

# CALIFORNIA CONSTRUCTION CHRONICLE

---



Mike Johnson, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives at the ABC Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C.

# SAFETY BRIEFING

## OSHA's Top 10 Safety Violations: Ensuring a Safer Workplace

Phil Clarke, CSP, KS Industries LP

Workplace safety is a crucial concern for employers and employees alike. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) identifies the most common safety violations each year to help organizations address these issues proactively. Here's an overview of OSHA's top 10 most frequently cited violations for the fiscal year 2023, along with tips on how to avoid them:



### 01 ➤ Fall Protection (1926.501)

- **Violations:** 7,271
- **Common Issues:** Lack of guardrails, safety nets, or personal fall arrest systems
- **Prevention:** Implement comprehensive fall protection plans, ensure proper equipment is available, and conduct regular training sessions.

### 02 ➤ Hazard Communication (1910.1200)

- **Violations:** 3,213
- **Common Issues:** Failure to develop and implement a written Hazard Communication Program, lack of proper labeling, and insufficient employee training
- **Prevention:** Maintain updated Safety Data Sheets (SDS), ensure all containers are labeled, and provide ongoing training on chemical hazards.

### 03 ➤ Ladders (1926.1053)

- **Violations:** 2,978
- **Common Issues:** Improper use of ladders, damaged ladders, and lack of secure placement
- **Prevention:** Inspect ladders regularly, ensure ladders extend at least 3 feet above the landing, and train employees on proper ladder use.

## 04 ➤ Scaffolding (1926.451)

- **Violations:** 2,859
- **Common Issues:** Inadequate fall protection on scaffolds, improper scaffold construction, and lack of guardrails
- **Prevention:** Use qualified personnel to design and erect scaffolds; ensure all safety measures are in place

## 05 ➤ Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)

- **Violations:** 2,561
- **Common Issues:** Lack of proper training for operators, unsafe operation, and failure to conduct regular inspections
- **Prevention:** Provide certified training for all operators and conduct routine maintenance checks on equipment.

## 06 ➤ Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)

- **Violations:** 2,554
- **Common Issues:** Failure to control hazardous energy during maintenance and servicing, lack of proper procedures, and inadequate training
- **Prevention:** Develop detailed lockout/tagout procedures, provide necessary equipment, and ensure comprehensive training for all employees.

## 07 ➤ Respiratory Protection (1910.134)

- **Violations:** 2,481
- **Common Issues:** Inadequate respiratory protection programs, improper respirator fit, and lack of medical evaluations
- **Prevention:** Implement a thorough respiratory protection program, ensure proper fit testing, and conduct medical evaluations as required.

## 08 ➤ Fall Protection Training Requirements (1926.503)

- **Violations:** 2,112
- **Common Issues:** Inadequate training on fall protection measures
- **Prevention:** Regularly update training programs and ensure all employees are educated on the latest fall protection techniques.

## 09 ➤ Eye and Face Protection (1926.102)

- **Violations:** 2,074
- **Common Issues:** Failure to provide adequate protective equipment for eye and face hazards
- **Prevention:** Supply appropriate protective gear and enforce its use in hazardous areas.

## 10 ➤ Machine Guarding (1910.212)

- **Violations:** 1,644
- **Common Issues:** Lack of guards on machines, improper maintenance of guards, and failure to provide proper training
- **Prevention:** Ensure all machinery is equipped with the necessary guards and provide regular training on their use and maintenance.

These violations highlight the importance of maintaining robust safety protocols, continuous employee training, and regular inspections to identify and mitigate hazards. Addressing these common issues can significantly enhance workplace safety and prevent injuries, illnesses, and fatalities.

By focusing on these areas, employers can create a safer work environment, comply with OSHA standards, and protect their most valuable asset—their employees.



# TRAINING TOOLBOX

---

Find your next safety course or training program in our Training Toolbox!



## Upcoming Class Dates

**Safety Professional Program – Wednesday, August 7th**

**Welding Program – Wednesday, August 7th**

**Core – Wednesday, August 7th**

**Electrical 2 – Wednesday, August 7th**

**Electrical 3 – Wednesday, August 7th**

**Electrical 4 – Wednesday, August 7th**

**Oilfield Passport – Every Friday/One Saturday a Month  
(contact for schedule)**

## All Available Courses

- Forklift Training
- Red Cross Adult/Infant First Aid/CPR
- California Oil Producers Contractor Safety Passport Orientation
- OSHA 10 | OSHA 30
- Advanced Utility Locator (Line Finding)
- Confined Space Entry
- Confined Space Rescue (Tier I and Tier II)
- Blueprint Navigation
- Backhoe Training
- Loader Training
- Excavator Training
- Class A Truck Driving
- Class B Truck Driving
- ELDT Class A Training

\*Contact ABC to schedule a training course.



# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

## JUSTIN GREEN, QUANTUM INDUSTRIES

**Can you please introduce yourself and what company you work for?**

**“My name is Justin Green, and I work for Quantum Industries.”**

**What does your company do and what is your role there?**

**“Quantum Industries does electrical work. I am an electrical apprentice.”**

**What class are you currently enrolled in at ABC?**

**“I am taking the Core class in the Electrical Program.”**

**What led you to pursue a career in the construction industry?**

**“I have wanted to be an electrician since Sophomore year of high school. My grandpa inspired me to be an electrician when I was younger.”**

**What are your career goals or plans after completing training at ABC?**

**“My plan is to become an electrical journeyman and to keep working for Quantum.”**



## DEREK ROGERS, PCL CONSTRUCTION

**Can you please introduce yourself and what company you work for?**

**“My name is Derek Rogers. My current employer is PCL Construction.”**

**What does your company do and what is your role there?**

**“PCL builds and repairs commercial and industrial projects. One of our big projects is the Cal Bio green sustainability project that captures methane gas and converts into clean energy. Currently, I am an Electrician Trainee.”**

**What class are you currently enrolled in at ABC?**

**“I am enrolled in the Core class in the Electrical Program.”**

**What led you to pursue a career in the construction industry?**

**“I have always had an interest in becoming a lineman and working on powerlines. My first year at PCL I was a lineman trainee.”**

**What are your career goals or plans after completing training at ABC?**

**“Ultimately, I would like to return to linework, work on transmission lines, and be on a halo crew.”**





# EVENT LINEUP

---

Check out upcoming ABC events and local industry happenings in our event lineup.

## Events

Summer Member Orientation - July 19th

Fall Craft Training Orientation - August 7th

Safety Academy - October 16th - 17th

20th Annual Golf Tournament - October 25th

ABC National Leadership Conference - November 12th - 14th

ABC National Virtual Legal Conference - December 5th

ABC Convention 2025 - February 25th - 27th, 2025

# MEET OUR MEMBERS

---

## **PHIL ENGLER, JTS MODULAR, INC./ JTS CONSTRUCTION**

**Can you please introduce yourself, what company you work for, and what your role is there?**

**“Hi, my name is Phil Engler. I am the President of JTS Modular, Inc. and Vice President of JTS Construction, and a member of the ABC Central California Board. I have been in Bakersfield and with JTS for 20 years, from Iowa State University (Go Cyclones!) with brief stints in LA and Phoenix with Kiewit. Our two companies consist of a commercial general contractor and a modular building manufacturer specializing in the educational, municipal, and commercial markets.”**



**What does your company do?**

**“JTS Modular is an innovative builder of custom, permanent modular buildings throughout California. We are dedicated to providing clients with site-built quality buildings in a shorter timeframe with substantially less costs. JTS Construction is a general building contractor focusing primarily on public works building projects.”**

**What led you to pursue a career in the construction industry?**

**“I come from a family of contractors. As a kid, my grandpa ran a successful commercial contracting company in South Dakota. While I was too young to know exactly what he did, I had so much reverence for him that when asked, “what do you want to be when you grow up?” I would answer, “I want to do what grandpa does!” I went on to study Construction Engineering at Iowa State University then worked for an industrial contractor in LA and Phoenix until, in 2003, I got a call from my**

uncle with an opportunity to come to Bakersfield and do what grandpa did.”

**When and how did you become involved with our ABC chapter?**

“In 2016 we were looking for a trade organization that could help navigate the increasingly challenging business climate for contractors in California. ABC of Central California proved to be exactly what we were looking for! Since then, I have been on the Government Affairs Committee, the Academy, the state board - ABC of CA, and Past Chair of the ABC Central California Chapter. The resources, training, and advocacy of ABC have been extremely helpful to our business.”

**What is your advice to new ABC members?**

“My initial advice to new members would be to be engaged and utilize the Chapter for the vast resource that it is. Whether it be joining a committee, enrolling in training, or providing feedback to staff regarding business challenges that you face. As a member driven organization, ABC has proven an invaluable resource for JTS. Chapter leadership is passionate and driven to provide services to meet the needs of our members. Between our local chapter, ABC of California, and ABC National, we have a tremendous network of resources.”



Grimmway Farms Modular Building in Arvin, CA by JTS Modular

# LEGISLATIVE LENS

---



## Associated Builders and Contractors 2024 Legislative Week

Elizabeth "Lizzy" Stevens

ABC Central California led a resoundingly successful legislative week in Washington, D.C. during the week of June 24th. This impactful week was marked by meaningful engagements, tours, and discussions that highlighted the organization's dedication to advocating for positive legislative change.

ABC Central California Chapter representatives held insightful meetings with their district representatives to discuss several bills, with a particular focus on H.R. 1209/S. 537 – the Fair and Open Competition Act..



ABC Central California Representatives with Congressman Jay Obernolte

The Fair and Open Competition Act is critical now more than ever in light of the Biden Administration's executive order which mandates Project Labor Agreements on projects over \$35 million. Such mandates have led to significant losses in work opportunities for ABC members and their workforce. The Fair and Open Competition Act will preserve fair and open competition and prevent the detrimental effects of PLAs.

The first of these pivotal meetings engaged Congressman Jay Obernolte on this priority legislation that protects federal and federally assisted construction contracts from government-mandated PLAs. During the meeting, Representative Obernolte was invited to tour the ABC Central California Training Facility, which was especially significant given the expansion of his district to parts of Eastern Kern County.

Continuing advocacy efforts for the Fair and Open Competition Act, ABC met with Representatives Vince Fong and David Valadao, petitioning these instrumental members to become

co-sponsors of the bill. They discussed the numerous benefits of the Act, emphasizing its importance in promoting fair competition and ensuring equal opportunities for all contractors. ABC Central California demonstrated a firm commitment to advocating for its members through legislative changes. The successful legislative week in Washington, D.C., not only strengthened relationships with key representatives but also highlighted ABC's proactive approach to promoting fair and open competition in the construction industry.



Congressman Vince Fong



Larry Hogan, Former Governor of Maryland and Current U.S. Senate Candidate at the ABC Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C.