

The logo for Workers United consists of three overlapping squares: a purple square on the left, an orange square in the center, and a grey square on the right. The text "workers united" is written in a lowercase, sans-serif font across the orange and grey squares.

workers  
united

AN SEIU AFFILIATE

VOTE FOR  
WORKPLACE  
SAFETY

# DEATH CALENDAR IN INDUSTRY FOR ALLEGHENY COUNTY



Each red cross stands for a man killed at work, or for one who died as a direct result of an injury received in the course of his work.



No Loafing  
No Sitting on  
work tables

# Memphis Sanitation Workers Strike





# The Occupational Safety & Health Act - 1970

Signed into law by a conservative  
Republican president

# The Occupational Safety and Health Act created two agencies:

## **Occupational Safety and Health Administration - OSHA**

- Under the Department of Labor
- Leadership is political appointment
- Promulgates standards
- Inspects workplaces
- Investigates fatalities
- Enforces standards

## **National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health - NIOSH**

- Under the Centers for Disease Control
- Leadership is political appointment
- Researches hazards
- Recommends standards
- Investigates workplace health and safety problems
- Certifies respiratory protection

# OSHA's Mission

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- ▶ The mission of OSHA is to save lives, prevent injuries and protect the health of America's workers.
- ▶ Some of the things OSHA does to carry out its mission are:
  - developing job safety and health standards and enforcing them through worksite inspections,
  - maintaining a reporting and recordkeeping system to keep track of job-related injuries and illnesses, and
  - providing training programs to increase knowledge about occupational safety and health.

- 1910 Subpart D - Walking-Working Surfaces
  - 1910.21 - Scope and definitions.
  - 1910.22 - General requirements.
  - 1910.23 - Ladders.
  - 1910.24 - Step bolts and manhole steps.
  - 1910.25 - Stairways.
  - 1910.26 - Dockboards.
  - 1910.27 - Scaffolds and rope descent systems.
  - 1910.28 - Duty to have fall protection and falling object protection.
  - 1910.29 - Fall protection systems and falling object protection-criteria and practices.
  - 1910.30 - Training requirements.
- 1910 Subpart E - Exit Routes and Emergency Planning
  - 1910.33 - Table of contents.
  - 1910.34 - Coverage and definitions.
  - 1910.35 - Compliance with alternate exit-route codes.
  - 1910.36 - Design and construction requirements for exit routes.
  - 1910.37 - Maintenance, safeguards, and operational features for exit routes.
  - 1910.38 - Emergency action plans.
  - 1910.39 - Fire prevention plans.
  - 1910 Subpart E App - Exit Routes, Emergency Action Plans, and Fire Prevention Plans.
- 1910 Subpart F - Powered Platforms, Manlifts, and Vehicle-Mounted Work Platforms
  - 1910.66 - Powered platforms for building maintenance.
    - 1910.66 App A - Guidelines (Advisory)
    - 1910.66 App B - Exhibits (Advisory)
    - 1910.66 App C - Reserved
    - 1910.66 App D - Existing Installations (Mandatory)
  - 1910.67 - Vehicle-mounted elevating and rotating work platforms.
  - 1910.68 - Manlifts.



Management Leadership



Worker Participation



Find and Fix Hazards



# Recommended Practices for **Safety** and **Health** Programs



Management has the responsibility to provide a safe workplace

Workers have the right to be safe on the job.

Protect yourself.

Protect your family.

Protect the public.



How can a correctional health care worker be exposed to bloodborne pathogens on the job?

- Needlesticks or cuts from used needles or sharps.
- Contact of your eyes, nose, mouth, or broken skin with blood.
- Assaults – bites, cuts, or knife wounds.
- Splashes or punctures – especially when drawing blood.

How can you protect yourself?

- Get the hepatitis B vaccine.
- Read and understand your employer's Exposure Control Plan.
- Dispose of used sharps promptly into an appropriate sharps disposal container.
- Use sharps devices with safety features whenever possible.
- Use personal protective equipment (PPE), such as gloves and face shields, every time there is a potential for exposure to blood or body fluids.
- Clean work surfaces with germicidal products.

What should you do if you're exposed?

- Wash needlesticks and cuts with soap and water.
- Flush splashes to nose, mouth, or skin with water.
- Irrigate eyes with clean water, saline, or sterile wash.
- Report all exposures promptly to ensure that you receive appropriate followup care.

