proposals under the U.S. Department of Labor's jurisdiction, the agenda reflects President Trump's ongoing commitment to protect workers, support business growth, and ultimately put American workers and businesses first.

Eliminating red tape and crafting smart regulations that spur job creation will bring us even closer to reaching the Golden Age of the American Worker. The Department of Labor is committed to helping President Trump and the entire Administration implement this bold regulatory agenda, which focuses on flexibility, transparency, and common-sense reform to ensure every hardworking family has a fair shot at achieving the American Dream," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Lori Chavez-DeRemer.

"This regulatory agenda reflects our steadfast commitment to restoring economic opportunity by fostering

innovation and reducing unnecessary burdens on employers," said Deputy Secretary of Labor Keith Sonderling. "By modernizing outdated rules and prioritizing clarity and efficiency, we're building a more agile, worker-centered labor policy framework that fuels economic growth and prosperity. Under President Trump's leadership, the Department of Labor is delivering the regulatory certainty that American workers and businesses need to thrive."

The department advanced a set of high-priority actions designed to reduce unnecessary burdens on employers and employees, with proposals addressing issues surrounding pharmacy benefit managers, independent contractors, joint employers, and others, including:

- **Improving Transparency into Pharmacy Benefit Manager Fee Disclosure:** Pursuant to President Trump's April 15 Executive Order, "Lowering Drug Prices by Once Again Putting Americans First," the department will look at ways to improve transparency around the direct and indirect compensation PBMs receive from employer-sponsored health plans.
- **Transparency in Coverage:** The department will examine ways it can improve market transparency in pricing and cost-sharing information for consumers.
- **Prudence and Loyalty in Selecting Retirement Plan Investments and Exercising Shareholder Rights:** The department will consider the extent to which fiduciaries may prioritize environmental, social, and governance factors in investment decisions.

- **Heat Injury and Illness Prevention in Outdoor and Indoor Work Settings:** The department is continuing to examine how to establish standards specifically related to heat-related injury and illness prevention.
- **Joint Employer Status under the Fair Labor Standards Act:** The department will look at the circumstances under which a business can be held liable as a joint employer.
- **Employee or Independent Contractor Classification under the FLSA:** The department will examine the circumstances under which a worker should be classified as an employee or independent contractor for the purpose of federal wage and hour requirements.
- **Defining and Delimiting Exemptions for Executive, Administrative, Professional, Outside Sales, and Computer Employees:** The department will determine whether certain salaried employees are exempt from FLSA minimum wage and overtime requirements.
- **Adverse Effect Wage Rate Methodology for the Temporary Employment of H-2A Nonimmigrants in Non-Range Occupations in the U.S.:** The department will consider updates to the methodology used to calculate the prevailing wage for H-2A workers.
- **H-2A Temporary Agricultural Employment of Foreign Workers in Nonimmigrant Status:** The department proposes to rescind certain burdensome requirements adopted under the Biden administration, many of which are currently enjoined as unlawful, for growers using the H-2A program for agricultural labor.

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US LABOR DEPARTMENT CITES FLORIDA ROOFING CONTRACTOR FOR ALLEGEDLY EXPOSING EMPLOYEES TO HAZARDS AFTER WORKER FALLS THROUGH RESIDENTIAL SKYLIGHT

Following two federal safety inspections, the U.S. Department of Labor has cited a Jacksonville roofing contractor with 10 safety violations for willfully exposing workers to fall hazards by not requiring them to wear fall protection while working at least six feet above a lower level, leading to over \$700,000 in proposed penalties.

"At the Department of Labor, we are committed to doing everything in our power to put the American worker and their safety first," said Secretary of Labor Lori Chavez-DeRemer. "These citations are a stark reminder that workplace safety is non-negotiable, and we will carry out our duty to hold employers accountable when they put lives at risk."

"No one should walk into work worrying that they might not come home at the end of the day," said Deputy Secretary of Labor Keith Sonderling. "Our workers are the backbone of this country, and we strive every day to ensure they never pay the ultimate price for a paycheck."

