WELCOME EVERYONE

West Central Ohio Safety Council

West Central Ohio Safety Council
October 2026 Monthly Meeting

TODAY'S AGENDA

West Central Ohio Safety Council

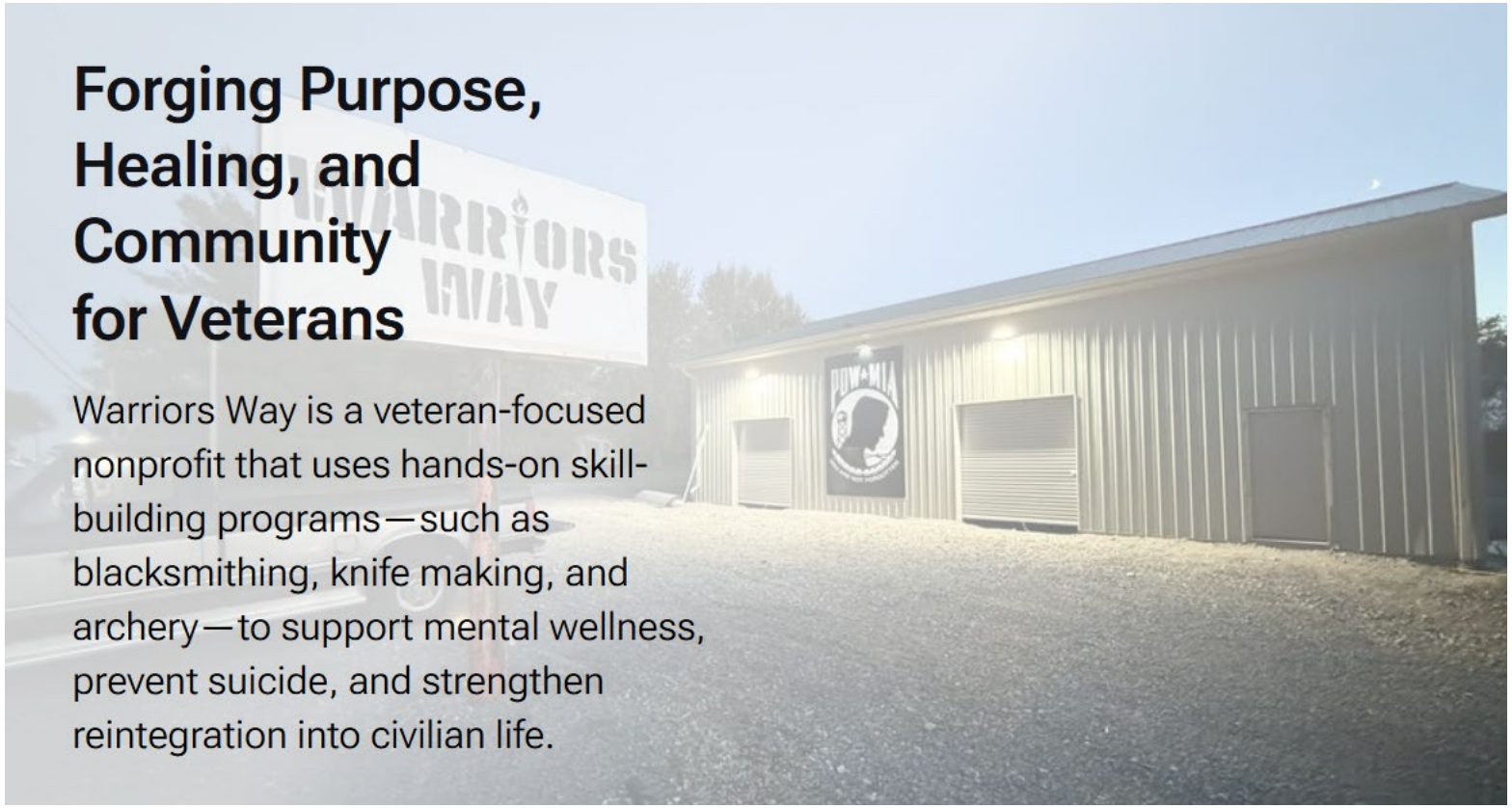
8:00 am: Meeting Begins with Announcements