**For additional information:**

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)  
Telephone: 1-800-CDC-INFO  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348  
[www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/bp.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/bp.html)
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)  
Telephone: 1-800-CDC-INFO  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348  
[www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/bbp/correctional](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/bbp/correctional)

Protect yourself today—  
be there for your  
family tomorrow.

DHHS (NIOSH) Publication No. 2007-157



**NIOSH** National Institute for  
Occupational Safety and Health

# The mission of NIOSH is to protect working people

- generate new knowledge in the field of occupational safety and health
- transfer that knowledge into practice for the betterment of workers
- NIOSH conducts scientific research, develops authoritative recommendations, disseminates information, and responds to requests for workplace health hazard evaluations.
- NIOSH provides national and world leadership to prevent work-related illness, injury, disability, and death

# NIOSH evaluates respiratory protection to be sure it protects workers

## TYPES OF RESPIRATORY PROTECTION



**Elastomeric Half Facepiece Respirators** are reusable and have replaceable cartridges or filters. They cover the nose and mouth and provide protection against gases, vapors, or particles when equipped with the appropriate cartridge or filter.



**Elastomeric Full Facepiece Respirators** are reusable and have replaceable canisters, cartridges, or filters. The facepiece covers the face and eyes, which offers eye protection.



**Filtering Facepiece Respirators** are disposable half facepiece respirators that filter out particles such as dusts, mists, and fumes. They do NOT provide protection against gases and vapors.



**Powered Air-Purifying Respirators (PAPRs)** have a battery-powered blower that pulls air through attached filters, canisters, or cartridges. They provide protection against gases, vapors, or particles, when equipped with the appropriate cartridge, canister, or filter. Loose-fitting PAPRs do not require fit testing and can be used with facial hair.



**Supplied-Air Respirators** are connected to a separate source that supplies clean compressed air through a hose. They can be lightweight and used while working for long hours in environments not immediately dangerous to life and health (IDLH).

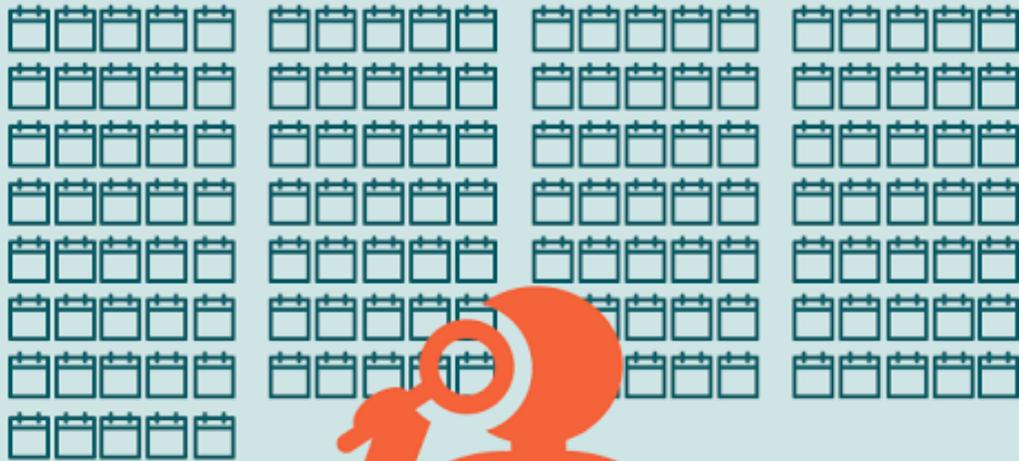


**Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs)** are used for entry into or escape from environments considered to be IDLH. They contain their own breathing air supply and can be either open circuit or closed circuit.



**Combination Respirators** can be either a supplied-air/SCBA respirator or supplied-air/air-purifying respirator. The SCBA type has a self-contained air supply if primary airline fails and can be used in IDLH environments. The air-purifying type offers protection using both a supplied-air hose & an air-purifying component and cannot be used for entry into IDLH environments.

# 145 YEARS



That's how long it would take federal inspectors  
at an under-resourced OSHA  
to inspect each workplace once.

**IS YOUR WORKPLACE SAFE?**

AFL-CIO

OSHA can't  
do the work  
alone...



# OSHA and NIOSH provide the tools, workers make the changes

**Union organizing**  
isn't about signing  
cards - it's about  
**empowering**  
**people** and  
**changing lives**

## Inspection Detail

Inspection: 307475111 - Angelica Textile Services, Inc.

