

# ON THE LEVEL

— ◦ BALANCING INDUSTRY & ASSOCIATION NEWS ◦ —

On The Level - July 2021



VPPPA Members Receive a  
10% Tuition Discount



## VPPPA's 2021 Safety+ Symposium



Presents

# Safety+

An Integrated Safety & Health  
Management Systems Symposium

AUGUST 31-  
SEPTEMBER 2  
2021

NASHVILLE, TN

#SAFETYPLUS2021

VPPPA.ORG

**Have you heard? OSHA will be joining us in-person at this year's Safety+ Symposium!**

A great deal has changed since we were last together at the Safety+ Symposium in New Orleans in August 2019. Worksites have made adjustments to safety protocols, many have implemented new requirements, and OSHA has created new guidelines to deal with the pandemic by modifying existing rules to reflect new safety needs. Now more than ever, staying up-to-date with the latest safety measures and protocols is vital to navigating these unprecedented times.

That's why you don't want to miss this year's Safety+ Symposium where our partners in safety, OSHA, will be onsite to present seven different workshops, network with attendees, and present the keynote address during our Opening General Session. Here are all the details:

## Keynote Address



### Brad Baptiste

Voluntary Protection Programs  
Manager for OSHA Region VIII

## OSHA Workshops

-OSHA Special Government Employee (SGE) Program

-Construction & OSHA Challenge for General Industry

-How to Improve Your Bottom Line & Engage Your Employees: Create an Effective Anti-Retaliation Program

-OSHA's Process Safety Management (PSM) Supplemental Questions: Overview & Analysis

-VPP Slump (Me & VPP)

-The Top Ten Elements of a Stellar Safety & Health Management System

-VPP: Do Not Overlook Industrial Hygiene

[View All Workshops](#)

## SGE Training Now Confirmed

More exciting news: SGE training will take place in-person on the days prior to Safety+, from August 28-30, at the Gaylord Opryland in Nashville! Act quickly, the SGE Training Application has a deadline of July 15. Details regarding information and registration can be found [here](#).

Make sure you stay in the loop. Reconnect with your safety peers, learn what worked and didn't throughout the pandemic, and hear first-hand from OSHA on what's changed or changing!

[LEARN MORE](#)

[REGISTER](#)

## News from OSHA

### Training Grants Available from OSHA

The U.S. Department of Labor has announced funding opportunities of more than \$21 million in OSHA training

grants for non-profit organizations. These grants are aimed at improving worker safety and health.

Funding availabilities include:

- ARA of 2021 for Workplace Safety and Health Training on Infectious Diseases, including the Coronavirus Grants
- Susan Harwood Training Grant Program

**MORE THAN \$21M IN TRAINING GRANTS AVAILABLE FROM OSHA**



For information on eligibility and submission deadlines, click [here](#).



**Registration for Safe + Sound Week 2021 is Now Open!**

OSHA's Safe + Sound Week is a nationwide event, held each August, that recognizes the successes of workplace health and safety programs and offers information and ideas on how to keep

America's workers safe. All organizations looking for an opportunity to recognize their commitment to safety are welcome to participate. Last year, more than 3,400 businesses helped raise awareness about workers' health and safety!

VPPPA is proud to be recognized as an organizer for 2021's Safety + Sound Campaign. To learn more about being safe and sound at work, click [here](#).

## Save the Date - Webinars



**VPPPA July Labor Summit Webinar**  
**July 22 at 1:00PM ET**

Join speaker John "Steve" Donovan, latest recipient of OSHA's SGE of the Year Award in Region IV, for VPPPA's July Labor Summit! The purpose of this webinar is to engage workers, both represented and non-represented, to jointly and collectively discuss workplace safety. Donovan will examine the intricacies of safety culture, and provide attendees with a firsthand look at how his personal experiences and overall growth influenced his journey within safety.

To register, click [here](#).

**VPPPA August Labor Summit Webinar: VPP Sustainment by Design**  
**August 5 at 1:00PM ET**

Join speaker Michael Hancock, Director of Safety for Marine Corps Air Facility Quantico (a VPP Star Site), for VPPPA's August Labor Summit! In the realm of safety, specifically when it comes time for Safety Managers to make program improvements, they're oftentimes met with pushback. But what if it didn't have to be that way? What if the very design of a safety program created a culture where change was embraced, even expected? In this webinar, Hancock will attest that this goal is in fact possible and provide attendees with an overview of overarching concepts within his 'Risk Reduction Lifestyle' - the foundation of the safety culture at the Marine Corps Air Facility, in Quantico, VA.

To register, click [here](#).

[View Webinars](#)

## July Behavioral Health Column

VPPPA has partnered with the experts at MindWise Innovations to present a monthly article addressing issues and questions that members might be hesitant to ask about.



These columns will address your concerns about mental health, substance abuse, brain injuries, family issues, and more.

The July article shares insight on why investing in employee wellness is more important than ever.

To submit your own question (your information will not be shared) [fill out this form](#).

[Read Blog](#)

## Awards & Scholarship Winners



**Congratulations to all of our 2021 Award and Scholarship Winners!**

For a comprehensive list of this year's recipients, click down below.

## 2021 Winners



## Advocacy - Voluntary Protection Program Act

### Tell Congress to PASS the Voluntary Protection Programs Act!

Shortly after the Voluntary Protection Programs Participants' Association (VPPPA) was formed in 1985 there was movement to make the country's Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP) law. When Fed-OSHA adopted the California program, invented by Labor just a few years earlier, they adopted it as a discretionary program. This means VPP could be canceled with a pen stroke today. The VPP Act would codify the VPP into law, provide it a dedicated line item in OSHA's budget, and would maintain the existing VPP process.

**When constituents speak, Congress listens.** The VPPPA needs your help to support our efforts to pass the Voluntary Protection Programs Act. If passed and signed into law, the Voluntary Protection Programs would be cemented into law, protecting the program from dramatic swings in political power.

[Take Action](#)

## Join the VPPPA N.O.W.

Are you a woman in safety looking to network with industry peers? Consider joining the **VPPPA N.O.W. (Network of Women)** group!

This is a private space to come together as women to encourage, pose questions and empower. We are currently over 160 members strong and growing daily! Don't miss the opportunity to network and learn with us.

[Join N.O.W.](#)

## Association Announcements

### Write for a VPPPA Publication

Want to write for the *Leader* magazine? The theme for the Autumn issue is **Workplace Violence & Safety**. If you, or someone you know, has experience in this area, please contact [communications@vpppa.org](mailto:communications@vpppa.org). We would love to see your article!

Additionally, if you would like to advertise in the *Leader*, please contact [advertising@vpppa.org](mailto:advertising@vpppa.org).

Have you checked out the [VPPPA Blog?](#) Send us an article regarding any safety or health topic, and we will consider adding it to our blog schedule.

### Membership News

If you have any news or pictures from your site that you would like to share (an award, a VPP approval, a member who went above and beyond, etc.), please send it to [communications@vpppa.org](mailto:communications@vpppa.org).

We would love to add your updates to the next **On The Level** newsletter or post it on our social media pages.



## Congratulations to the July VPPPA Member of the Month, Fady Guirguis!

Make sure you visit the [Member of the Month](#) section on our website!

If you would like to nominate someone as the VPPPA Member of the Month, please fill out our [nominations form](#).

## Stay Connected



**Make It Safe.**  
**Make It Home.**



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