- Deb – SC updates and External Training Opportunities
- Eastman & Smith Updates – Kim Kondalski
- BWC Updates from Butch Blankenship
- Keynote Speaker Presentation – **Koorsen Fire & Security – Preventing the Unthinkable**
- Meeting Wrap-Up - Pull 50/50 Winning Number
- Meeting Adjourned by 9 am

***SLIDES WILL BE SHARED WITH ATTENDEES AFTER THE MEETING AS WELL AS THE ATTENDANCE

FY2027 CHARITIES

Warrior's Way



West Central Ohio Safety Council

BUY YOUR 50/50 RAFFLE TICKETS NOW

West Central Ohio Safety Council



For Sale at the registration table

Now accepting Venmo

6 tickets for $5

1 ticket for $1

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

West Central Ohio Safety Council

President: **Amy Ricker**, Lima Pallet Co.

Vice President: **Crystal Jackson**, Cenovus- Husky Lima Refinery

Past President: Craig Hohenbrink, INEOS

Josh Unterbrink, Chamber Liaison

Joe Hutton, Fort Amanda Specialties

Tony Daley, Spallinger Millwright

Deb Katzenmeyer, Director



ATTENDANCE

West Central Ohio Safety Council

🦺 Safety resources matter — presentation slides will be emailed following today's meeting.

📘 Need external safety credits? Flyers are available at the registration table, along with monthly learning flyers from BWC.

✔️ Stay compliant — please review and verify your attendance throughout the year to ensure accurate safety records.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE OF MONTHLY MEETING

West Central Ohio Safety Council

Certified Occupational Safety Specialist

- Week of Nov 2 – 6, 2026
- Instructed by Bob Momany, Safety Council of Northwest Ohio

DRUG FREE SAFETY PROGRAM - 2026

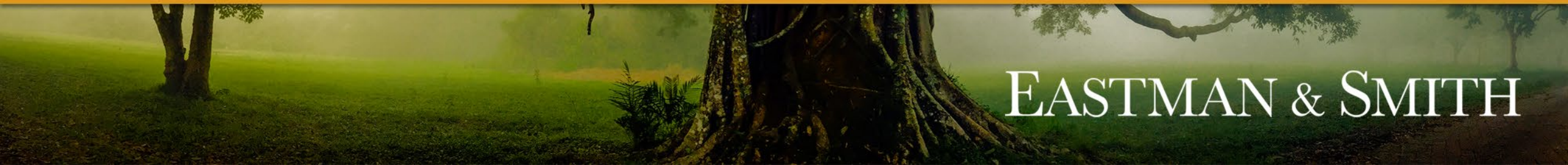
West Central Ohio Safety Council

- Drug Free Safety Training
- Wednesday,October 14, 2026
- Sheakley Trainer



Invites have been sent.

Thanks to Eastman & Smith for their continued support of our safety council annual program!



Safety Council Update

Kimberly S. Kondalski, Esq.
October 2026

EASTMAN & SMITH

RESOURCEFUL • RELIABLE • RESPONSIVE

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Employer Intentional Torts ("EIT")

RC § 2745.01



Workers' compensation immunity

- Ohio workers' compensation is a no-fault system. Injured workers do not need to establish fault on the part of the employer in order to participate in the benefits of the Ohio Workers' Compensation Fund.
- In return, employers get immunity from lawsuits for damages from injured employees. Workers' compensation is generally an injured worker's exclusive remedy.

EIT Exception

- *Hoyle v. DTJ Ents., Inc.*"..when an employee seeks damages resulting from an act or omission committed by the employer with the intent to injure, the claim arises outside of the employment relationship, and the workers' compensation system does not preempt the employee's cause of action."

