



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: April 25, 2012

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Tooele County Receives Safety Award

Tooele County Commissioners recently learned the County is a recipient of the 2012 Charles A. Cain Award for Workplace Safety. The award comes from the Workers Compensation Fund.

WCF President and CEO Ray Pickup wrote in a letter to the county, "Your company was nominated because of its outstanding safety practices and is one of only 14 companies to receive an award this year."

The County believes its Risk Assessment Program and the Accident Review Board are two reasons for being recognized with this award.

The Risk Assessment Program (RAP) encourages each department in the County to hold weekly safety training meetings on various subjects. The topics range from defensive driving and safe lifting practices to earthquake preparedness and substance abuse prevention. It also incorporates a hazard reporting program for employees.

The RAP assists with disciplinary actions for unsafe employees. The County can see that any offenders are completing the required safety trainings. But the program also rewards good behavior up front. There are incentives such as pizza lunches and gift cards to local retailers for departments that have at least 70% attendance at 70% of the trainings.

The Accident Review Board reviews past liability claims and workers compensation claims. Each supervisor must explain what happened, any corrective actions involving the employee, and preventative actions taken. The Board also looks for trends in accidents or claims that can be remedied.

Tooele County also has a Safety Committee consisting of one member from each department. At regular meetings, the Committee discusses any safety concerns that anyone might have.

The County also maintains and issues to each employee a Safety Guidebook and an Emergency Handbook. The County recently updated the Emergency Handbook and tested and practiced procedures through participation in the Utah ShakeOut drill.

The County will receive the award at a recipients' luncheon at the Little America Hotel in Salt Lake City on Tuesday, June 5, 2012 at noon.

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