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Public Sector Safety Report, Fall 2002

Maine Department of Labor

Maine Public Sector Enforcement

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Public Sector SAFETY REPORT

Public Sector enforcement activity May through September 2002

- \$163,540.00 - total adjusted penalties
- Most frequent violations
 - **T.26 Ch.28 2104 3** (Maine firefighter law) Fire departments did not establish a program of maintenance and repair to ensure that self-contained breathing apparatus retains its original effectiveness as recommended by the manufacturer.
 - **T.26 Ch.28 2102 2** (Maine firefighter law) Fire departments did not maintain complete records of individual training for each firefighter.
 - **T.26 Ch.28 2105 1** (Maine firefighter law) Self-contained breathing apparatus - Fire departments did not perform a complete inspection of all components, air supply and warning devices after each use and:
 - A. For volunteer associations and on-call fire departments, every month; and
 - B. For full-time fire departments, every week
 - **29CFR1910.134(f)(2)** Employers did not ensure that employees using tight-fitting facepiece respirators are fit tested prior to initial use of the respirator, whenever a different respirator facepiece (size, style, model or make) is used and at least annually thereafter.
 - **29CFR1910.120(q)(6)(i)** First responders for hazardous materials incidents were not trained annually at an awareness level.

Board of Occupational Safety and Health seeks employee member

The Board of Occupational Safety & Health is looking for candidates for the vacant *County Employee* seat. Candidates must:

- have a strong desire to ensure all public employees work in safe and healthy environments,
- be an employee of a Maine county, and
- not be a manager, supervisor, or employer.

Interested employees are invited to send a letter of intent and a résumé to: Board of Occupational Safety & Health, c/o Workplace Safety & Health Division, 45 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0045. For more information, please call Dawn McKenney at (207) 624-6498.

Fatalities and hospitalizations must be reported

The Maine Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards, has jurisdiction and responsibility to investigate injuries and fatalities among public sector employees.

The Bureau of Labor Standards **must** be notified if there is a fatality or an incident that causes one or more public sector employees to be admitted to a medical facility overnight. It is the employer's responsibility to notify the Bureau.

Weekdays - 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 1-877-SAFE-345 (1 877-723-3345)
Nonbusiness Hours (pager) (207) 750-1852

Law enforcement agencies investigating such incidents are requested to notify the Bureau.

Regulations and compliance assistance for Maine public sector workplaces can be found on the internet at <http://www.state.me.us/labor/bls/newpsw.htm>

The Maine Department of Labor provides equal opportunity in employment and programs. Auxiliary aids and services provided upon request.

Return Service Requested

Public Sector

S A F E T Y R E P O R T

Fall 2002

Public Sector

S A F E T Y R E P O R T

The Public Sector Safety Report is issued quarterly to inform public sector employers and employees of safety and health enforcement issues. Published by the Maine Department of Labor, the compliance and enforcement agency for occupational safety and health regulations for public sector workplaces in Maine.

Please post this Report to share the information with employees.

To be added to the mailing list, or to make address corrections, send information to *Public Sector Safety Report*, MDOL, 45 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0045, fax to (207) 624-6449 or e-mail at webmaster.bls@state.me.us TTY 1-800-794-1110.