R.C. § 2745.01

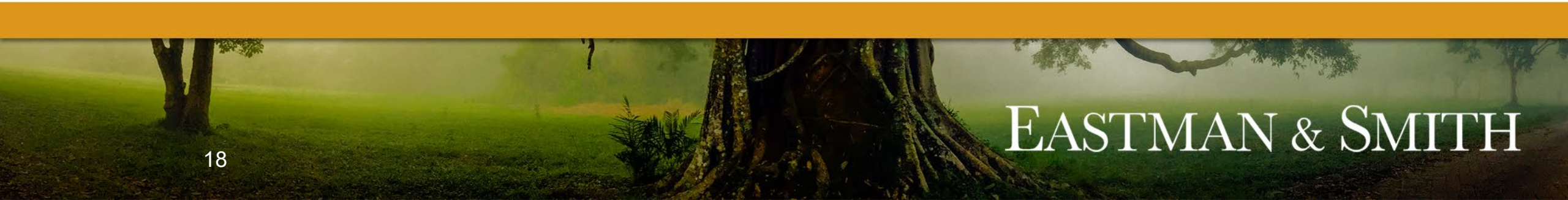
(a)…the employer shall not be liable unless the plaintiff proves that the employer committed the tortious act with the intent to injure another or with the belief that the injury was substantially certain to occur.

(b)…"substantially certain" means that an employer acts with deliberate intent to cause an employee to suffer an injury, a disease, a condition, or death.

(c)Deliberate removal by an employer of an equipment safety guard or deliberate misrepresentation of a toxic or hazardous substance creates a rebuttable presumption that the removal or misrepresentation was committed with intent to injure another if an injury or an occupational disease or condition occurs as a direct result.

Damages, etc.

- Injured worker gets workers' compensation benefits
- Injured worker can sue the employer in court for damages
- Possible OSHA violation
- Injured worker might also file a VSSR



EIT lawsuits

- Fewer claims are being filed because the statutory standard for “intent” is high
- The Ohio Supreme Court just decided an EIT case in favor of the injured worker – *Camara v. Gill Dairy, LLC* (Madison County, Aug. 12, 2026)

Thank You!

Kim Kondalski, Esq.

Eastman & Smith Ltd.

(419) 247-1667

EASTMAN & SMITH



Bureau of Workers' Compensation

October safety council update

West Central Ohio Safety Council

Butch Blankenship

bwc.ohio.gov

Bureau of Workers' Compensation

Monthly learning – October and November

bwclearningcenter.com

Oct. 6 - OSHA 10: Industry safety basics

Mid-Ohio Conference Center (MOCC), Mansfield, OH

Oct. 14 - Ergonomics: Basic principles

Ohio Fire Academy, Reynoldsburg, OH

Oct. 27 - OSHA 10: Industry safety basics

Cincinnati/Springdale Service Office

Nov. 3 - OSHA 10: Industry safety basics

Walsh University, North Canton, OH

Nov. 5 - Electrical basics

Edison State Community College, Piqua, OH

In-person classes and virtual training classes (VTC) qualify for Safety Council rebate external training credits.

Monthly learning – October and November (Continued)

bwclearningcenter.com

Nov. 12 - First aid in the workplace

Ohio Fire Academy, Reynoldsburg, OH

Nov. 18 - Powered industrial trucks: Developing a training program half-day workshop

Owens Center for Emergency Preparedness, Walbridge, OH

Nov. 19 - Ergonomic risk factors: Understanding and identifying

Walsh University, North Canton, OH

Nov. 19 - Machine guarding basics

Walsh University, North Canton, OH

In-person classes and virtual training classes (VTC) qualify for Safety Council rebate external training credits.

Virtual learning – October and November

bwclearningcenter.com

- **Oct. 1** - Safety series workshop module 2: Ergonomics, accident analysis, and hazard assessment basics
- **Oct. 7** - Controlling workers' compensation costs
- **Oct. 13** - Bloodborne pathogens
- **Oct. 22** - Safety for the non-safety professional workshop
- **Oct. 29** - Safety series workshop module 3: Hazard communication and personal protective equipment basi

In-person classes and virtual training classes (VTC) qualify for Safety Council rebate external training credits.

Virtual learning – October and November (Continued)

bwclearningcenter.com

- **Nov. 3** - Wellness in the workplace
- **Nov. 4** - Lockout/tagout and safety-related work practices
- **Nov. 5** - Crisis de-escalation tactics and safe work practices workshop
- **Nov. 10** - Safety series workshop module 4: Walking working surfaces and emergency action plan basics
- **Nov. 17** - Accident analysis half-day workshop
- **Nov. 19** - Ergonomic risk factors: Understanding and identifying

In-person classes and virtual training classes (VTC) qualify for Safety Council rebate external training credits.

