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Labor Cabinet

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Kentucky Labor Cabinet Joins National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction, June 2-6

Workplace falls kill an average of six Kentuckians a year, injure about 4,000

FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 30, 2014) – Next week, the Kentucky Labor Cabinet will join the National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction, which is designed to raise awareness among employers and workers about the hazards of falls. The stand-down runs from June 2-6, and is a voluntary event for employers to talk directly to employees about protection against falls.

“The stand-down is an opportunity for employers to take some time during the work week to pause and talk about fall protection and prevention,” said Labor Cabinet Secretary Larry Roberts. “Companies should gather employees and discuss topics such as ladder safety, scaffolding safety and roofing work safety.”

Falls are the most common fatal hazard in the construction industry, accounting for nearly half the construction deaths in Kentucky. On average, about six Kentucky workers die each year from workplace falls, and there are about 3,800 non-fatal workplace falls in all industries that result in days away from work.

To learn how to partner with the Labor Cabinet in this stand-down, visit www.labor.ky.gov and click on the 2014 Fall Prevention icon. The page provides details on how to conduct a stand-down, be acknowledged for participation, and access free education and training resources, fact sheets and other outreach materials in English and Spanish.

Companies that are participating in the stand-down are encouraged to click on the “[Stand Up and Be Recognized](#)” icon to register. Some participating partners include the Associated General Contractors of Kentucky; Congleton-Hacker Company; Scott, Murphy & Daniel; Skanska USA; and Walsh Construction.

The Labor Cabinet’s Division of Education and Training will hold training sessions at various stand-down events in Kentucky next week. Some of the sites include Commonwealth Stadium in Lexington on Monday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Metalsa Truck Plant in Elizabethtown on Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Embassy Suites in Louisville on Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. These events are free and open to the public.

The Labor Cabinet is working in conjunction with the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s efforts to raise awareness for fall prevention. Each year in the United States, falls kill more than 200 construction workers and seriously injure 10,000 more.

For information on the national initiative, visit www.osha.gov/stopfalls. For more details on fall prevention, please visit www.stopconstructionfalls.com.

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The Kentucky Labor Cabinet’s primary responsibility is to ensure that divisions and offices falling under the auspices of the Cabinet work within the jurisdiction of Kentucky labor law to ensure equitable and fair treatment of the Commonwealth’s more than 1.9 million wage-earning employees. The Cabinet, according to regulation, has the duties, responsibilities, power, and authority relating to labor, wage and hour issues, occupational safety and health of employees, child labor, apprenticeship, workers’ compensation insurance, and all other matters under the jurisdiction of the Labor Cabinet. For more information, visit www.labor.ky.gov.

