



MEDIA RELEASE

*Tennessee Department of Labor
& Workforce Development*

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CONTACT: JEFF HENTSCHEL
(615) 741-2257

TENNESSEE OSHA CO-SPONSORS 3RD ANNUAL SAFETY FEST TN IN OAK RIDGE *MORE THAN 40 FREE SAFETY AND HEALTH TRAINING CLASSES AND SEMINARS AVAILABLE*

NASHVILLE – Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Administration (TOSHA) has teamed up with the Oak Ridge Business Safety Partnership (ORBSP) along with dozens of other organizations to host the 3rd Annual Safety Fest TN. This year's fest will be held in Oak Ridge from Monday, September 8, through Friday, September 12, and will feature experts leading more than 40 free classes and seminars, and a safety expo with 30 exhibitors from various companies in the safety and health field.

"Offering free safety seminars and educating safety and health professionals is an effective way to try to reduce workplace injury and illness rates," said Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development Commissioner Burns Phillips. "We are thankful for the opportunity to have TOSHA be involved with Safety Fest TN and believe it's a great opportunity to connect with people in various industries throughout the state."

"We are thrilled to have TOSHA's support and participation," said Jenny Freeman, one of ORBSP's leaders. "TOSHA has been instrumental across the board in this year's event. We are pleased to have both TOSHA Administrator Steve Hawkins and TOSHA Assistant Administrator James Flanagan speaking at this year's Safety Fest TN."

The free classes and seminars are designed to appeal to a variety of safety and health professionals, managers, and workers. Attendees come from large and small businesses, non-profits and labor unions, and federal, state, and local government agencies. Some of the classes offered include Fire Safety, Evacuating and Emergency Planning, Workplace Violence, and the OSHA General Industry 10-Hour Course.

A safety expo will take place on September 8th and 9th and will feature more than 30 organizations providing a range of equipment and services. The exhibiting organizations will feature information on the latest innovations, products, and services focusing on a safe and healthful workplace.

"TOSHA is excited to be a part of Safety Fest TN. Not only does it provide excellent resources for safety and health professionals, but it also provides them at no charge," said Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Administrator Steve Hawkins. "Since the event is free, we hope this gives everyone interested in learning more about safety and health the option to attend."

Bruce Wilkinson will be this year's keynote speaker. Wilkinson is a leadership/communication/culture implementation specialist, professional motivational keynote speaker, trainer, and consultant, who reinforces personalized messages with humor, passion, enthusiasm, and authenticity.

The majority of the classes and seminars will be headquartered at the New Hope Center in Oak Ridge (602 Scarboro Road), but they are also being offered at four other locations in the region.

For more information on Safety Fest TN and for registration information please visit www.safetyfesttn.org. Spots are filling up quickly, so register today to attend!