



CISCO

CONSTRUCTION NEWS BRIEFS

Construction Industry Service Corporation - www.cisco.org - 630.472.9411 - Dan Allen, Executive Director

CONTRACTOR ASSOCIATIONS WORK TO OVERTURN WORKERS COMPENSATION EMERGENCY RULE

As CISCO reported to you last week, the Joint Commission on Administrative Rules (JCAR) issued an emergency rule declaring that any employee in an “essential industry” that contracts COVID-19 will be rebuttably presumed to have contracted the virus at work. This includes construction workers.

In short, the Rule shifts the burden of proof from the employee to the employer, requiring the employer to present evidence that the employee did not contract the virus at work.

Contractor associations and their affiliated lobbying organizations have voiced concerns over this decision and have been contacting legislators who comprise the JCAR to reconsider their decision.

While the members of JCAR have the ability to vote to object or suspend this emergency they postponed their April meeting late last Friday evening.

The Illinois Construction Industry Committee (ICIC) is planning to participate in an amicus brief with other business organizations as part of an overall effort to pursue injunctive relief. The organization says that it will assess the initial suit after it is filed and discuss whether there will be a single amicus brief, or whether it makes sense to do something specific from the construction industry.

CISCO, which is a labor-management organization that represents both union contractors and union building trades employees, remains neutral on this emergency rule, but will continue to report developments on this issue.

DOWNERS GROVE HS DISTRICT 99 DEVELOPS FACE SHIELDS

A team of District 99 teachers developed a prototype for a face shield and is creating the shields by using 3D printers at both South High and North High.



Nurses and hospital staff at Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove express their gratitude for the face shields.

So far, they have created more than 1,000 face shields and donated the shields to Advocate Health Care Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove, Edward-Elmhurst Hospital, Christ Hospital, Hinsdale Hospital Labor/Delivery, Loyola University Medical Center, among many other hospitals and clinics, to protect against COVID-19.

The 3D printers can generate over 175 face shields per day, and over 2,000 orders have been placed by local medical workers in need of this protection. The team -- including staff, students, and family members -- is working seven days a week on all 12 3D printers at both schools to fulfill the orders.

IDOL UNVEILS PREVAILING WAGE CERTIFIED PAYROLL PORTAL

The Illinois Department of Labor has posted a prevailing wage certified payroll portal. Contractors are invited to participate in webinar training sessions on using the new portal and filling out the information the department needs.



The subject matter and presentation for each session will be the same, so you need to only attend one. There are two sessions remaining: Thursday, April 23, at 11:00 am, & Monday, April 27, at 10:00 am.

To register for the new IDOL portal or to register for one of the two remaining sessions, please contact IDOL Deputy Director Jason Keller via email - jason.keller@illinois.gov.

UNION BUSINESS MANAGERS AND AGENTS FORM SAFETY TEAMS

Union Business Agents are traveling to job sites to ensure that work crews are practicing social distancing (especially on high-rise elevators), using hand sanitizing products, wearing masks and other precautions vital to keeping workers safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Laborers' Local 225 workers safe distance during a lunch break.

Managers and Agents developed safety committees and then form teams to physically survey/monitor job sites to do inspections to ensure that precautions were in place.

Collaboration seems to be paying off as minimum issues have occurred and are being addressed right away.