Webinars – October and November

bwclearningcenter.com

- **October** - No webinars scheduled for October
- **November** - No webinars scheduled for November

Webinars do not qualify for Safety Council rebate external training credits.

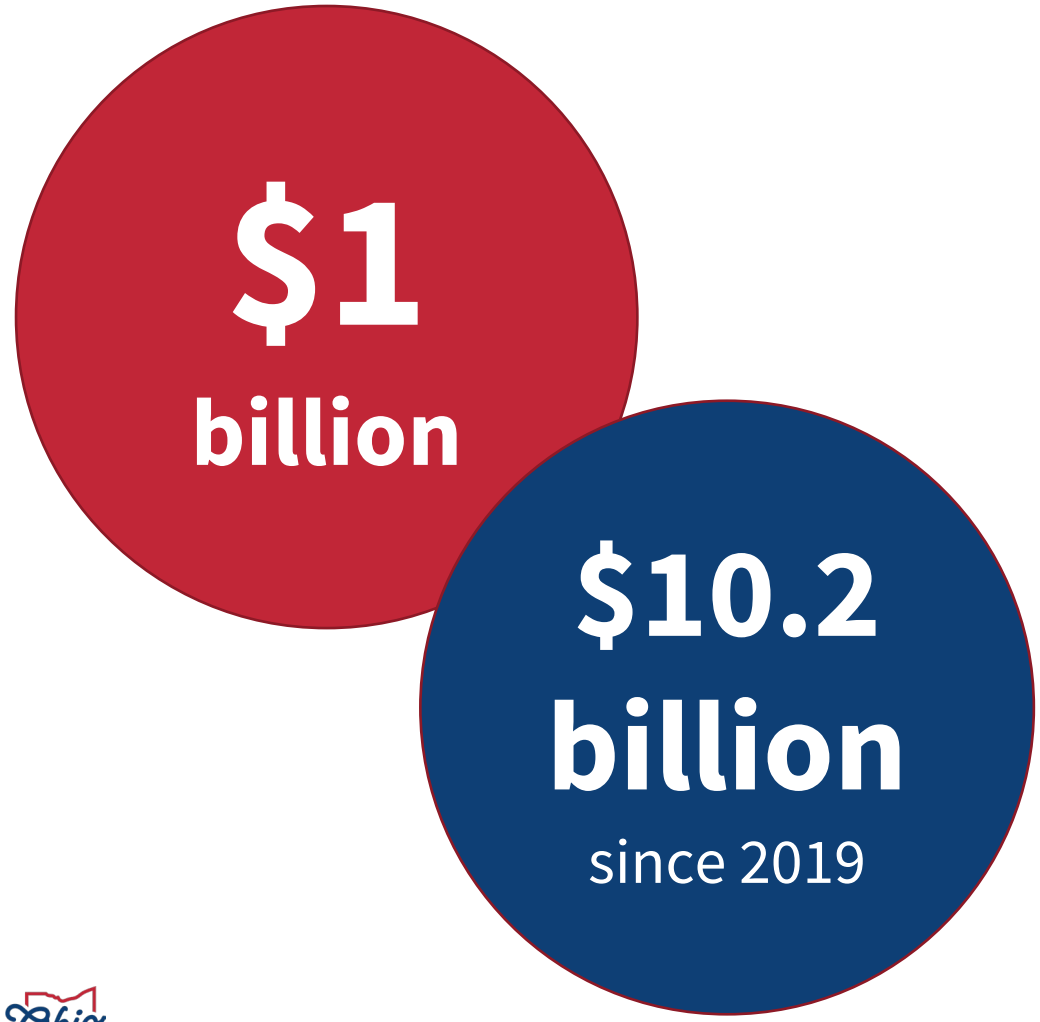
Private employer important dates – October and November

- **Nov. 23** - PA Group Experience Rating application deadline for 7/1/2027 start date (TPAs must file by COB)

Public employer important dates – October and November

- **Oct. 31** - PEC PY 2027 notice of estimated annual premium mailed (approximate date)
- **Nov. 15** - PEC deadline for deferred payment option for PY 2027
- **Nov. 15** - PEC last date employer can change installment plan for PY 2027

Dividend proposal



- The BWC Board of Directors has approved Governor Mike DeWine's request to issue a $1 billion dividend to Ohio employers.
- The total dividend payments exceed the premiums employers have paid since 2019.
- Checks will be delivered to eligible employers throughout Sept. and Oct.

