



# SOUTHERN NEVADA BUILDING TRADES UNION

*Affiliated with the North America Building Trades*

Rick Johnson, President  
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## **SNBTU BULLETIN** **March 26, 2020**

**To:** SNBTU Local Union Affiliates

**Subject:** Employees regarding COVID-19 Safety

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We are providing this memo to you to clarify the current situation impacting Building Trades affiliates and members and the construction job sites on which you work. Building Trades leaders are working closely with the local affiliated unions, project owners, general contractors, subcontractors, elected officials and public agencies to keep construction sites open and safe.

We realize that conditions may change because of circumstances beyond our or any person's control. However, at this moment, in response to the coronavirus outbreak and under the current guidelines issued by Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak and Nevada OSHA – we provide you with the following directives:

Following the OSHA Guidelines issued on March 18, 2020 - the Building Trades mandates that the following guidelines be followed on all construction sites where members of Building Trades affiliated unions are employed:

First and foremost: THE EMPLOYER HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE A SAFE WORKING ENVIRONMENT. This cannot be emphasized enough. With the cooperation of our Affiliates, other Building Trades Unions, and all our collective members, all employers must:

- 1) Restrict meetings, safety meetings/tailgate talks, and gatherings to no more than 10 people. (Ref. - Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19, OSHA 3990-03 2020)
- 2) Establish effective social distancing protocols, which ensure that staff maintain a 6-foot personal separation from other staff during meetings, discussions, etc. where 10 people or less are present. Ensure that social distancing protocols are maintained during operation of mobile service equipment designed for 2 or more passengers including, but not limited to, man lifts, scissors lifts, etc. (Ref. - Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19, OSHA 3990-03 2020)

- 3) Provide sanitation and cleaning supplies for addressing common surfaces in multiple user mobile equipment and multiple user tooling. (Ref. - Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19, OSHA 3990-03 2020)
- 4) Maintain 6-foot separation protocols for labor transportation services, such as buses, vans, etc.
- 5) Conduct daily surveys of changes to staff/labor health conditions. (Ref. - Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19, OSHA 3990-03 2020)
- 6) Ensure that any identified first responders in the labor force are provided and use the needed Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and equipment for protection from communicable or infectious disease. (29 CFR 1910.1030)
- 7) Provide access to potable and sanitary water (29 CFR 1926.15)

The Building Trades also requires all job sites do the following to ensure your safety (per CPWR):

- Create at least 6 feet of space between workers by staging/staggering crews to prevent droplet spread.
- Provide soap and running water on all jobsites for frequent handwashing. If that is impossible, provide hand sanitizer.
- Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces on job sites and in offices—such as handrails, doorknobs, and portable toilets—frequently.

As you know from your training and years of experience, safety is the number one priority. If you do not feel that these items and directives are being followed on your job site, you have a responsibility to yourself and your fellow workers to document the unsafe condition (take a picture if possible) and notify your job steward immediately. Do not walk off the job until your job steward is aware of the situation and your concerns for your safety and the safety of others. Do not assume someone else has informed a steward or someone else of an unsafe condition on the job. It is the communication of unsafe conditions through your job stewards that will ensure our construction job sites remain safe.

The Building Trades Council, its leadership, your local union affiliate, and their leadership remain committed first and foremost to ensuring your safety on the job. It is our number one priority. This is always true but never more so than right now.