Progressive Safety Discipline

and Enforcement

OSHA Regulation

• Section 5(a)(1) of the OSH Act requires the employer to furnish each employee with employment and a place of employment which are free from recognized hazards that are causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm.

How can you accomplish this?

- Written Policies and Procedures
- Effective Training
- A Progressive Disciplinary Program



Elements of a Progressive Disciplinary Program

- Policy which communicates company expectations and outlines consequences for noncompliance.
 - Verbal Warning should be noted in personnel file.
 - 2. Written Warning
 - 3. Days off work without compensation.
 - 4. Termination

Consequences continued...

- Levels 1, 2 and 3 should be accompanied with follow-up training for the employee.
- May contain a clause that provides for immediate termination for severe violations.
- Guidelines for length of time violations remain on record.

Possible Pitfalls to Avoid

- Inconsistency in application
- Disciplining for items employees have not yet been trained on
- Consistency throughout the management
- Employee camaraderie
- Fear of retaliation

What are the benefits?

- Reinforce company policy
- Clearly communicate company expectations
- Identify possible policy or training deficiencies
- Provide the company with affirmative defense in case of possible OSHA involvement.

Thank You!

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