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## October 3, 2003 LUNCH MEETING

12 Noon

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# CSSSP

California Society of Safety & Security Professionals

Volume 25

Los Angeles County Chapter

October 2003

## ***October Speaker***

Our guest speaker this month is Mr. Herman Jett Area Manager Cal/OSHA Consultation Service. He will be discussing how Cal/OSHA Consultation service can assist industry from a consultation overview and how they differ from the Compliance Unit.

## ***August Speaker***

Mr. Hal D. Lindsey, Executive Director of Corporate Health & Safety Services, with the Department of Water & Power, City of Los Angeles spoke on Achieving Safety Excellence through Joint Labor Management Participation in a Public Utilities Setting.

## ***Prize Winners***

- Byron Jamerson — Day Planner
- Linda Hunter — The Bourne Identity DVD
- Michael Odom — Radio
- Jamis Bickel — Wireless Home Security Door Alarm
- John O'Toole — Victorian Collection Diary/Address Book
- Cari Elofson — Fresh Hawaiian Chives

## ***New Members***

Donald J. Funkhouser      Lee F. Pfeffer

## ***RSSP Recipients***

Jennifer Keena                      Joe Bustamante

## ***President's Message***

Hello fellow members,

Last meeting I had the opportunity of presenting three awards on behalf of our membership. The first award presented was the "Past Presidents Award 2002-2003" to Peter Gin. Peter, on behalf of the membership, thank you for a job well done. The second award presented was the "Safety & Security Professional Of The Year 2002-2003" to John O'Toole. John, the award is well deserved, and thank you for your support. The third award presented was the "Joseph M. Kaplan Award Distinguished Achievement In Safety And Security" to John O'Toole. Joseph M. Kaplan was in attendance to present the award to John O'Toole. Joe has been in the safety business for 57 years and kept those in attendance laughing during his presentation. John, another award well deserved.

On another note, our chapter has received notification from the IRS that we now have a status of 7-C-6 Tax Exempt Organization. What this means is that the chapter can now apply for all types of grants, and receive donations, etc. This new status also allows the chapter the opportunity to offer seminars to our members at no charge via the Chapter Training Institute. An example of training would be to provide seminars for Associate Risk Manager (ARM) Exam. Several members have requested these seminars.

The chapter is always in need of donations for the raffle drawing, as well as corporate sponsorships. All proceeds go to our scholarship fund. The donations are now a full IRS deduction for the donor.

Upon review of our membership roster, I noticed that there are members who still haven't paid their dues. It would be appreciated that the dues be paid as quickly as possible. If you're not sure, I'll be glad to look it up for you.

Be Safe and I'll see you our next meeting.

Fred Garcia, Chapter President

## ***CSU, Dominguez Hills***

The new class schedule for the upcoming quarter is posted on our website. Please visit the website and find out more about the classes, cost and location of the classes. Our website is: [www.csssp.com](http://www.csssp.com).

### ***Joshua Casey***

Joshua Casey – one of our Corporate Sponsors has the following courses available. Call (714) 245 – 9440 for additional information, registration and pricing information.

Classes are available for on-site training. These include Environmental Health & Safety Topics, Human Resources Topics, and Professional Development Topics.

### ***Safety Dynamics Group***

Safety Dynamics Group (formerly COMCO Safety) is a full-service occupational safety and health consulting and training firm with over 23 years experience in the field of OSHA regulatory compliance. Our programs include, HAZWOPER (CSTI), CPR/FA, Forklift, Confined Space, Site Safety Audits, Written Programs and Compliance Consultation. Call (562) 981-5335 or visit them at:

[www.safetydynamicsgroup.com](http://www.safetydynamicsgroup.com)

### ***Los Angeles Safety Council***

The Los Angeles Safety Council offers a variety of safety related courses during the year. Call (213) 385 – 6461 for further details on registering for classes.

### ***Corporate Membership***

To be a Corporate member, your Company can be a sponsor to the scholarship fund for a minimum \$50.00 donation. Contact Carleton Cronin, Associate Director of CSSSP Training Institute at (323) 258 – 2771.

## **Workers' Comp Committee Stalled – True Reform Slipping Away**

SACRAMENTO - With each passing minute, it looks less likely that comprehensive workers' comp reform will pass this legislative session. After a frenzied morning, the committee members seemed no closer to reaching a deal than they did last week.

With language still not available by 1 p.m. today, Insurance Commissioner Garamendi spent the early afternoon working the conference committee members in their offices. Commissioner Garamendi met with, among others, Assemblyman Juan Vargas, D-Chula Vista, Sen. Richard Alarcon, D-San Fernando Valley, and Sen. Chuck Poochigian, R-Fresno, trying to negotiate language that would achieve his savings goals. Garamendi told the Executive that a deal had yet to be reached, "but the day was not done," adding that the goal was to have language available by tomorrow morning. A conference committee report needs to be in print for at least two days before it can be voted on, but the committee can waive the rules to get more time. The legislative session ends September 12.

**Registration is now Open** for the 2003 National Ergonomics Conference and Exposition (NECE), December 8-11 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, NV. This year's NECE features more educational opportunities than ever before to help your company increase productivity, safety and profitability through ergonomics.

Learn how to improve productivity, reduce workplace injuries and grow the bottom line.

## **ASSE urges companies to review emergency plans**

State-wide blackouts can be a living nightmare or the most fun you've ever had in - the dark. Where were you when the lights went out recently in the US and Canada?

If you were a parent of a severely handicapped child who needed electricity to survive, you were in panic. If you were about to do a job you hated and the boss sent everyone home until further notice, you were rejoicing the time off.

But for others, the blackout was serious business that resulted in millions of dollars in lost productivity. It also caused countless safety hazards for employees. That's why both governments in the US and Canada have formed a task force to identify the cause in order to prevent future power outages.

In the meantime, the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) is encouraging companies to review their emergency plans to keep their employees safe during crises. ASSE says employers should be communicating with all workers regarding occupational safety, security, health and environmental procedures in case something goes wrong.

"An emergency is not a time to plan, it is a time to react," the society says. It notes that companies must look at possible risks and hazards, and develop a plan of action to ensure the safety of their employees.

For example, the US Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) say appropriate exits, alarms, emergency lighting, communications and sprinkler systems are critical for employee safety in high-rise buildings. When designing and maintaining exits, it is essential to ensure that all routes leading to the exits are accessible and free from obstructions.

Imagine the chaos and potential tragedy that a blocked exit could create. Besides losing a valued employee during a real evacuation incident, you could also be looking at a crippling lawsuit.

State and local building code officials can help companies ensure their building's safety system is adequate. Employees in high-rise buildings are given the following tips by OSHA:

- Be familiar with your company's evacuation plan.
- Know the routes to two alternate exits from your work area.
- Recognize the sound/signaling method of different emergency alarms.
- Know whom to contact in a crisis.
- Memorize or practice escaping your work area in the dark.
- Know where the emergency alarms are located.
- Report any damaged or malfunctioning safety systems in your workplace.

The US Department of Homeland Security ([www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)) recommends that people have emergency preparedness kits at home for blackouts and other crises.

Kits should include flashlights, a battery-powered radio, first aid supplies, extra batteries and three days' worth of non-perishable food and water.

Ironically, millions of Americans experienced the same feelings and frustrations that war-torn Iraqi residents have felt during months without electricity. In order to beat the heat, some Iraqis sleep on their roofs and buy lots of ice. Others spend what little money they have on electric generators. Some even protest in the streets to pressure authorities to end the blackouts.