



### The Arizona Municipal Risk Retention Pool

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## OSHA Issues Workplace Violence Directive

DIRECTIVE NUMBER: CPL 02-01-052 EFFECTIVE DATE: September 8, 2011

SUBJECT: Enforcement Procedures for Investigating or Inspecting Workplace Violence Incidents

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration issued a directive on *Enforcement Procedures for Investigating or Inspecting Incidents of Workplace Violence*. The directive establishes uniform procedures for OSHA field staff for responding to incidents and complaints of workplace violence and conducting inspections in industries considered vulnerable to workplace violence, such as healthcare and social service settings, and late-night retail establishments.

Workplace violence is a serious recognized occupational hazard, ranking among the top four causes of death in workplaces during the past 15 years. More than 3,000 people died from workplace homicides between 2006 and 2010 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Additional BLS data indicates that an average of more than 15,000 nonfatal workplace injury cases were reported annually during this time.

Studies by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and other organizations show that employers who implement effective safety measures can reduce the incidence of workplace violence. These measures include training employees on workplace violence, encouraging employees to report assaults or threats, and conducting workplace violence hazard analyses.

OSHA has launched a new web page on Preventing Workplace Violence and has published several workplace violence guidance documents including *Recommendations for Workplace Violence Prevention Programs in Late-Night Retail Establishments\** and *Guidelines for Preventing Workplace Violence for Health Care and Social Service Workers*.

For more information on this directive, visit the [OSHA.gov](http://OSHA.gov) website.

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