

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ANNUAL NEVADA HISPANIC SAFETY MONTH IN APRIL TO ADDRESS CONSTRUCTION SAFETY**

*Nevada's Safety Consultation and Training Section has announced plans for a month-long event to promote Hispanic safety in the workplace.*

**Reno, Nev.** – With the recent adoption of Assembly Bill 148 by the Nevada State Legislature that requires employers to provide OSHA safety training for construction workers and supervisors, the sixth annual Hispanic Safety Month in April will continue to address the importance of safety for Nevada construction workers. The Safety Consultation and Training Section (SCATS) of the State of Nevada's Division of Industrial Relations has once again designated April as Hispanic Safety Month to highlight and support the well-being of Nevada's Hispanic workforce.

As part of Assembly Bill 148, construction employers are required to provide OSHA 10-hour training for construction workers and OSHA 30-hour training for supervisors, or an OSHA 10/30-hour alternative developed by the employer and approved by the safety committee of the employer as detailed in AB 148. Starting in 2011, the 10/30-hour alternative will not be an option.

Nationally, the Hispanic workforce experiences a high number of injuries and fatalities on the job. The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics reported 908 fatal work injuries involving Hispanic or Latino workers in 2007 (the last complete year of data), the highest number of fatalities after the Caucasian workforce.

Nevada is not immune to these statistics. In 2007, the last complete year of data, 18 percent of fatal occupational injuries and 29 percent on non-fatal injuries in Nevada involved employees of Hispanic/Latino origin. This number may be understated as Hispanic workers' injuries are not often reported due to citizenship issues.

As part of Hispanic Safety Month, SCATS will also be sending its Spanish trainer, Vicky Yilalis, to Federal OSHA's National Action Summit for Latino Worker Health and Safety in Houston, Texas, on April 14 and 15. The summit is designed to develop a working agenda to prevent injury and death among Latino workers as it will showcase innovative partnerships, demonstrate successful education and training strategies, and develop effective enforcement and communication strategies.

Free bilingual classes on safety and health in the workplace will also be offered in Reno, Las Vegas and Elko during Hispanic Safety Month, and periodically throughout the year, to educate Nevada's Hispanic employees about how to remain safe in the workplace. As

part of Hispanic Safety Month, SCATS has partnered with Interstate Plumbing, the Fremont Hotel and Casino and Sam's Town Hotel and Casino all in Las Vegas, Nev., as well as Harrah's Hotel and Casino in Reno and Lake Tahoe. Each Hispanic Safety Month partner will host training events for SCATS. The April class schedule for bilingual classes is as follows:

**Southern Nevada classes:**

**April 5 and 6, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

OSHA 10-Hour Construction Course

SCATS, 1301 North Green Valley Parkway, Las Vegas, Nev.

Note: must attend both days to receive an OSHA card.

**April 7, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.**

Fall Protection Regulatory Review

Interstate Plumbing, 7201 West Post, Las Vegas, Nev.

**April 8, Session 1 - 9 a.m. – noon; Session 2 – 1p.m. – 4 p.m.**

Janitor, Custodian, and Housekeeper Hazard Awareness

Fremont Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nev.

**April 12, Session 1: 9 a.m. – noon; Session 2: 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.**

Janitor, Custodian, and Housekeeper Hazard Awareness

Fremont Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nev.

**April 26-30, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

OSHA 30-Hour Construction Course

Sam's Town Hotel, Las Vegas, Nev.

Note: must attend all five days to receive an OSHA card.

**Northern Nevada classes:**

**April 19, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

Janitor, Custodian, and Housekeeper Hazard Awareness

Harrah's Hotel and Casino, Reno, Nev.

**April 20 and 21, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

OSHA 10-Hour Construction Course

SCATS, 4600 Kietzke Lane, Suite E-144, Reno, Nev.

Note: must attend both days to receive an OSHA card.

**April 22, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Janitor, Custodian, and Housekeeper Hazard Awareness

Harrah's Hotel and Casino, Lake Tahoe, Nev.

**Elko classes:**

**March 31 and April 1, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

OSHA 10-Hour Construction Course

Great Basin College, 1500 College Parkway, Elko, Nev.

Note: Must attend both days to receive an OSHA card.

Descriptions of each class as well as other health and safety class listings are available on the SCATS website at <http://4safenv.state.nv.us>.

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