

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

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Job Name _____

Date _____

WORKPLACE VIOLENCE

In recent years, workplace violence has become a serious safety and health concern. Just pick up a newspaper, listen to the radio, or watch the evening news and you are likely to hear about assaults, homicides, and other violent acts in the workplace. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2005 there were 787 assaults and violent acts in the workplace. 564 of those incidents ended in homicide, accounting for 14 percent of all fatal occupational injuries for the year. Violence on the job is an important topic to acknowledge and discuss because violent behavior in the workplace can affect us all.

Incidents of workplace homicide receive lots of attention. Other incidents receive less media attention but happen more frequently like stalking, threats, harassment, bullying, intimidation, and physical or emotional abuse. All of these are cases of workplace violence. Unfortunately, many cases go unreported. Our goal should be to prevent all workplace violence, and to take preventive measures to ensure everyone's safety and well-being on the job. Every employee has a right to enjoy a work environment free from threats, violence, and harassment. Any incident of workplace violence can damage everyone's morale, productivity, and sense of security.

One of the first steps toward preventing workplace violence is respecting others. Behave professionally on the job. Don't joke around or make comments that could be offensive or threatening to another worker. You never know what could be going on in the other person's life, and one rude comment from you could trigger a violent response. Likewise, don't bring your personal and off-the-job problems to work. The best thing to do is to come to work, do your job, and avoid any actions that could result in violence. If you find that you are having problems with someone at work, try to maintain your distance. If things get heated, just walk away. If you can't easily resolve the situation, talk to your supervisor or a superintendent.

If you observe signs of potential workplace violence, report them immediately. You may hear threats, or witness aggressive behavior. Report any disturbing incidents or possible danger signs. Your report could create awareness and could save the lives of your co-workers. Threatening or violent behavior on the job is unacceptable.

SAFETY REMINDER

**There is no place for weapons at work.
Don't bring them in your car or onto the premises.**

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

S.A.F.E. Cards® planned for this week _____

Reviewed MSDS # _____

Subject _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____

These instructions do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations.