



October, 2020

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TO BENEFIT ... PARTICIPATE!



TUNE IN TO THE NECA CONVENTION

The 2020 Convention goes virtual the first week in October!! If you have already registered, you should receive your log in credentials from NECA national. If you haven't, please contact Jerri Champlin for assistance. The full schedule along with description of classes, speakers and the virtual tradeshow are available at [2020 convention schedule](#). Remember that sessions are available for 30 days after the conclusion of the event. There will be online assistance if you have any difficulty connecting.

The first event begins on Tuesday, October 6th at 2:30 pm with the Milwaukee Toolshed Band. Tune in and get ready!! It's going to be a new and different convention this year!!

Visit www.necaconvention.org or www.necanet.org to stay in the know on all NECA 2020 Live updates.



NECA CHRISTMAS PARTY CANCELED

We are sorry to have to report that our annual Christmas Party has been canceled due to the current pandemic. We have already booked December 3, 2021 at Chaminade Resort. Please mark your calendar!



WINE AND WISDOM

We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting a great event in May 2021! Our chapter, along with the East Central CA Chapter (Fresno)

and the Kern County Chapter (Bakersfield) will host Wine and Wisdom! This event will be held at the beautiful Allegretto Resort and Spa in Paso Robles.

We will begin with an education course that you have chosen. "Managing Field Productivity" will be led by leading subject expert, Dr. Awad Hana.

We also have a host of VIP's that plan to join us for industry updates and roundtables.

There's plenty of other activities planned! A golf tournament at Hunter Ranch, chapter dinners, a field trip to Sensorio Field of Light Show in the hills of Paso Robles, cooking demonstrations and much more! There might even be a zip-line adventure for those that are interested!

You won't want to miss this event!! Mark your calendars now for May 6-9, 2021.



LEGISLATURE CONCLUDES 2020 SESSION

Legislature Concludes 2020 Disjoined Legislative Year in Chaotic Fashion Due to COVID-19

California's 2020 State legislative session ended in profanities, chaos, and remote access 'mute' malfunctions. Frustrated republican members, who in the Senate were participating remotely because of a positive COVID-19 test within their caucus, expressed extreme displeasure over the lack of public discourse and process during the session's final hours. This was a sentiment shared by many throughout the disjointed 2020 legislative session.

From an advocate's perspective, the end of session is usually marked by hurried last-minute negotiations and roaming the halls of the State Capitol, often late at night as the Legislature conducts its final business. This year, almost all the end-of-session lobbying was done remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Lobbyists — your advocates included — got their business done via email, phone, and text. This was par for the course on a very unusual year that included the legislature taking two COVID-19 related breaks, constantly changed legislative deadlines, and legislators reducing their bill load by about 75 percent due to the shortened legislative calendar.

In the end, our industry had some wins, mitigated a few potential big losses, killed a host of bad bills and was hit with a terrible "large employer"

COVID 19 paid time off requirement in the 11th hour. That measure, which requires employers with more than 500 employees to provide paid time off for COVID-19 impacted employees, was pushed by the democratic super majority and the Governor's office and was passed with zero debate or ability to influence as it was hidden in a budget trailer bill and passed in the last hours of the 2020 session.

Below are brief summaries of the high priority bills that industry needs to be aware of that are pending Governor Newsom's signature or veto. Almost all are COVID-19 related. We are advocating all our positions to the administration and are working closely with the Governor's staff.

[Industry Sponsored:](#)

AB 2311 (Low) - Skilled and Trained Workforce: Notice Requirement - SUPPORT

AB 2311 ensures all parties to a construction contract, including subcontractors, are aware of the skilled and trained workforce requirement prior to bidding on a project. The measure requires public entities, on projects subject to skilled and trained workforce requirement, to place a notice of the requirement in all project bid documents and contracts.

[COVID-19 Workers' Compensation:](#)

SB 1159 (Hill) - Workers' compensation: COVID-19 - NEUTRAL

For employers with more than 5 employees, SB 1159 establishes a presumption of compensability for employees who contract COVID-19 from any employer that experiences an "outbreak" of COVID-19 cases at a particular work location. As it relates to our industry, the measure defines an "outbreak" as 4 or more employees who worked at the same jobsite and contracted COVID-19 within a 14-day period. The measure was amended to ensure that this presumption is rebuttable and the evidence to rebut the presumption includes, but is not limited to, evidence of measures in place to prevent transmission of COVID-19 and evidence of an employee's nonoccupational exposure to COVID-19. The presumptions established by the bill sunset on January 1, 2023. The bill was passed with bipartisan support and was the employer-preferred COVID-19 related workers' compensation legislation being contemplated. We opposed prior versions of the bill, but did not oppose the final version, due to the amendments that established a sunset date, created a specific evidentiary standard for employers to use to controvert a claim, created an "outbreak" threshold trigger, continued a reasonable claim rejection timeline, and excluded "work-

from-home" employees. It's expected Governor Newsom will sign the bill, as his office helped negotiate the final version. In contrast, we were able to defeat **AB 196 (Gonzalez)**. That measure similarly would have created a rebuttable presumption for COVID-19 workers' compensation claims, but it did not contain any provisions advantageous to employers. For example, it did not have a sunset date — the presumption would exist in perpetuity — nor did it have a threshold trigger of an "outbreak," meaning any single employee could submit a presumed claim.

COVID-19 Workplace Prevention:

AB 685 (Reyes) – COVID-19 Workplace Notification - OPPOSE

Would require employers to notify their employees (by written notice) of potential COVID-19 exposures in the workplace. It also requires employers to alert their local health department of outbreaks. "Outbreaks" are defined as three or more positive cases within 14 days. The bill also authorizes Cal/OSHA to enforce the notice rules. While we are still opposed to the bill, we were able to amend out many of the most problematic provisions, including the requirement that the state publicize all ongoing workplace outbreaks, the \$10,000 penalty on employers

for noncompliance and the employer being cited with a misdemeanor if found in violation, which could have impacted a contractor's license status. In addition, we were able to secure an amendment stating that the written notice to employees may be provided by email or text.

AB 1867 (Committee on Budget) – COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave - OPPOSE

Establishes the California COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave (SPSL) program. The bill would require employers that employ 500 or more employees in the United States, to provide 80 hours of paid leave to workers that are unable to work because they are subject to one of the following: 1) a federal, state, or local shelter in place order related to COVID-19; 2) have been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine or self-isolate due to exposure to COVID-19 or; 3) have been prohibited from working by their employer due to health concerns related to the potential transmission of COVID-19. The measure is similar to ordinances passed in some of California's largest cities and mirrors the federal requirements under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act which applies to employers that employ 500 or less employees.

That said, the bill is unneeded in our industry and hits union construction the hardest as it doesn't reflect common provisions applied to similar mandates. Unlike the federal law, the measure doesn't provide large employers a pathway to recoup costs and unlike many California city ordinances on the subject, the language doesn't include a collective bargaining agreement (CBA) exemption.

The rationale for a CBA exemption is simple; unionized workers receive higher wages and better benefits than their non-union counterparts. The Legislature has recognized the benefits of CBAs by allowing the negotiated contracts between organized labor and employers to govern a variety of employer/employee rules, such as paid sick leave. To encumber unionized employers with additional benefit obligations that go above and beyond their negotiated agreement with their labor counterparts places these employers at a competitive disadvantage versus their non-union competitors who already have lower operating costs.

The most frustrating part of this bill is the process in which the bill was handled. The measure was amended in the final hours before the amendment deadline, ensuring no changes could be made due to the constitutional 72 hours in print rule for

ills. The vehicle used was a budget trailer bill allowing the language to be buried as a budget item. As a budget implementation measure, the Governor has no choice but to sign it. The lack of public discourse and the willful removal of opportunity to debate and influence this bill was horrific.

The SPSL program will take effect 10 days after being signed into law by Governor Newsom. The supplemental leave provided under this legislation expires on December 31, 2020.

WORKERS COMPENSATION NEW REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Senate Bill 1159 (SB 1159), signed by Governor Newsom, creates new reporting requirements regarding COVID-19, effective September 17, 2020.

Under SB 1159, California employers with five (5) or more employees must report to their claims administrator via email or fax, any instance of which they are aware an employee tested positive for COVID-19, **or risk substantial financial penalty by the State.**

For more information and to find out how and when to report COVID-19 cases, [click here](#).



SAFETY SUMMIT GOES VIRTUAL

*Presented by
Westex by Milliken,
October 27 - 29.*

The NECA Virtual Safety Summit will be composed of 2-half day blocks of general sessions, concurrent breakouts and even an exhibit hall. As champions of safety, we understand the importance of physically distancing but keeping up with latest safety trends of 2020 and beyond could set your organization apart.

In addition to the critical safety information provided at the NECA Virtual Safety Summit, we will also showcase new presentations on current trends, regulatory updates and code updates.

Don't miss your opportunity to receive the latest industry information and stay up-to-date with safety!



MILWAUKEE APPRENTICE OF THE MONTH

The Apprentice of the Month program is sponsored by Milwaukee Tools. The goal is to encourage apprentice participation and reward a high performing student for achieving outstanding results both in the classroom and on the job. The program will resume with the announcement of the September 2020 Apprentice of the Month. Stay tuned to see who will be highlighted!



UPCOMING CLASSES OFFERED THROUGH THE JATC

ALL IN-PERSON JW CLASSES ARE CURRENTLY SUSPENDED DUE TO THE SHELTER IN PLACE ORDER! HOWEVER...ONLINE CLASSES ARE AVAILABLE. PLEASE HAVE THOSE

**INTERESTED CONTACT
STACY AT THE JATC
OFFICE AT
[STACY@TRICOUNTYJATC.
ORG](mailto:STACY@TRICOUNTYJATC.ORG)
TO OBTAIN DETAILS.**

CPR/FIRST AID

Due to health and safety concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic, we will not be holding a physical, onsite CPR / First Aid course at the training center. The JATC, however, has come up with an alternative solution should you be in need of renewing your certification, through the American Red Cross.

For details to obtain the right class to qualify for reimbursement, please contact Stacy at Stacy@tricountyjatc.org

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO THE NEC

Online classes have resumed for the Significant Changes to the NEC. Instructor David Martinez has started up these informative classes. Those interested in attending must register in advance in order to get a Zoom invitation. The next class is scheduled for Tuesday, October 20th at 5:30-8:30pm via Zoom. Please contact Stacy at Stacy@tricountyjatc.org for more information.

FIRST AID/CPR

CPR / First Aid with Merralinda Goddard – part 1 is the online coursework (which you will need a link provided by the instructor in order to complete) and must be completed by October 23rd.

Part 2 - the practical, hands-on portion will be conducted in the JATC parking lot Saturday, October 24th via scheduled time slots (masks are required but not provided). If you've not completed the online portion by October 23rd, you will not be able to participate in the hands-on portion of the course and will not receive your certification.

Please call Stacy for more information and to get signed up by NO LATER than October 16th.

Note: once you receive a link for the online portion – the course is paid for. If you do not complete the online course by the deadline (Oct. 23rd), you will be billed for the cost of the course.



APPRENTICE APPLICATION INFORMATION

The Tri-County Electrical JATC will again accept applications on a year-round basis. **OUR PROCEDURES HAVE CHANGED!!!** Please note that we will only accept online applications and applicants need only follow the directions contained in our website to apply. For more information regarding the process, please click in the following link:

