OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEATH ACT OF NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina General Statutes
Chapter 95, Article 16

AND

ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

North Carolina Administrative Code
Title 13, Chapter 7

Occupational Safety and Health Division
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Cherie K. Berry
Commissioner of Labor
Introduction

The Occupational Safety and Health Division administers and enforces the 1973 Occupational Safety and Health Act of North Carolina (“OSHANC”), a broadly inclusive law which applies to most private sector employment in the State and to all agencies of state and local government. The Division conducts investigations of complaints made by workers, investigations of work-related accidents and deaths, general schedule inspections of randomly picked workplaces, and follow-up inspections of workplaces previously cited for OSHA violations.

In addition to enforcing state OSHA safety and health standards, the North Carolina program offers free services to private and public employers under its jurisdiction through its Consultative Services Bureau, and educational and technical assistance through its Education, Training, and Technical Assistance Bureau. By making full use of these non-enforcement services, employers may bring their establishments into full compliance with OSHA standards. Employers may contact the bureaus to receive free aid, including technical assistance or on-site visits. The North Carolina Occupational Safety and Health standards parallel the federal OSHA standards. The North Carolina standards may be more stringent than the federal standards, but they may not be less stringent.

This publication contains links to the Occupational Safety and Health Act of North Carolina and the applicable administrative rules contained in the N.C. Administrative Code. It is intended to be used by employers covered under these laws, as well as employees, in order to inform them of their rights and responsibilities in matters related to occupational safety and health. Our experience shows that most businesses and workers want to comply with the labor laws of the State, and will generally do so when they know what the laws provide. We hope that the use of this publication will help build the spirit of cooperation and fairness which currently characterizes most workplaces in North Carolina and give our State a more effective and productive workforce with which to maintain our competitive national economic position.

Please note that in addition to the rules and regulations contained herein, the occupational safety and health standards promulgated by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (“OSHA”) may apply, including but not limited to 29 C.F.R. 1910 for general industry, 29 C.F.R. 1915 for shipyard employment, 29 C.F.R. 1917 for maritime terminals, 29 C.F.R. 1926 for construction, and 29 C.F.R. 1928 for agriculture.

We encourage and solicit public comments concerning these laws and regulations. Please direct your comments and questions to the Occupational Safety and Health Division, N.C. Department of Labor, 1101 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1101.

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