Save the date: March 16-19, 2027



150+ sessions



9000+ participants



200+ speakers



300+ exhibitors

Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation

OSC27®

Ohio Safety Congress & Expo

Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation
OSC27
Ohio Safety Congress & Expo

Distracted driving



Bureau of Workers' Compensation

What is off limits?



Dialing a phone number



Updating or browsing social media



Browsing the internet



Playing games



Sending a text message
voice to text is legal via "hands free" method



Video calls or FaceTime



Watching videos
GPS/navigational displays are allowed



Recording or streaming video

Remember, drivers under the age of 18 are still restricted from using their devices in any way, including hands-free features.

Image courtesy of Ohio Dept of Public Safety

Why is it important?

- **Nationally in 2022** (law enforcement reports):
  - 289,310 injured in traffic crashes involving distracted drivers
  - 3,308 killed
  - 621 nonoccupants killed
- **NHTSA study of 2019 vehicle accidents estimates:**
  - 1,300,000 nonfatal injuries
  - 10,546 fatalities
  - $98.2 billion in costs

https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/safety-topics/distracted-driving#4926
https://www.nhtsa.gov/speeches-presentations/national-distracted-driving-coalition

Defensive driving

1. Plan and allow plenty of time
2. Focus on driving
3. Maintain a safe following distance
4. Maintain a legal and safe speed

Plan ahead and allow plenty of time

- Plan ahead and allow plenty of time
- Enter the address in your driving directions app
- Check arrival time
- If going to be late, call ahead
- Most apps will also give:
  - Live traffic updates
  - Real-time safety alerts
  - Posted speed limits

Focus on driving. Avoid distractions



OSHP	2025	2026 (Jan. - Sep. 10th)
Distracted driving violations	31,318	39,563

Source: https://statepatrol.ohio.gov/dashboards-statistics/statistics/statewide-and-county-statistics

House Bill 95 (2018)

- ORC 4511.991 defines "distracted"
  - Cannot text (4511.204)
  - Cannot engage in any activity not necessary to the operation of vehicle and impairs (or reasonably could impair) the ability to drive safely.
  - Handheld device can still be used to make phone calls, but the phone must be held to the person's ear and not looked at while driving. Also, you cannot manually enter letters, numbers or symbols.

Secondary offense

HB 283 - hands-free law (2023)

- It is illegal to use or hold a cell phone or electronic device in your hand, lap, or other parts of the body while driving on Ohio roads.
- Drivers over 18 years of age can make or receive calls via hands-free devices, including:
    - Speakerphone, earpiece, wireless headset, electronic watch, connecting phone to vehicle

Primary offense

Safe driving tips

- Visual search
- Speed management
- Space management
- Communication
- Preventing injury from hot vehicles

Office of Safety Services – We are here to help

On-site safety consultations

Workplace hazard assessments

Ergonomics and process safety reviews

Training and education courses

Grant opportunities for safety equipment



Bureau of Workers' Compensation

BWC.Ohio.gov

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FIRE & SECURITY

Welcome!



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Koorsen UNIVERSITY

Tonya Sarno



Corporate Sales Mgr.



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Koorsen® UNIVERSITY

Indiana Fire Prevention Company





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OHIO LOCATIONS

- Akron
- Cincinnati
- Cleveland
- Columbus
- Dayton
- Dover
- Mansfield
- Toledo



Koorsen® UNIVERSITY

HEADQUARTERS:
Indianapolis
12 locations

Ohio
8 locations

Kentucky
Lexington | Louisville

Tennessee
Nashville

Alabama
Huntsville

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Betty Dankworth



Dayton/Lima Territory Acct. Mgr.

Betty has been in the Fire Protection Industry for over 16 years where she has dedicated herself to protecting lives and property of the customers & communities that she serves.