JATC INFORMATION

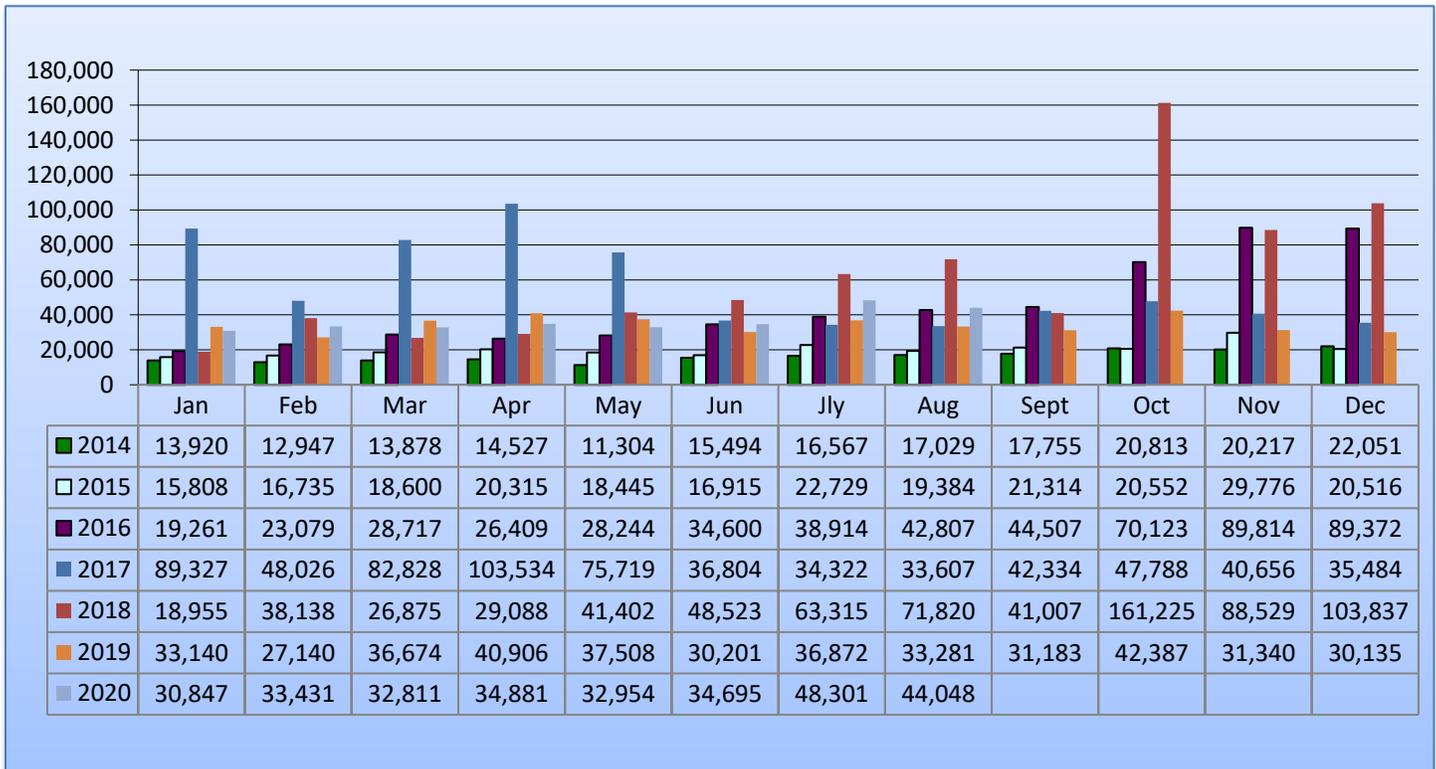


on Book 4. There is 1 on Book 1, 0 on Book 2, 1 on Book 3 and 0 on Book 4 for Sound & Comm. There is 1 on CW Book 1 and 0 on CW Book 2. There are two Inside apprentice available for work at this time. Should you need an apprentice, be sure to contact Stacy at Stacy@tricountyjatc.org.

AVAILABILITY LIST UPDATE

On the Inside Out-of-Work List, there are 9 on Book 3, 22 on Book 2, 7 on Book 3 and 17

INSIDE MONTHLY HOURS REPORT





**WE WILL KEEP YOU POSTED AS TO THE STATUS OF THESE MEETINGS
AS WE BECOME AWARE.**

October 3-6, 2020

Virtual!!

NECA Convention and Trade Show
Chicago, IL

October 27-29, 2020

Virtual!

NECA Safety Summit

December 4, 2020

Canceled

Chapter Christmas Party
Chaminade Resort
By invitation only

December 9, 2020

Education Opportunity

Virtual Class for our Chapter
Mentoring
Nic Bittle, Instructor

April 12-15, 2021

NECA Now
Denver, CO

May 6-9, 2021

Wisdom and Wine
Education Course & Retreat
Managing Field Productivity
Allegretto Resort
Paso Robles, CA
Watch for details!