Inspection Information - Office: Buffalo				
Nr: 307475111	Report ID: 0213600	Open Date:	03/04/2004	
Angelica Textile Services, Inc. 1-3 Apollo Drive Batavia, NY 14020 SIC: 7218/Industrial Launderers NAICS: 812332/Industrial Launderers		Union Status:	Union	
Inspection Type:	Complaint	Advanced Notice:	N	
Scope:	Partial	Close Conference:	05/26/2004	
Ownership:	Private	Close Case:	07/06/2006	
Safety/Health:	Health	Related Activity:	Type	ID
	Complaint		Complaint	203733977
			Safety	Health
				Yes

Violation Summary						
	Serious	Willful	Repeat	Other	Unclass	Total
Initial Violations	19	1		1		21
Current Violations	15			4	1	20
Initial Penalty	\$77,850	\$63,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$140,850
Current Penalty	\$29,580	\$0	\$0	\$1,600	\$50,400	\$81,580
FTA Amount	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0



# TIME

TIME Magazine cover from 2017

**WARNING:**  
WE ARE NOT READY FOR  
THE NEXT PANDEMIC

**OSHA**<sup>®</sup> Occupational  
Safety and Health  
Administration  
[www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)

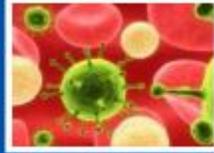
**Pandemic Influenza Preparedness  
and Response Guidance for  
Healthcare Workers and Healthcare Employers**

OSHA document from 2007

OSHA and NIOSH spent many years preparing to  
protect workers from a pandemic

HOW TO KEEP THE  
WORLD SAFE  
BY BILL GATES

NIOSH and OSHA worked together to create an enforceable infectious disease standard.



## Infectious Diseases Rulemaking

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### **DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**Occupational Safety and Health  
Administration**

