



DOL News Brief

February 11, 2010

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Job Corps "Meets" Foster Youth



Little Rock Job Corps students recently helped spread the message of how the program helps young adults leave foster care and transition to independent living. The

center hosted country music star Jimmy Wayne as he walked halfway across the country for his "Meet Me Halfway" campaign to raise awareness about young adults who age out of the foster care system and are at risk of becoming homeless.

WHD on Seasonal/Child Labor in Agriculture

On February 3, DOL's Wage and Hour District Office in North Carolina presented a workshop on the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act and Child Labor in Agriculture as part of the 16th annual Gold Star Grower meeting. Links to lists of Registered Farm Labor Contractors and Ineligible Farm Labor Contractors were provided to 150 agricultural employers who potentially affect 3,750 workers. Sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Labor and the Agriculture Safety and Health Bureau, the event was a critical part of the state's FY 2010 agriculture initiative.

Special Tribute to Congressman John Murtha



"The nation lost an advocate for peace. Pennsylvania lost a great champion. And I lost a mentor and friend," said Secretary Solis in tribute to Pennsylvania Congressman John

Murtha, who died on Monday. A recipient of two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star with Combat V, Murtha fought tirelessly for human rights and served the people of Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District since 1974. He and Solis shared a special bond: both were winners of the prestigious John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award.

What's Hot: Final Rule for H-2A Announced

Secretary Solis announced that the department will publish a Final Rule governing the labor certification process and enforcement mechanisms for the H-2A temporary agricultural worker program in the Feb. 12 edition of the *Federal Register*. "This new rule will make it possible for all those who are working hard on American soil to receive fair pay while at the same time expand opportunities for U.S. workers," said Solis. "The actions that we have taken through this rulemaking will also enable us to detect and remedy different forms of worker violations." The rule will be effective March 15.

- [Read the News Release](#)
- [Listen to Secretary Solis' Conference Calls](#)

DOL Working For You

Former Chrysler Employee Launches Energy Efficiency Company

Don Bosworth knows energy efficiency will reduce America's dependency on foreign oil and gas. He parlayed that knowledge into successfully starting his own "green" technology energy company thanks in part to Labor Department funding.



After a 10-year stint as a pipe fitter with Chrysler Corporation in Michigan, Don took a buyout so he and wife Jean could start Bestech Energy Systems, LLC. With his company in start-up mode, Bosworth enrolled in the Michigan Works! worker training program and was certified as a residential energy auditor.

Now he uses green technology to reduce energy costs and make homes and offices more energy efficient. He also helps the community by giving discounts to the unemployed, disabled and those hard hit by the economic downturn. Bosworth said the training he received was invaluable for it "allowed me to step forward and make a decent living."

Around DOL

Always in Fashion: A Healthy Heart



On Friday, February 5, DOL employees joined Americans nationwide by showing off a favorite red dress, shirt, tie, or red dress pin to support women's heart disease awareness on National Wear Red Day. This observance provides an opportunity to spread the critical message that "Heart Disease Doesn't Care What You Wear" as it is the number one killer

of women in the United States.

- [Read the Secretary's Statement](#)

ETA Seeks Grant Panelists

In June and July of 2009, the Department's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) announced six competitions that focus on preparing workers for careers in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries, health care and other high growth and emerging fields. ETA is currently seeking a diverse pool of experts from the workforce system, community colleges and other higher education institutions, community and faith based organizations, business and industry partners, and related organizations to review and score these applications along with ETA staff. Interested individuals should submit their contact information and a resume to eta.paneling@dol.gov.

- [More Information](#)

Upcoming Deadlines & Events

EBSA — Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program Workshop

- [February 17, 2010, AM - Boise, ID](#)
- [February 17, 2010, PM - Boise, ID](#)

MSHA — Rules to Live By

- [February 12, 2010 - Charleston, WV](#)

ODEP — We're Listening

- [February 16, 2010 - Berkeley, CA](#)

OFCCP — ADA and Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended Seminar

- [February 19, 2010 - Richmond, VA](#)

OFCCP — ARRA Compliance Assistance Seminar

- [February 17, 2010 - Boston, MA](#)

OFCCP — ARRA Construction Contractors Webinar

- [February 18, 2010 - Online](#)
- [February 18, 2010 - Online](#)

OFCCP — Compliance Assistance Meeting

- [February 15, 2010 - Newport, RI](#)
- [February 17, 2010 - Boston, MA](#)

OFCCP — Construction Compliance Assistance

- [February 18, 2010 - Baltimore, MD](#)
- [February 18, 2010 - Seattle, WA](#)

OFCCP — Everything You Want to Know

- [Read the President's American Heart Month Proclamation](#)
- [Learn More and Get Involved](#)

DOL Gets an "A" for Open Government from Cato

The Labor Department's Open Government effort is getting some impressive notice...and really making the grade! Recently, the Cato Institute (a non-profit public policy research foundation) looked at the three data-streams each federal agency released as part of the President's Open Government Directive. Cato "graded" the agencies on whether their data provided insight into agency management, deliberations, or results. DOL was one of only four agencies to receive a perfect score. Cato blogger and director of information policy studies Jim Harper noted that the department "really got to work and put out some helpful data!"

- [Read the Cato Report Card](#)
- [Visit dol.gov/open](#)

DOL in Action

Department Secures \$1 Million for Hurricane Katrina Recovery Workers

DOL filed a consent judgment against Fluor Enterprises Inc. and obtained a default judgment against Universal Project Management Inc. for failing to pay recovery workers overtime compensation in the wake of Hurricane Katrina as required by the Fair Labor Standards Act. The settlement agreement has resulted in payment of \$1 million. "Workers who help rebuild our communities and secure the safety of local residents following natural disasters should be fairly and legally compensated for the work they perform," said Secretary Solis.

- [Read the News Release](#)

Contempt Orders Against Employer for Ignoring OSHA Citations

The Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration announced issuance of contempt of court orders against Brian Andre and Regina Shaw for failing to comply with court orders enforcing citations of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission. The cases stem from numerous citations for willful, repeat and serious violations related to fall hazards, scaffolding erection deficiencies, power tool guarding and other hazards in connection with multiple projects in the St. Louis area.

- [Read the News Release](#)

Railroads to Compensate Employee Fired for Reporting Injury

Following an investigation by DOL's Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Illinois Central Railroad Co. and the Chicago, Central & Pacific Railroad, both headquartered in Homewood, Ill., have been ordered to pay a former railroad employee more than \$80,000 in back wages, compensatory damages and attorney's fees. The employee alleged that the railroads terminated his employment in retaliation for reporting an injury he sustained on the job. In addition to monetary reparations, the railroad carriers were ordered to provide whistleblower rights information to their employees.

- [Read the News Release](#)

Opportunities are Open: Economists

The Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is premier among statistical agencies, producing impartial, timely, and accurate data relevant to the needs of our Nation, its workers, and their families. Check out the

About Adverse Impact Analysis

- [February 17, 2010 - Houston, TX](#)

OFCCP — The Nuts and Bolts of Construction Compliance Evaluations

- [February 17, 2010 - Houston, TX](#)

OLMS — Compliance Assistance Seminar

- [February 17, 2010 - Springfield, IL](#)

economist positions below or [view all](#) the exciting and rewarding opportunities at DOL.

1. Multiple Positions in the Continental US

[Economists — GS-0110-07](#)

Close: 11/8/2010

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U.S. Department of Labor, Frances Perkins Building, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20210
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