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*AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL!*

**Media Advisory for**  
**Friday, April 26, 2019**

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**In Memory and Honor...**  
**31<sup>st</sup> Annual Workers Memorial Day Program**

**For 115 Workers in PA, NJ, and DE**  
**Just going to work during the past year was deadly**

**[Philadelphia, PA]** – Everyday in the U.S. there are 14 worker's lives taken due to preventable work related incidents. Hundreds of family member victims lives forever changed.

This April 26<sup>th</sup> we come together to honor and remember the over 5,000 workers each year that have gone to work and never come home to their families. We stand beside the families that each day struggle through the everlasting devastation, pain and suffering one goes through after such a tragic loss.

Together we can make a difference and prevent workplace incidents not only on or around Workers' Memorial Day but, every other day throughout the year. Make workplace safety a top priority in your workplace and help all workers go home to their families at the end of their shift.

**WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY (Officially April 28<sup>th</sup>)**

On Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup> PhilaPOSH and the Philadelphia AFL-CIO will hold our annual program to remember those who have died from work-related injuries in the Tri-State area during the past year. We will distribute a list of 115 names we have identified who were killed.

Pennsylvania is one of 20 states in the U.S. that have no OSHA legislation for public sector workers. This includes public school employees, highway workers, state hospital employees, city and county workers...from trash collectors to those processing your requests and more. This is unacceptable.

Some of the families of workers who were killed in PA and NJ will be attending. They include workers from residential and commercial construction, manufacturing, warehousing, City employees, Verizon, river dredging, oil refinery, commuter rail.

Our speakers include:

- **Mayor of Philadelphia, Jim Kenney**
- **Brian Abernathy**, Managing Director for the City of Philadelphia who will be talking about the Resilience Project in relation to the Opioid Crisis in Philadelphia
- **Chris Scheiblein**, IBEW Local 98 Substance Abuse & Behavioral Health Counselor who will talk about the Opioid Crisis and the effects on the workplace.
- **Debbie Berkowitz**, National Employment Law Project's (NELP) Worker Safety and Health program director, <https://www.nelp.org/expert/senior-fellow-worker-safety-health/>. Debbie will be talking about the pending OSHA cuts and what it means for workers.

**Our entire program is in three parts. There are excellent photo opportunities throughout the program.**

- 1) **9:00am – 10:30am: Program with speakers and recognition of families attending at the Sheetmetal Workers Local 19 Hall, 1301 S. Columbus Blvd., Philadelphia**
- 2) **10:45 – 11:00am: Procession led by families with pictures of their loved ones and others wearing placards bearing the names of the 111 workers killed during the past year in our area. Procession proceeds to Penn's Landing (behind the Seaport Museum).**
- 3) **11:10 – Noon: Riverside program including prayer, comments from family members, and the reading of the 111 names of workplace fatalities.**

**Attached is a copy of this year's Fatality List, by state.**