

From: BWC e-communications
Sent: Monday, February 07, 2011 11:03 AM
To: BWC e-communications
Subject: BWC e-news - February 2011



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BWC e-news - February 2011

BWC Welcomes Administrator/CEO Steve Buehrer

Steve Buehrer was sworn in January 10 as BWC Administrator/CEO. During a brief ceremony at BWC's William Green Building in Columbus, he vowed to an audience of staff, business leaders, labor representatives and representatives of Ohio's workers' compensation system that their input will be expected and important in making workers' compensation a compliment to Ohio's overall business climate.

"Your voice will be heard," said Administrator Buehrer. "Change is not always easy, but it's vital to our state's future. We must put Ohio first at this time. The door is open, we need your feedback."

In his remarks, the former senator and attorney stressed the importance of service to BWC's two primary customers, injured workers and employers. He told BWC staff that they are pivotal in developing ways to better serve these customer groups.

A native of Delta in northwest Ohio, Administrator Buehrer has been a practicing attorney and most recently represented Ohio's 1st Senate District, a seat he held since 2007. There, he served as chairman of the Insurance, Commerce and Labor Committee, focusing on key issues that impact Ohio's economy, including business regulations, consumer protection and workers' compensation law. Buehrer previously served four terms beginning in 1999 as the state representative for the 82nd Ohio House District.

He has extensive experience in state government including work in the offices of the late Congressman Paul Gillmor, and former Ohio House Speaker Jo Ann Davidson. He also served as Director of Legislative Affairs for the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services; Deputy Director with the Ohio Department of Administrative Services; and was BWC's Chief of Human Resources from 1995 to 1998.

Administrator Buehrer attended Bowling Green State University, where he earned a degree in social studies education. He also holds a law degree from Capital

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University.

Register Now for Safety Congress & Expo 2011

BWC is gearing up for the annual Ohio Safety Congress & Expo March 29 to 31 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. You can start making your plans to attend by pre-registering at ohiobwc.com.

Safety Congress is the largest state occupational safety and health event in the Midwest. The free event features the latest safety and health information and techniques. Safety Congress features informative general sessions with nationally-recognized experts, safety demonstrations and more than 150 education courses. It also includes full-day workshops and an Expo Marketplace that showcases safety products and services by more than 200 vendors.

This year, Safety Congress will feature several keynote speakers, including Dr. John Howard, Director of the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the nation's leading work-related illness and injury research agency. Dr. Howard has done extensive work in the field of occupational safety and health and also serves as coordinator of the Department of Health and Human Service's World Trade Center Health Programs. Dr. Howard will discuss research initiatives, green job safety and protection against workplace hazards.

Catch Safety Congress updates at ohiobwc.com and on Twitter [@OSC2011](https://twitter.com/OSC2011).

Reminder: Private Employer Premium Deadline February 28

Ohio's nearly 270,000 private employers have until midnight February 28, 2011 to file payroll reports and pay workers' compensation premiums for the period covering July 1 through December 31, 2010.

BWC offers a number of options for reporting and payment to accommodate your business needs. You may select the most convenient option and pay online at ohiobwc.com. You can also pay in person at any BWC location or by calling 1-800-OHIOBWC.

Online payment allows you to future date your payments, taking the worry out of remembering to pay on time. With future dating, you can report your payroll as soon as possible and have your premium payment withdrawn from your checking or savings account at a later date. Click [here](#) to learn more about future dating.

You may also want to consider saving time and reducing paperwork the next time you submit a payroll report to BWC with the paperless payroll option. Paperless payroll, available for private employers and public employer taxing districts, sends e-mail alerts with a secure link that allows you to complete your payroll reports and make payments online. Click [here](#) to enroll.

BWC completes Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Report

BWC's [Fiscal Year 2010 Annual Report](#), which is published jointly with the Industrial Commission of Ohio, is now available. The report covers the period from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010.

In FY10, BWC managed 1.2 million open claims and paid medical and indemnity compensation to injured workers totaling nearly \$1.9 billion. Other highlights include the identification by BWC's special investigations department of more than \$66 million in workers' compensation fraud, representing \$6.30 in fraud identified for every dollar spent; and the devotion of 96 cents of every premium dollar collected to the care of injured workers, compared with the U.S. average of 69 cents.

Please take a moment to [forward this email](#) to other managers in your organization and to your colleagues who may find it of value.

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