**29 CFR Part 1910**

**[Docket No. OSHA-2010-0003]**

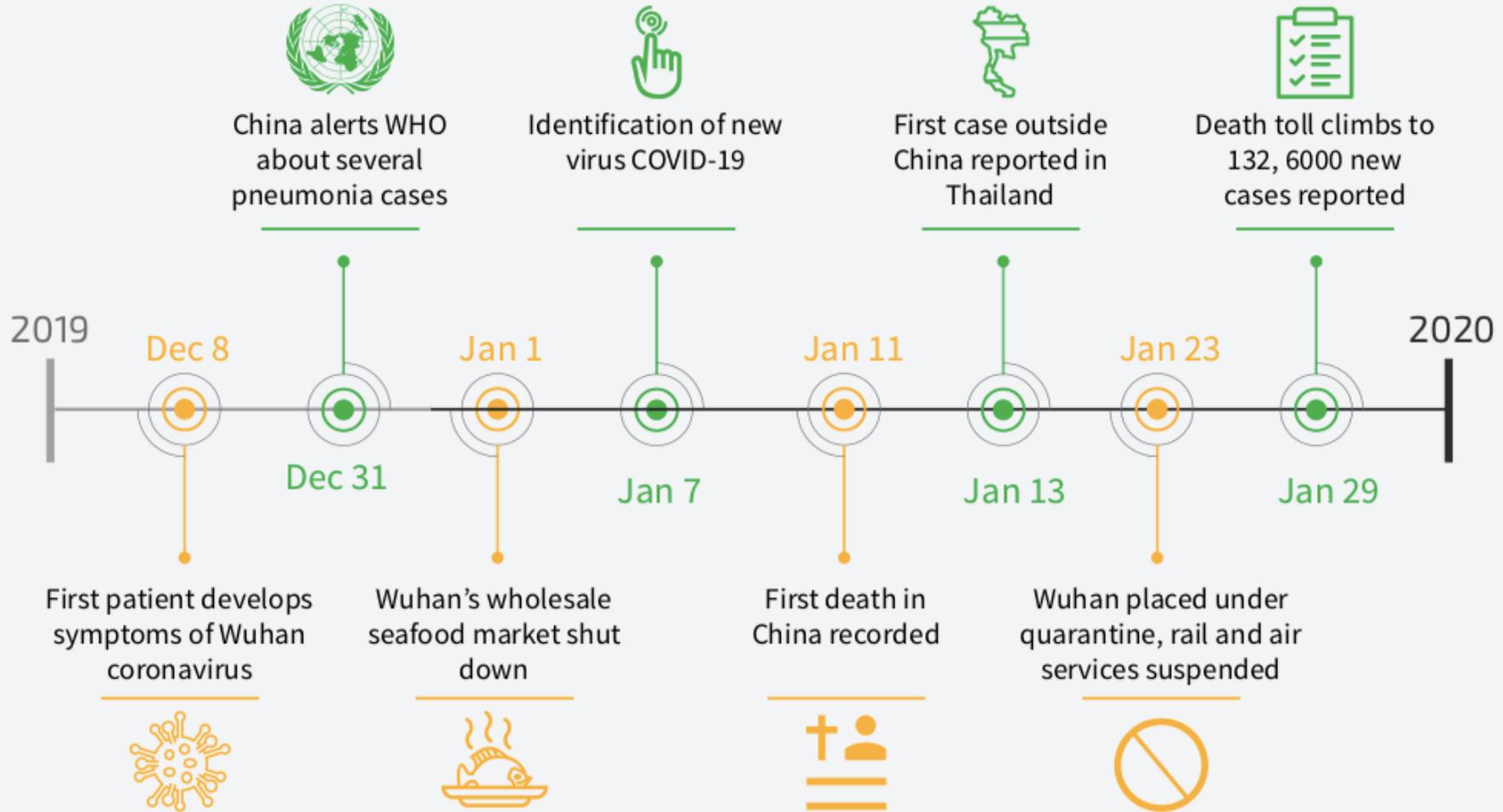
**RIN No. 1218-AC46**

### **Infectious Diseases**

**AGENCY:** Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Department of Labor.



## Coronavirus Timeline: The Beginning



Dispatches from a Pandemic

# 'The CDC actually said to use scarves and bandanas if we are out of masks,' says emergency room doctor on the front lines of coronavirus fight

Published: March 23, 2020 at 3:16 p.m. ET

This is protection



**This Is NOT Protection.**

#ProtectNurses. All Our Lives Depend On It.

National Nurses United



## More than 1,700 U.S. healthcare workers have died from COVID-19, nurses' union says

by Tina Reed | Sep 28, 2020 3:37pm



Meatpacking  
Outbreak –  
CDC  
Investigations

# How could a scientific agency make recommendations that contradict science?

- “Under Trump, political appointees have the authority to override science whenever they want if it doesn’t conform to their political agenda,” Andrew Rosenberg – Center for Science and Democracy

- NEWS FEATURE 05 October 2020 – nature research
- Update 07 October 2020
- How Trump damaged science — and why it could take decades to recover



Illustration by Señor Salme

# OSHA Infectious Disease Standards, Sidelined In 2017, Would Have Saved Some Workers From COVID-19

Posted on by [Emery Reddy](#)





craft

# TELL OSHA TO PROTECT **FRONTLINE WORKERS**

Tell OSHA to issue an Emergency Temporary Standard within seven days that covers **all** workers

**#DoYourJobOSHA**

# Emergency Temporary Standards

OSHA is authorized to set emergency temporary standards that take effect immediately and are in effect until superseded by a permanent standard. OSHA must determine that workers are in grave danger due to exposure to agents determined to be physically harmful or to new hazards and that an emergency standard is needed to protect them.



