

# OR-OSHA Enforcement Activity for Calendar Years 2004-2008

| Year of Inspection | INSPECTIONS |        |       |                   |                 | VIOLATIONS & PENALTIES ASSESSED |             |        |            |         |            |       |            | Citations Issued |
|--------------------|-------------|--------|-------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|-------------|--------|------------|---------|------------|-------|------------|------------------|
|                    | Safety      | Health | Total | Employers Covered | % In Compliance | Serious                         |             | Repeat |            | Willful |            | Other |            |                  |
|                    |             |        |       |                   |                 | No.                             | \$ Penalty  | No.    | \$ Penalty | No.     | \$ Penalty | No.   | \$ Penalty |                  |
| 2000               | 4,399       | 680    | 5,386 | 166,158           | 24.3            | 4,080                           | \$1,498,274 | 244    | \$460,450  | 4       | \$130,000  | 6,464 | \$175,110  | 3,933            |
| 2001               | 4,823       | 848    | 5,671 | 199,891           | 24.8            | 4,757                           | \$1,540,605 | 258    | \$396,630  | 2       | \$45,000   | 8,440 | \$288,845  | 4,093            |
| 2002               | 4,730       | 793    | 5,523 | 199,160           | 23.9            | 4,312                           | \$1,522,055 | 203    | \$303,390  | 2       | \$100,000  | 7,292 | \$252,785  | 4,034            |
| 2003               | 4,460       | 821    | 5,281 | 210,171           | 23.0            | 4,222                           | \$1,596,322 | 219    | \$475,130  | 0       | \$0        | 7,177 | \$251,025  | 3,893            |
| 2004               | 4,288       | 816    | 5,104 | 228,067           | 24.9            | 4,181                           | \$1,477,010 | 213    | \$383,555  | 2       | \$120,000  | 7,142 | \$192,815  | 3,832            |
| 2005               | 4,091       | 738    | 4,829 | 268,095           | 22.2            | 4,334                           | \$1,386,025 | 231    | \$458,900  | 2       | \$140,000  | 6,205 | \$178,165  | 3,755            |
| 2006               | 4,090       | 900    | 4,990 | 370,162           | 26.8            | 4,046                           | \$1,393,915 | 261    | \$756,550  | 0       | 0          | 5,657 | \$228,375  | 3,653            |
| 2007               | 4,163       | 898    | 5,061 | 239,951           | 24.9            | 4,163                           | \$1,517,850 | 274    | \$661,100  | 2       | \$30,000   | 5,693 | \$233,725  | 3,801            |
| 2008               | 4,329       | 953    | 5,282 | 207,718           | 24.1            | 4,622                           | \$1,669,908 | 224    | \$486,975  | 2       | \$50,000   | 5,701 | \$200,845  | 4,010            |

1) Each set of grouped violations was counted as one violation. 2) All penalties associated with group violations were included. 3) Penalties shown are initial penalties assessed and do not reflect reductions made after the original citation was issued. 4) Data are tallied by open date of inspection. Data will change as updated. 5) Inspection and citation counts do not include orders to correct done prior to Oct. 1, 2002.

Source: Research and Analysis Section, OR-OSHA

## U.S. Labor Department under Bush failed to protect workers

WASHINGTON, D.C. (PAI) — A report by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Inspector General (OIG) reveals that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) under the Bush Administration systematically failed to perform follow-up inspections for employers who put workers in serious danger. That failure may have led to workers being killed.

"With 5,680 workers dying on the job each year, this report shows just how callous the Bush Administration was when it came to protecting workers," the AFL-CIO stated.

According to the report, OSHA

failed to, or was deficient in, following up on 97 percent of the cases in its Enhanced Enforcement Program, which, ironically, was designed to step up enforcement against serious violators. The OIG found that at 45 worksites where OSHA oversight was deficient, 58 workers subsequently were killed by job hazards.

Last year, OSHA changed the rules for which firms made the Enhanced Enforcement Program list, cutting the number from 719 in fiscal year 2007 to 475 in fiscal year 2008.

AFL-CIO President John Sweeney said the findings confirmed what the la-

bor federation has said all along about Bush's OSHA: "This is an indictment of the Bush Administration's unwillingness to protect and safeguard America's working men and women."

Change To Win Health and Safety Director Eric Frumin agreed, but also pointed out the Inspector General cited

companies' failure to protect their own workers, with or without OSHA enforcement. Frumin called on Congress to give the agency more money, more inspectors — and more power against violators.

"The report identifies huge corporations like WalMart and Waste Manage-

ment, Inc., which should have been designated" for the EEP. "These companies ... and others must be finally held accountable for their cold-hearted disregard of their workers' safety and health," Frumin said.

The labor secretary in the eight-year Bush Administration was Elaine Chao.

## General Sheet Metal earns safety recognition status

General Sheet Metal was certified April 2 into the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) by the Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Acceptance into SHARP is a public acknowledgment by Oregon-OSHA that a model safety and health program exists and that safety is a company value. Participation in SHARP doesn't eliminate regulatory enforcement, although participants do receive a limited exemption from programmed inspections.

General Sheet Metal is signatory with Sheet Metal Workers Local 16. Depending on workload, the company employs between 40 and 80 people.

Local 16 President Ric Olander recently went to work there to coordinate its architectural sheet metal department. Prior to that, Olander was assistant co-

ordinator at the union's HVAC & Metals Institute in Northeast Portland.

General Sheet Metal is a Clackamas-based, 77-year-old minority-owned company that fabricates and installs sheet metal ductwork, architectural metal, and specialty items for industrial and commercial customers in the Pacific Northwest.

"Every employee is committed to making sure their co-workers make it home safely to their families at the end of each day," said company president Carol Duncan.

Oregon employers that have been in business for more than one year are eligible to apply for SHARP, regardless of size or type of business.

Currently, 64 employer locations in Oregon participate in SHARP, in addition to 84 facilities that have graduated from the program.



James Coon



Raymond Thomas



Cynthia Newton



Kimberly Tucker



Chris Frost

The team at **SWANSON, THOMAS & COON** can help you:

Get Workers' Compensation benefits for on-the-job injuries or illness.

Get Social Security benefits if you can't work.

Recover damages if you are injured by someone's negligence.

Helping injured people for over 25 years.

Workers Compensation

Construction Injuries

Death Claims

Personal Injury/Product Liability

Social Security Disability

Occupational Disease/Mesothelioma

Call us today at **503-228-5222**

*Straight answers. No cost for consultation.*



SWANSON, THOMAS & COON ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
820 S.W. Second Avenue, Suite 200  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
[www.stc-law.com](http://www.stc-law.com)