

Linda Hunter, RSSP, FIAE  
President/Programs  
Zee Medical  
714-847-8852 ext.234  
[lhsafenet@aol.com](mailto:lhsafenet@aol.com)

Byron Jamerson, RSSP, FIAE  
President Elect/Webmaster  
562-602-2622  
[jammo70@hotmail.com](mailto:jammo70@hotmail.com)

Jeffrey L. Malek, JD, RSSP  
Vice President/Government Affairs  
Malek & Malek  
310-600-7861  
[jmalek@maleklaw.com](mailto:jmalek@maleklaw.com)

Joann Blayney, RSSP  
Secretary/Greeter  
Safety Dynamics Group  
562-981-5335  
[joannb8041@aol.com](mailto:joannb8041@aol.com)

John A. O'Toole, RSSP, FIAE  
Treasurer/Membership  
General Safety Services  
323-258-2771  
[otoole47@adelphia.net](mailto:otoole47@adelphia.net)

Crist Wagner, RSSP  
Placement Chairman  
Keystone Law & Justice  
714-539-3496  
[omecrist@aol.com](mailto:omecrist@aol.com)



## October 1, 2004 Lunch Meeting 12 Noon

Crystal Park Casino & Hotel  
123 E. Artesia Blvd. Compton, CA 90220  
Hotel Phone: (800) 717 – 1000  
Confirmation w/John O'Toole  
At (323) 258 – 2771

91 Freeway to Alameda Avenue exit

Frederick D. Garcia, RSSP, FIAE  
Past President  
The Walt Disney Company  
818-754-4021  
[fred.d.garcia@disney.com](mailto:fred.d.garcia@disney.com)

Peter Gin, RSSP, FIAE  
Newsletter  
Lockton Insurance Brokers  
213-689-4203  
[petergin@earthlink.net](mailto:petergin@earthlink.net)

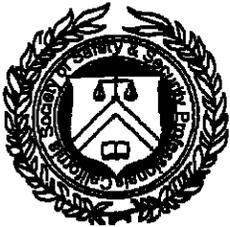
Vincent J. Takas, RSSP, FIAE  
Nominations/Awards  
The Walt Disney Company  
818-553-4318  
[vincent.j.takas@disney.com](mailto:vincent.j.takas@disney.com)

Charles A. Merriam, RSSP  
Sgt. At Arms  
Reaching Higher Risk Management  
909-738-0651

Rosemary Domino, RSSP  
Corporate Memberships  
D/K Environmental  
714-638-1237  
[rdomino@dkenv.com](mailto:rdomino@dkenv.com)

Open  
Student Membership

Carl Cronin, RSSP, FIAE  
CSSSP Training Institute  
310-652-2921  
[f.cronin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:f.cronin@sbcglobal.net)



**CSSSP – Los Angeles Chapter**  
2272 Colorado Blvd. Ste. 1368  
Los Angeles, CA 90041  
(323) 258 – 2771  
[www.csssp.com](http://www.csssp.com)



# CSSSP

## California Society of Safety & Security Professionals Los Angeles County Chapter

Volume 31

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### *October Speaker*

Joy Janes is Vice President and Regional Manager for Gateway Business Bank in Lakewood. Joy joined the bank in January of 2002 after enjoying careers in insurance, fundraising and events planning.

Identity theft is the fastest growing crime in the US. Besides dumpster diving, mail theft and lifting wallets, criminals are stealing information by overhearing conversations made on cell phones, from faxes and emails, by hacking into computer databases, by paying others to steal records from their workplace, from telephone and email scams, and even from careless online shopping and banking.

This presentation by will raise your awareness of how identity thieves get your information and what you can do to protect yourself. Joy will tell you what steps to take to minimize the damage if you become a victim. The presentation includes a handout with resource information for prevention and for victims.

### *August Speaker*

Mr. Paul Simmonds is Director of Corporate Sales for Magna Carda, Inc., headquartered in Newport Beach, California.

Mr. Simmonds will discuss Magna Carda's turnkey solutions that address these concerns.