On March 18, 2025, the department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration initiated an investigation at an Elo Restoration LLC Jacksonville worksite – operating as Elo Roofing. Two weeks later, OSHA initiated a separate investigation at an Elo Roofing site in St. Johns after learning a worker sustained injuries and required hospitalization after falling through a residential roof while removing skylight fixtures.

The agency determined the worksite did not install guardrails, safety nets, or personal fall arrest systems, and employees were not provided with alternative fall protection measures. Elo Restoration LLC was cited with four willful, three repeat, a serious, and two other-than-serious citations, totaling \$752,846 in proposed penalties.

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2 HURT, 1 CRITICALLY, AFTER ACCIDENT AT NORTH MIAMI BEACH CONSTRUCTION SITE

NORTH MIAMI BEACH, Fla. — Medics rushed two workers to a local hospital after an accident at an under-construction apartment tower in North Miami Beach on Monday morning.

The accident, which officials with Miami-Dade Fire Rescue said was the result of a “possible mechanical failure,” happened at around 9:30 a.m. at a site at 16375 Biscayne Blvd.

Medics took the workers to HCA Florida Aventura Hospital, according to MDRF.

North Miami Beach police, who characterized the incident as an “industrial accident,” said one of the workers was “stable,” while the other “received life-threatening injuries and is currently listed in critical condition.”

Investigators said the men were using a lift when it made contact with a power line, causing an explosion. The impact sent the lift crashing down with both men on it.

“The first male was electrocuted, which caused a second male to fall in a scaffolding approximately (nine) stories,” a North Miami Beach Police Department spokesperson said. “The male (who) was electrocuted has been listed in stable condition. The second male who sustained the fall is listed in critical condition.”

Real estate websites list the property as the future 28-story Soleste on the Bay building.

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CONTRACTOR KILLED IN CONSTRUCTION ZONE ACCIDENT ON I-35W IN BURNSVILLE

BURNSVILLE, MINNESOTA – A contractor was struck and killed on Wednesday morning, September 24, 2025, in a construction zone along I-35W in Burnsville, according to the Minnesota State Patrol.

According to the Minnesota State Patrol, the fatal incident occurred at approximately 8:59 a.m. in the southbound lanes of I-35W near the Highway 13/Burnsville Parkway interchange. Officials with the Minnesota State Patrol say the victim, a contractor who was on foot within the designated construction area, was hit by a construction vehicle equipped with a boom attachment. No other vehicles were involved in the incident, and Minnesota State Patrol Troopers confirmed that the crash happened entirely within the active work zone.

The contractor's identity has not yet been released, pending notification of family members.

Authorities shut down portions of the construction area while responding units investigated and secured the scene. The Minnesota State Patrol is leading the investigation, with assistance from the Burnsville Police. Burnsville Fire was also called to the scene.

Officials emphasized that the investigation is ongoing, and additional details will be released as they become available.

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Raising The Standard

RTS

CONSULTING INC.

RTS CP Fall Protection – 8hr

This eight-hour Fall Protection Competent Person Safety Course will provide an understanding of fall protection with a focus on personal fall protection systems to increase worker safety while working at heights. This training will cover the requirements of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health (HIOSH) and EM 385-1-1.

RTS Traffic Control/Flagger Awareness – 2hr

This 2 hour course will cover material such as identifying the responsibilities of a flagger, describe the proper position for flagging, and identifying the correct procedure for various flagging situations.

Supported Scaffold Awareness – 4hr

This 4-hour course covers the requirements of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health (HIOSH) and EM 385-1-1, regarding safety related to pipe scaffolds including fall protection, electrical hazards, inspections, protective equipment.

For more information please contact Hailey Mesner at hmesner@rtsconsulting.com

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TRAINING SERVICES



Raising the Standard Consulting will raise the standard of EH&S in your organization through the development of new and innovative strategies and programs driven by your own individual needs.

We want to build relationships with our clients to help create lasting change in their organizations. Contact us today to build a safer tomorrow.

With Aloha,

Stanford Brown, B.Sc., CSP, CSHP, CRSP, CHSC, Senior
Consultant, President & CEO