# OSHA Issued Guidance instead of Standards

Try to keep people 6 feet apart, if it's not too much of an inconvenience



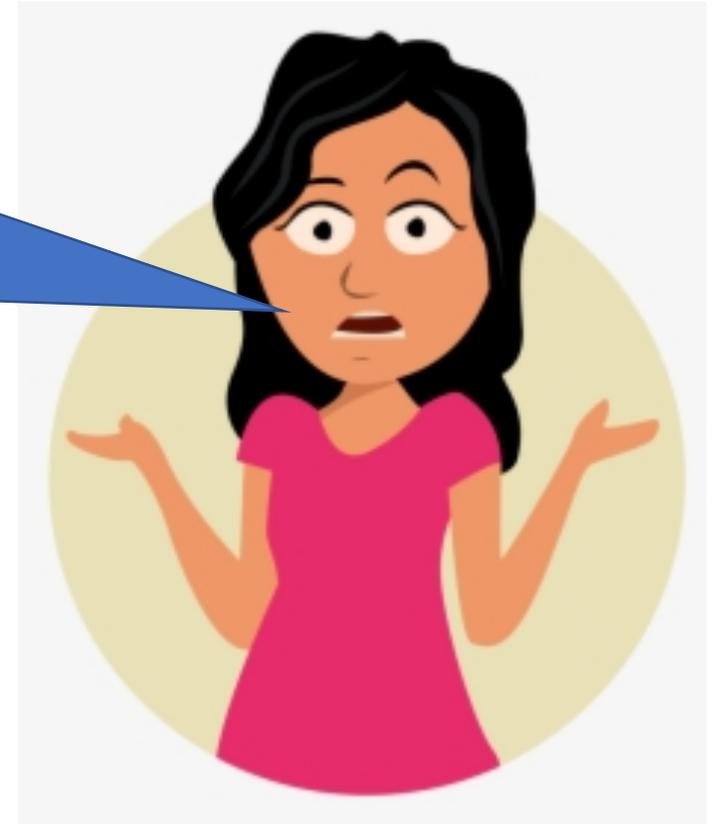
# A California Chicken Plant Just Had the Deadliest Meatpacking Outbreak Yet

*Following months of warnings, a Foster Farms plant closed after at least 392 workers tested positive and 8 died.*



On Sept. 3, 2020, people gathered for a candlelight vigil to honor the eight lives lost and hundreds of families impacted by a COVID-19 outbreak at Foster Farms' plant in Livingston, Calif. **Andrew Kuhn/The Merced Sun-Star via AP**

So, what's the difference between guidance and an enforceable standard?



## Enforceable Standard – Bloodborne Pathogens

- 1910.1030(d)(2)(vi) Employers shall ensure that employees wash hands and any other skin with soap and water, or flush mucous membranes with water immediately or as soon as feasible following contact of such body areas with blood or other potentially infectious materials.

## OSHA Guidance – Corona Virus

For all workers, regardless of specific exposure risks, **it is always a good practice** to:

Frequently wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. When soap and running water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand rub with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands that are visibly soiled.

# Standard vs Guidance

## Standard

- The employer must comply or face enforcement actions
- Places responsibility on employer

## Guidance

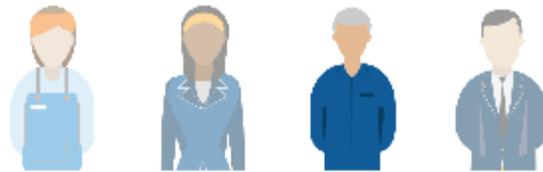
- We hope the employer complies
- Places responsibility on worker

But I can't just walk off the line to go wash my hands...



## OSHA Guidance on Workers with Increased Susceptibility for SARS-CoV-2 Infection or Complications

Identify workers who may be at increased susceptibility for SARS-CoV-2 infection or complications from COVID-19 and **consider** adjusting their work responsibilities or locations to minimize exposure. Other flexibilities, **if feasible**, can help prevent potential exposures among workers who have diabetes, heart or lung issues, or other immunocompromising health conditions.



# 37.7 million

This represents 37.7 million workers who either have pre-existing medical conditions that put them at higher risk or are at least 65 years old.

# 24%

Nearly one in four workers are considered at high risk of serious illness if they get infected by the novel coronavirus.



# Federal OSHA Activity since April 20, 2020

- Approximately 10,000 complaints or referrals
- 37 on-site inspections
- Closed approximately 9,000 complaints or referrals



How can they close complaints without an inspection?

# OSHA Inspections

**For the past 50 years – on-site inspections with worker interviews**



**During Pandemic – letter to employer saying, “please inspect yourself”**

*Currently, there is an outbreak of COVID-19, also known as Coronavirus. At this time, OSHA is prioritizing its enforcement resources, and OSHA does not intend to conduct an on-site inspection in response to the subject complaint at this time. However, because allegations of violations and/or hazards have been made, we request that you immediately investigate the alleged conditions and make any necessary corrections or modifications. Please advise me in writing, no later than [Date Response Due], of the results of your investigation.*



## Meatpacking Outbreak – OSHA Citations

- 1 plant, 4 deaths, 1,294 positive cases
- citation = \$13,494
- \$3373.50 for each worker death or \$10.43 per sick worker
- How much is a worker's life worth?