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Koorsen® UNIVERSITY

Preventing the Unthinkable

The Critical Lifeline of Regular Fire Audits

Presented By: Betty Dankworth

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The Danger of Complacency & Blind Spots







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Deferred Maintenance Risks vs Short-Term Budgets

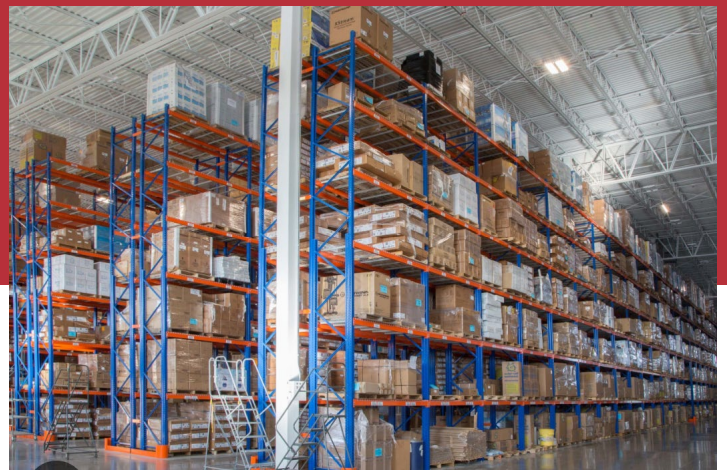
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The Documentation Gap & Legal Liability

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Outdated Protection:
The Evolving Building or Equipment Layout



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Navigating Codes:



Core NFPA & IFC Standards

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Designing the Standardized Internal Checklist



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Executing the Walk-Through: Real-Time Catching



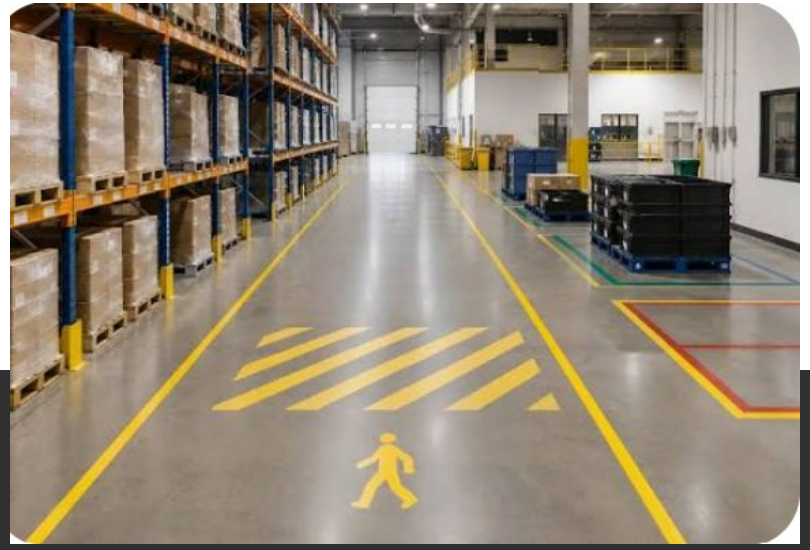
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Koorsen® FIRE & SECURITY

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Preventing the Unthinkable

Plain Language Training for Daily Operational Compliance



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Formulating the Corrective Action Plan



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Who has the first Question?

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National Fire Prevention Week
October 4th – 10th



Cheap Charger – ***Don't chance it!***

Fully Charged – ***Unplug***

Soft Surface – ***Hard Pass***

Power Tools, Ebikes, Scooters - ***Charge Outside***

On a Flight – ***Keep it insight***

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Check attendance - Scan QR Code

West Central Ohio Safety Council

CLICK HERE TO VIEW ATTENDANCE Through 9-30-26

Please look this over ASAP and reach out with any discrepancies for me to review.

West Central Ohio Safety Council

THANKS FOR BEING HERE TODAY

50/50 DRAWING



THANKS FOR ATTENDING

West Central Ohio Safety Council

THE NEXT MEETING IS ON

November 10, 2026

UNTIL THEN….

BE SAFE OUT THERE! ☺