### *New Members*

Adrienne Lynn Norquist

### *Calling all Writers*

All members of CSSSP are encouraged to submit articles for inclusion in the upcoming newsletters. Please forward any articles of interest to the editor and it will be included in future newsletters.

### *President's Message*

Hello fellow members,

It gives me great pleasure to announce the Joseph M. Kaplan Scholarship Awards for \$1,000.00 each to be awarded to Violeta E. Pisani, Christopher S. Yates & Joann Blayney. Mr. Kaplan will be presenting these awards at our meeting on Friday, October 1. Congratulations Violeta, Christopher and Joann.

As of 2001, September no longer signifies children returning to school and the end of summer but is a month that reminds Americans of the needless tragedy which occurred on September 11. This catastrophic event has cost many lives, changed our way of life from organized to complicated, and continuously poses a national threat to the freedom within the United States and other countries.

Now, more than ever, is the time for safety & security professionals to act as role models and be prepared for an emergency. We should all be trained in first aid & CPR procedures and have an effective emergency response plan not only at work but also for our homes.

Our leadership skills should emphasize that any suspicious situation before September 11, that was once considered extremely far fetched, needs to be taken very seriously. We should be asking ourselves, am I prepared?

At our next meeting, I will be strongly suggesting that we all start working together within our own organization and urge everyone to take the time and prepare an effective emergency response plan.

See you at the meeting.

Linda Hunter

### *Safety Trivia*

Does OSHA have any regulations that require employers to protect workers from heat stress?

## Disaster recovery: Tips for rebuilding

Government emergency management agencies are urging extreme caution when hiring contractors to repair or rebuild property damaged by recent tornadoes and flooding. The tips they offer can help anyone who is rebuilding after severe weather property damage.

- Try not to rush into starting repair work.
- Get estimates from more than one licensed, bonded, reputable contractor. Call your local Better Business Bureau to check out a contractor.
- Find out what neighbors are paying for similar work.
- Be wary of contractors who claim: "I can get to you right away and do it cheap."
- Write down the license plate number and driver's license number of anyone offering services.
- Ask to see proof of the necessary contractor's licenses and building permits.
- Make certain the contractor shows you a certificate of insurance covering liability and workers' compensation. Otherwise, you could be sued if a worker is injured while working on your property.
- Get a contract in writing. It should cover what work is to be done, when the work will start, cost and payment schedules, and the quality of materials to be used.
- Make sure repairs are done according to local building codes.
- Be careful that your signature on a contractor's bid is not an authorization to begin work.
- Don't pay more than 20 percent down for the contractor to begin work. Then, pay periodically, according to the progress of the work.
- If the contractor insists on payment for materials up front, then go with him or her to buy the materials or pay the supplier yourself.
- Have the contractor sign a release of lien when the work is done and paid for; this will prevent the contractor from making legal claims against your property in the event of a dispute later.
- Don't make final payment until the job is finished and you are satisfied with it.
- Make sure all work that requires city or county inspection is officially approved in writing before making final payment to the contractor. You may even want a structural engineer to double-check major repairs before you make a final payment.
- Don't sign over an insurance settlement check to the contractor.

## OSHA Issues Final Rule on Respiratory Protection *Revised Standard Adds A New Fit-Testing Protocol*

**WASHINGTON** -- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration today announced an addition to the approved fit-testing protocol in its Respiratory Protection Standard. The revision adds a new quantitative fit-testing procedure to assist workers and employers in the proper fit and selection of respirators.

"Selecting the proper respirator is a vital step in protecting a user against potential over-exposures and adverse health effects," said OSHA Administrator John Henshaw. "The additional fit-testing protocol will help employers and employees to select the right respirator based on the conditions in their workplaces."

The new fit-testing protocol, referred to as the Controlled Negative Pressure (CNP) REDON protocol, requires three different test exercises followed by two redonnings of the respirator. The three test exercises, listed in order of administration, are normal breathing, bending over, and head shaking.