# 159 YEARS



That's how long it would take federal inspectors at an under-resourced OSHA to inspect each workplace once.

## IS YOUR WORKPLACE SAFE?

#1uSafety

AFL-CIO

The Trump administration has decreased OSHA's ability to inspect workplaces

OSHA currently has the lowest number of inspectors in the history of the agency.

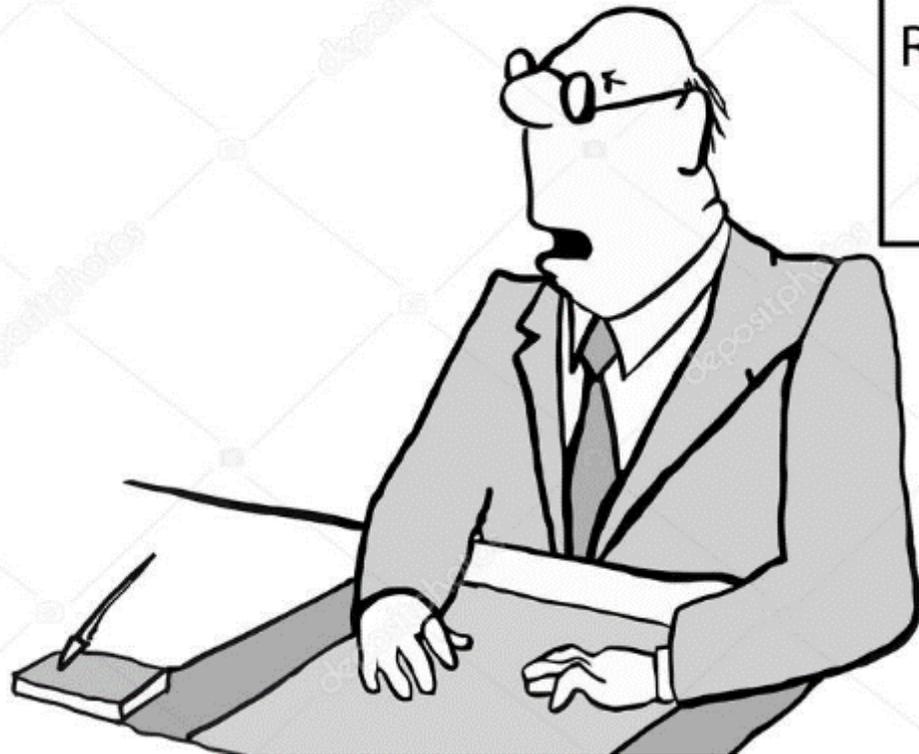
STARVE AT HOME,  
DIE AT WORK.  
We Can Do It!



A MESSAGE FROM TRUMP'S PANDEMIC LABOR BOARD

## Work or Starve

- The Unemployment Insurance program protects workers from returning to jobs that have become unsafe. This protection has been part of Unemployment Insurance since it was created in 1935.
- During the pandemic, Trump's Secretary of Labor weakened this protection and encouraged employers to report workers so that they would be dropped from Unemployment Insurance for failing to return to unsafe jobs.



Not  
Responsible  
for  
Anything

No Employer Responsibility  
for Workplace Covid Cases

The Trump  
Department of Labor  
issued guidance that  
removed most  
employer  
responsibility to  
investigate or record  
workplace-related  
coronavirus cases in  
workplaces

AFL-CIO, SEIU File  
Complaint Charging  
Trump Administration's  
COVID-19 Response  
Violated Global Labor  
Standards



SEIU and the AFL-CIO filed a complaint with the International Labor Organization charging the Trump administration with violating global standards in its handling of the Covid-19 crisis in our workplaces.

# Summary

- Every worker has a right to a safe workplace
- Government rules and research on workplace safety are powerful tools for workers
- NIOSH is the agency that does the science. NIOSH studies hazards and how to protect workers from those hazards. NIOSH helps OSHA develop standards
- OSHA enforces standards. OSHA promulgates standards, inspects workplaces, and fines employers who put workers lives at risk.
- These important roles have been weakened by the Trump administration in ways we have never seen before.
- *“When it comes to the response to the largest public health crisis of our time, our current political leaders have demonstrated that they are dangerously incompetent. We should not abet them and enable the deaths of thousands more Americans by allowing them to keep their jobs.”* – New England Journal of Medicine 10/08/2020



Workplace  
Safety depends  
on your vote.