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## **Recognizing and Preventing On-site Violence**

Although we do our best at to keep the workplace safe, violence by an outsider or between employees remains a serious safety and health issue. It can occur inside or outside the workplace, and can range from threats and verbal abuse to physical assaults and homicide. In fact, according to the U. S. Department of Labor (DOL), workplace violence is consistently a top five cause of fatal occupational injury in our country.

Tempers can flare and lead to violent behavior at any time. Construction and contracting workplaces are particularly hazardous because of the dangerous conditions that are inherently a part of the work environment, including working at height and power tools, which can ultimately be used as weapons.

Your safety is our top priority. As we emphasize in our Workplace Violence Prevention Program, we do not tolerate threats, bullying, harassment or any other form of violence. Help us keep you safe by understanding your risk and taking steps to protect yourself.

## **Identifying Your Risk**

Workplace violence can include actions or words that endanger or harm you, or result in other workers believing that they may be in danger, including:

- Verbal or physical harassment
  Verbal or physical threats
- Assaults or other violence

 Any other behavior that causes you to feel unsafe (bullying or sexual harassment)

## **Staying Safe**

Nothing can guarantee that you will not become a victim of workplace violence, but you do have the right to expect a workplace that promotes safety from violence, threats and harassment. We have taken steps to help prevent violence in the workplace. Contribute to the safety measures and other efforts that we have in place as follows:

- Become aware of and report violent or threatening behavior by co-workers or other warning signs.
- Take all threats seriously.
- Follow procedures established by our Workplace Violence Prevention Program, including those for reporting incidents.
- Learn how to recognize, avoid or diffuse potentially violent situations by attending personal safety training programs.
- Alert supervisors to any concerns about safety or security, and report all incidents immediately in writing.
- Avoid traveling alone to unfamiliar locations or being in unusual situations whenever possible.

## Stay Alert

It is of utmost importance to stay alert and aware of any potentially dangerous behavior.

While on the job, staying aware, recognizing potential hazards and staying effectively trained in conflict resolution can help keep you and your coworkers safe.



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Make sure that you are effectively trained in conflict resolution and methods of handling a potentially dangerous situation. Adhere to all of our policies and be aware of hazards to reduce your risk of being involved in volatile situations that could escalate to dangerous physical violence.