

For Release:
April 28, 2008

Contact: 785-296-0901
Communications@dol.ks.gov

Number of workplace accidents are growing

New report by KDOL outlines 2007 Kansas workplace accidents and offers help

The number of injuries and illnesses occurring on a Kansas worksite increased by 4.13 percent in 2007, according to a new report released today by the Kansas Department of Labor.

“Kansans spend a majority of their days away from the comforts of home, and it is important that Kansas workers feel safe while on the job. After ten years of significant reductions in workplace accidents, Kansas is now experiencing an upward trend, which we must stop,” said Kansas Department of Labor Secretary Jim Garner. “The *2008 Workplace Safety Report* highlights the need for more awareness of safety in the workplace and available programs to promote safer workplaces.”

The *2008 Workplace Safety Report* outlines the number of Kansas workplace accidents which have caused injuries, illnesses and even fatalities over the past year. In 2007, more than 69,000 workplace accidents were reported in Kansas, and 49 Kansans lost their lives due to work-related accidents.

“Being that today is Workers Memorial Day, it is time to remember those who lost their lives while working on the job and to renew our commitment to reducing workplace hazards and promoting safety,” said Garner.

The Kansas Department of Labor offers several services to promote safe workplaces, including:

- Free workplace safety consultations for Kansas businesses;
- Free Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) safety training courses;
- SHARP and KSafe safety award recognitions for exemplary workplaces; and
- An annual safety and health conference for Kansas employers and safety professionals.

Workers Memorial Day commemorates the anniversary of the April 28, 1971, creation of the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

For more information on how a business can receive a free safety consultation from the Kansas Department of Labor, call (785)296-4386. To read more of the report, go to the “News Room” at www.dol.ks.gov.

###