



# SHEAR BULL



## Palm Beach County Roofing & Sheet Metal Contractors Association

Affiliate of FRSA and NRCA

February 2016 Volume 29-13



Walt Millet Altec Roofing receives The Jim Carr Lifetime Achievement Award for a lifetime of honesty, integrity and service to the community

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Dinner Meeting:  
**FBC Energy Code**  
with Mark Zehnal, FRSA  
**Wednesday, February 24**  
**6:00 PM**  
Holiday Inn  
1301 Belvedere Rd (At I-95 Exit 69)  
West Palm, FL 33406

### NEWSLETTER CONTENT

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### 2014 WORK-RELATED INJURY & ILLNESS STATISTICS

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) recently released statistics on work-related injuries and illnesses in 2014. According to the BLS, two key factors are used to measure the severity of these injuries and illnesses:

- **Incidence rate:** The number of cases, per 10,000 full-time employees, of injuries and illnesses that require time away from work.
- **Average days away from work:** The average number of days an employee spends away from work to recover from an injury or illness.

The BLS found that the overall incidence rate of nonfatal occupational injury and illness cases in 2014 was 107.1, down from a rate of 109.4 in 2013. The number of days away from work was approximately the same in both years. Additionally, the BLS detailed the most common workplace injuries and illnesses, as well as the most commonly affected parts of the body.

#### Common Injuries and Illnesses

Sprains, strains and tears were the most common workplace injury in 2014. The incidence rate for these injuries was approximately 38.9 cases per 10,000 full-time employees, which represents a decrease from 2013's rate of 40.2 cases. However, these are still significant injuries; on average, workers with sprains, strains or tears needed 10 days away from work to recover.

The statistics also show that soreness and pain were common injuries, but generally required fewer days away from work.

#### Commonly Affected Parts of the Body

The upper extremities (e.g., hands, shoulders) were most affected by injuries and illnesses in 2014, with an incidence rate of 32. Hands accounted for 40 percent of those cases, the most among upper extremities. However, shoulder injuries and illnesses required an average of 26 days away from work to recover, more than any other part of the body.

#### Musculoskeletal Disorders

The BLS specifically noted that musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) accounted for 32 percent of all workplace-related injuries and illnesses in 2014. Although the incident rate of MSDs was lower than it had been in 2013, these injuries can affect employees in any industry.



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## Message From the President

Our January meeting was a success with over 50 attendees including seven building officials. The officials in attendance were Doug Wise, Palm Beach County, Mike Fox, Palm Beach County, Doug Harvey, West Palm Beach, John Kuntzman, Boynton Beach, Jacek Tomasik, Wellington, Jim Parker, Wellington, and Matt Mills, Wellington. The meeting was very informative with the building officials discussing the operations of each of their offices and how they try to help roofers in processing various forms and inspections. At a recent Board meeting our members discussed difficulties in working in Wellington. It was felt that these issues would be better dealt with in a separate meeting between a committee of our members and those officials. A letter was sent to Wellington requesting a meeting and listing some of the issues to be discussed. Jacek Tomasik, the chief building official, responded that they would be glad to have an open discussion on the issues and would welcome our special committee. We are in the process of scheduling the meeting. Since no member ran for the open Secretary position, under our by-laws, the board has the authority to appoint a Secretary. The appointment of Dennis Medaglia, Regency Roofing was approved unanimously by our board. We welcome Denis as our new Secretary.



We are finalizing the 2016 Calendar of Events with informative and interesting speakers.  
Respectfully Submitted

*George Jacobazzi* President

### CLARIFICATION ON WORK-RELATED RECORD KEEPING EXEMPTION

OSHA requires employers to keep and maintain records of work-related injuries and illnesses. However, if an employee develops an injury or illness while performing a personal task or is injured outside of his or her normal work hours, it can be difficult to determine your OSHA obligations. That's why OSHA recently clarified the requirements necessary for an injury or illness to be exempt from record keeping requirements.

In the clarification, OSHA presented an example in which an employee brought a plow to work, which he intended to loan to a co-worker. After the employee's regular shift ended, he attempted to move the plow to the co-worker's truck. However, in the process, the employee injured his back.

OSHA stated that the injury presented in this example would not be considered work-related, and would therefore be exempt from record keeping regulations. This is because the injury met both of the requirements needed to fall under the personal-task exemption:

- The injury or illness must solely be the result of an employee performing a personal task at the workplace
- The injury or illness must occur outside of an employee's assigned work hours, including during formal and informal break times.

*Rob Foote is the President of Frank H. Furman, Inc. and is a deeply experienced Insurance and Risk Management Advisor to the roofing industry. Rob is an expert in uniquely crafting and managing Insurance and Risk Management programs for 102 roofing professionals.*

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# February 2016

Su	Mo	1	Tu	2	We	3	Th	4	Fr	5	Sa	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20						
	President's Day											
21	22	23	24	25	26	27						
			Gen. Meeting 6:00pm									
28	29											
	Leap Day											

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