

AGC of Greater Milwaukee Labor & Legal Update

August 22, 2017



The *Labor & Legal Update* is provided as part of the AGC of Greater Milwaukee's Labor Relations Program, and is an essential resource designed to help keep you informed on the latest labor and legal developments in the local construction industry. AGC members and affiliates are encouraged to contact AGC's General Counsel, Nathan Jurowski, with any questions or comments regarding this publication, at (414) 778-4104 or njurowski@agc-gm.org.

Labor Relations

AGC Introduces a New Labor Management Review Committee with the Carpenters

The AGC would like to announce the introduction of a new initiative designed to keep labor and management engaged in substantive discussions throughout the year, the creation of the Labor Management Review Committee.

During AGC's 2017 negotiations with the North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters, we discussed the need for management and labor to continue working together after bargaining to review the many challenges which could not be adequately addressed during bargaining. In response, we created a Labor Management Review Committee with the Carpenters. Representatives from both management and the Union will meet periodically throughout the year to discuss such things as the effectiveness of the current agreement, safety, workforce development and recruitment.

This signifies a step forward in labor relations in our region, allowing us to not only be proactive in addressing potential issues, but also enabling us to build greater amity, leading to a more fair and balanced labor agreement.

If you have any questions, contact Nathan Jurowski, AGC General Counsel, at njurowski@agc-gm.org or at (414) 778-4104.

State Regulation

The 2017 Worker Compensation Rates Are Here

Rates drop October 1, 2017, thanks in part to a safety-conscious industry

The Wisconsin Compensation Rating Bureau (WCRB) recently released the new annually adjusted [Workers Compensation Rates](#), which go into effect October 1, 2017. These numbers continue a recent trend of declining rates.

The WCRB promulgates the annual Workers Compensation Rates, which are then approved by the State of Wisconsin, Office of the Commissioner of Insurance. This year the trend of rate decreases continued, with the aggregate [contracting classification](#) dropping by 8.28%, and [construction classifications](#) by 9.76%. Click [here](#) to review the highlights of the new rates.

In a recent **Lunch and Learn** program, hosted by the AGC, WCRB President, Bernie Rosauer, discussed

possible causes of this beneficial trend, stating that one factor may be the increased focus on safety. He cited the shift in employers' sentiment toward prevention, which we know to be true for our local contractors.

Here at the AGC, we will continue to provide valuable updates essential for efficient management of your business, as well as necessary safety services you depend on.

If you have any questions, contact Nathan Jurowski, AGC General Counsel, at njurowski@agc-gm.org or at (414) 778-4104.

Educational Programing Calendar

AGC's Lunch and Learn Series

New Workers Compensation Rates (hosted August 9, 2017)

On August 9, 2017, the AGC hosted speakers from the Wisconsin Compensation Rating Bureau (WCRB) to discuss the new Workers Compensation Rates, effective October 1, 2017. Attendees learned the nuts and bolts of how the rates are calculated, and were able to ask WCRB President, Bernie Rosauer, and Vice President of Technical Services, Tad Cleveland, specific questions affecting the construction industry.

Subcontractor Default Mitigation and Recovery Strategies

September 13, 2017, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

Join us on September 13th, as the AGC hosts a discussion on the prevalence of subcontractor default, and how to implement strategies to mitigate or avoid this serious threat to your projects. Attorney Brian Zimmerman, of the law firm Hurtado Zimmerman, S.C., will share his extensive experience in this area, and provide tips and strategies to help protect you from the impacts of subcontractor defaults.

For further information or to register, contact Kim Jalalian, AGC Education Director at (414) 778-4100 or kjalalian@agc-gm.org.



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