



MICHAEL R. PENCE, GOVERNOR
Rick J. Ruble, Commissioner

402 West Washington Street, Room W195
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2751

Phone: (317) 232-2655
Fax: (317) 233-3790

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Darby Miller
Phone: (317) 234-6675
Email: media@dol.in.gov

State Partners with Fort Wayne Companies for Safety and Health

INDIANAPOLIS (Sept. 29, 2014) – The Indiana Department of Labor (IDOL) today announced a strategic safety and health partnership with Weigand Construction Co. Inc., the City of Fort Wayne and Ash Brokerage in Fort Wayne, Ind. Weigand Construction Co. Inc. is contracted to build the Ash Skyline Plaza, which will house the Ash Brokerage corporate offices, and the Skyline Garage in Fort Wayne

“By entering into a workplace safety and health partnership, Weigand Construction Co. Inc., the City of Fort Wayne and Ash Brokerage have demonstrated safety is a cornerstone of their daily practices,” said IDOL Commissioner Rick J. Ruble. “Working together will best ensure workers return home safely, and that is our top priority.”

The IDOL’s partnership program embraces collaborative agreements to address critical safety and health issues and ensure safety is a priority from the beginning of a project through its conclusion. The partnership focuses on identifying and correcting workplace safety and health hazards to reduce and eliminate worker injuries and illnesses. As part of the agreement, the Skyline project must maintain a worker injury and illness rate lower than Indiana’s industry average.

“This partnership between Indiana Department of Labor, City of Fort Wayne, Ash Brokerage and Weigand Construction is a relationship building opportunity, not only for the companies involved but also for the community at large,” said Weigand Safety Director Greg Musi. “It is an agreement and a unified concept that incorporates all the fundamentals of a successful construction project: worker safety.”

Weigand Construction Co. Inc. must also require fall protection for workers performing activities six or more feet above ground level.

“Falls are a leading cause of serious injury and death in construction,” said Ruble. “These incidents can be eliminated when trained workers use the appropriate safety equipment.”

The partnership agreement will remain in effect until the project is completed in 2016.

For more information about the partnership, visit www.in.gov/dol/2387.htm.

About the Indiana Department of Labor:

The mission of the Indiana Department of Labor is to advance the safety, health and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace. In order to make significant strides, we emphasize both enforcement and compliance assistance by employers. www.in.gov/dol

About the Weigand Construction Co. Inc:

As a fourth generation owned company, under the leadership of Larry Weigand, Weigand Construction has expanded its original market area of Fort Wayne, IN to what now includes projects in Ohio, Michigan and Illinois. With an average of 250 skilled and professional workers Weigand has led the construction efforts on many landmark projects throughout the Midwest. While focusing on Medical/Wellness, Educational, Industrial, and Commercial projects Weigand Construction continues to maintain the integrity and legacy set forth by Henry Weigand in 1906.

About the City of Fort Wayne:

Located in Northern Indiana near the Michigan border, Fort Wayne is Indiana's second largest city with over 250,000 residents. The city is a three-time All American City Award winner and is consistently cited for high quality of life, low cost of living and warm Hoosier Hospitality.

About the Ash Brokerage:

Ash Brokerage is a single source of administrative support, expertise and technical infrastructure to take insurance practices to the next level. As a collaborative partner, they specialize in the objective analysis of clients' life insurance, annuity, long-term care, disability income and advanced market needs. The firm's national headquarters is in Fort Wayne, Indiana, with regional offices and consultants located throughout the United States. Over the past 40 years, Ash has become the largest independently owned brokerage agency in the country, serving insurance agents, financial advisors, registered representatives and career agents through a business-to-business relationship.

###