

# “The Washington Buzz”



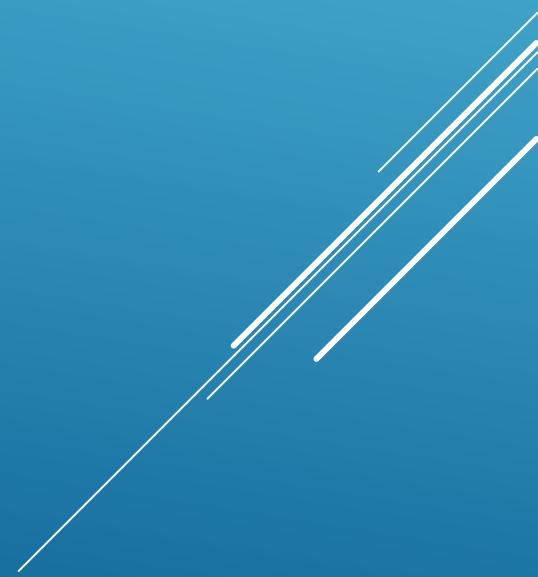
**Yuma Pacific/SW  
Local Section**

**San Diego, CA**

**January 20, 2017**

# What Just Happened!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Not a Shattered Glass Ceiling –



# What Just Happened!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Not a Shattered Glass Ceiling –**



**But a Complete Roof Collapse!**



# What Just Happened!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Or As Thomas Frank of “The Guardian”  
Stated -----

“A Technocrat That Offered Fine  
Tuning When the Country Wanted to  
Take a Sledgehammer to the  
Machine”.



# The Present and the Future



## Let's Take a Look at The Impact of This Election

- What May Happen at OSHA?
- What May Happen in Congress?
- What May Happen at the White House?



Impact on Occupational Safety and Health

# OSHA – Change on the Way

## Who's In Charge –

- **Jordan Barab – Acting Asst. Sec.**  
(But Not for Long – Non-Career)



## Who's on Deck –

- **Numerous Names Being Floated**
- **Don't Expect Anything for 3 to 6 Months**
- **Will Be on a Short Leash For Sure**

# OSHA Under Trump

## Probable Approach

- **No New Regulations for Some Time**
- **Limitation on Penalty Increases**
- **Tighten Window on Repeat Violations**
- **Cut the Severe Violator Enforcement Program**
- **Increase VPP Participation**
- **DOL and DOJ Effort May Continue**
- **Scale Back Enforcement – “no brainer”**

# Congress Under Trump

## Congress –

- **Senate is 52-46-2**
  - Lamar Alexander – Chair
  - Patty Murray – Ranking Member
  - Johnny Isaakson – Chair
  - Al Franken – Ranking Member
- **House is 241-194**
  - Virginia Fox – Chair
  - Robert “Bobby” Scott – Ranking Member
  - Subcommittee Not Yet Announced
- **I See No Champion for OH&S**





# Congress Under Trump

## The Budget –

- **Debt Limit to Rise**
  - **Another \$10.7 Trillion by 2026**
  - **Just Finished Doubling Last 8 Years**
- **Sequestration Issues**
- **CR Until April 28**
  - **Working on FY17 and FY18 Same Time**



# Congress Under Trump

## The Budget –

- OSHA - \$552.8 million
- MSHA - \$375.9 million
- NIOSH - \$339.1 million
  - Expect No Immediate Threat to ERC and AFF Funding



# Congress Under Trump

## **Probable –**

- **Use Appropriations to Delay or Halt Existing and New Issues**

## **Possible –**

- **REINS Act – Congress Must Approve any Regulation Impacting \$100+ million**
- **Environmental Impact – Streamline Reviews**
- **Repeal 2 Regs for Every 1 Published**

# White House Under Trump

## Probable and/or Possible—

- Repeal Many Obama Executive Orders
- Procurement Change
- Higher Threshold to NOT Use Consensus Standards
- Roll Back “non worker” Proposals
  - Electronic Recordkeeping
  - Guidance Documents, i.e., Labor Officials Accompany OSHA Staff on Inspections of Non-Union Sites

# White House Under Trump

## Some OSHA “Hot Button” Issues

- Beryllium – Finalized (Expanded to Construction and Shipyards) Expect to Stay
- Silica – Finalized. In Court. Curtail Enforcement? Cut Funding? Issue a Revised Rule? All Possible
- Fall Protection – Probably a Go

# Outside The Box Thoughts!!

Some Old – Some New

“All From a ‘Has Been’”

- OSHA Is Not A Priority
  - *Congress, Trump and the Nation Have More Pressing Concerns*



# Outside The Box Thoughts!!

Some Old – Some New

*“All From a “Has Been”*

- OSHA Is Not A Priority
  - *Congress, Trump and the Nation Have More Pressing Concerns*
- Will Trump Dismantle or Zero-Fund the Agency?
  - *NO! He’s a Businessman!*

# Outside The Box Thoughts!!

- Move NIOSH
  - *Make Independent Agency*





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  - Compliance Assistance
    - *Workplace Reviews – Use Private Sector*
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- Move NIOSH
    - *Make Independent Agency*
  - Compliance Assistance
    - *Workplace Reviews – Use Private Sector*
  - Private Sector Stakeholder Committee
    - *NACOSH Isn't Successful*
    - *More Representation by OH&S Groups*
- 

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- Combine OSHA/MSHA
  - *Could Have a Potential \$1 billion to Spend*



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- Combine OSHA/MSHA
    - *Could Have a Potential \$1 billion to Spend*
  - Budget Problems
    - *Don't Look for Any Increases*
  - States Involvement
    - *Will Increase Two-fold*
    - *This is Where the Action Will Be*
- 

# Outside The Box Thoughts!!

- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Issues
  - *Telecommuting*
  - *Nanotechnology*
  - *The Unknown*



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- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Issues
    - *Telecommuting*
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    - *The Unknown*
  - Standard Setting
    - *Non-Profit Private Sector*
    - *Opportunity is NOW to Impact PELs*
    - *Opportunity to Propose OH&S Solutions*
- 

# Final Thoughts!

## A Divisive Election – But Remember

“We should all hope that Donald Trump is a good President. Wanting him to fail is like wanting the pilot to crash the plane we are ALL on!”





# And Remember –



**“In The End It Might Make Very Little Difference What OSHA Does or Doesn’t Do or What Congress Does or Doesn’t Do – So Long As You Continue To Do Your Job Workers Will Continue To Go Home Safe and Healthy Each And Every Day!!!!”**

# Decision to Retire

A Change -

*“From the Land of Fruit and Nuts to  
the Other Land of Fruit and Nuts  
But With More Golf!”*