The procedures for administering the new CNP REDON protocol, with three test exercises and the two respirator donnings to an employee, and for measuring respirator leakage during each test, are summarized below:

- ***Facing forward.*** In a normal standing position, without talking, breathe normally for 30 seconds; then, while facing forward, hold breath for 10 seconds during sampling.
- ***Bending over.*** Bend at waist for 30 seconds and hold breath for 10 seconds during sampling.
- ***Head shaking.*** Shake head back and forth vigorously several times while shouting for approximately three seconds and, while facing forward, hold breath for 10 seconds during sampling.
- ***First redonning.*** Remove respirator, loosen all face-piece straps, and then redon the respirator mask; after redonning the mask, face forward and hold breath for 10 seconds during sampling.
- ***Second redonning.*** Remove respirator, loosen all face piece straps, and then redon the respirator mask again; after redonning the mask, face forward and hold breath for 10 seconds during sampling.

## OSHA Report Top 10 Violations

Scaffolding leads the list of OSHA's Top 10 Violations. The data released represent numbers collected through June 30, 2004. The full-year data will be released in December. Here are the top 10 violations so far:

1. **Scaffolding**—General Requirements with 6,587 violations
2. **Hazard Communication** with 5,382 violations
3. **Fall Protection**—General Requirements with 4,091 violations
4. **Lockout/Tagout** with 3,312 violations
5. **Respiratory Protection** with 3,033 violations
6. **Electrical**—Wiring Methods, Components, and Equipment for General Use with 2,465 violations
7. **Machine Guarding**—General Requirements with 2,441 violations
8. **Powered Industrial Trucks** with 2,298 violations
9. **Mechanical Power Transmission Apparatus** with 1,777 violations
10. **Electrical**—General Requirements with 1,770 violations.

The good news, as reported, was that there were no major increases in violations between 2003 and 2004. However, the bad news is that there were also no major decreases in violations.

So what does OSHA consider the biggest "take-aways" from this data?

- Compliance is cheaper than fines
- Voluntary Protection Programs demonstrate compliance
- Worker Safety equals worker productivity
- Safety is good business practice.

## Nursing Home Settles OSHA Citation over Ergo Issues

In a settlement of a citation issued by OSHA, a nursing home in Alabama has agreed to adopt measures to reduce back and shoulder injuries for employees who lift nursing-home residents at the company's Jacksonville, Alabama, facility.

The company, Jacksonville Health and Rehabilitation, L.L.C., agreed to ensure the appropriate use of mechanical lift-assist devices and update employee-training programs.

During an inspection, the agency says it found that the facility's injury and illness records included a number of musculoskeletal injuries sustained by nursing assistants that resulted in lost work time and restricted work duty.

"This agreement reflects the company's commitment to eliminate serious musculoskeletal injuries in a cooperative manner," says Roberto Sanchez, OSHA's area director in Birmingham. "We look forward to working with Jacksonville Health and Rehabilitation to eliminate injuries as the company takes proactive steps to eliminate hazards and better protect its employees."

## Don't let cross-training bypass safety

Cross training of employees is one way that businesses can do more with less. In smaller operations, employees can be expected to become generalists from their first day on the job. However, employers need to make sure that safety training isn't left out of the cross-training culture.

Safety managers and supervisors must be responsible for reviewing job safety analyses to determine necessary safety training for those employees doing the work.

Supervisors who make decisions about cross training need to be made aware of any additional safety training that might be needed. Before training an employee on a different task, they must be able to check to make sure that all safety issues have been addressed and the proper safety training has been given.

The safety trainer has to be aware that more requests for training records may be made, and that reviewing the training records presents opportunities to ensure that employees have been adequately trained. Good record keeping can also help management understand if employees are getting all of the safety training that might be needed or required.

## Safety Trivia Answer

There is currently no specific federal OSHA standard for heat stress. Even though OSHA does not have a standard that requires a temperature extreme program, the General Duty Clause of the OSH Act has been used as a means of enforcement against employers whose employees were subject to hot or cold environments with inadequate or no protection provided.