



# Board of Commissioners

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Lake County Commissioners Proclaim Workers Memorial Day

PAINESVILLE, Ohio, April 27, 2023– At today’s Commissioner’s meeting, the Board of Lake County Commissioners proclaimed April 28, 2023, as Workers Memorial Day to mourn workers killed and injured on the job.

“On behalf of OSHA [Occupational Safety and Health Administration] I want to thank the Lake County Commissioner’s Office for their support and recognition of Workers Memorial Day on April 28, 2023. We continue to remember the workers who have lost their lives on the job. We also recommit to our shared mission of preventing workplace injuries and illnesses. Together, we can create a safer workplace for all workers,” said OSHA Area Director, Howard Eberts.



*From the left: Commissioner Plecnik, OSHA Industrial Hygienist Kayla Flower, Commissioner Hamercheck, OSHA Area Director Howard Eberts, Commissioner Reaqovich.*

Private industry employers reported 2.6 million non-fatal workplace injuries and illnesses, and close to 880,000 injury and illness cases were reported among state and local government workers. Work injuries involving transportation incidents were the most common fatal events in 2021, accounting for over 38.2% of deaths.

“We urge all employers, including local governments, to dedicate their efforts to improve workplace safety, seek stronger health standards enforcement, and to treat workers with dignity as we pursue all constant improvements in worker safety,” said Commission President John R. Hamercheck.

The push for production, an influx of new workers as older and more experienced workers retire, reduced staffing levels, the growing use of subcontracting and outsourcing, mandatory overtime, and changes in technology and work processes all threaten workers’ safety and health. The COVID-19 pandemic exposed these hard truths and highlighted severe weaknesses in worker protections and health safety rights afforded under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.

“On Workers Memorial Day, we join together to remember those who lost their lives while on the job, and to support those left behind, who are mourning each loss. We have to work together to create a safer work environment for all,” said Commissioner John Plecnik.

“This is a day of remembrance to honor and remember those who lost their lives on the job and reaffirm every worker’s basic right to a safe and healthy workplace,” said Commissioner Richard J. Regovich.

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