Meet new U.S. SBA Advocates

The Office of Advocacy is an independent voice for small business within the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The Office of Advocacy’s regional advocates help identify new issues and concerns of small business owners in the nation’s 10 federal regions. They also monitor the impact of federal and state policies on small business at the local level. They work closely with local government officials, state officials and legislators and the chief counsel for advocacy to develop programs and policies that help, rather than hinder, small business growth.

Les Davies was appointed as the Region 5 Advocate, covering Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin, in July 2017. Currently Les is working on implementing the Executive Orders 13771 and 13777 on regulatory reform. Soon there will be a regulatory roundtable scheduled in the region to gather stakeholders and collect input on issues small businesses encounter with federal regulations. Mr. Davies works out of SBA’s office in Columbus, OH. He can be reached at 614-469-6860 or Leslie.Davies@sba.gov.

In addition, the national Rural Affairs Advocate works with the advocates across regions on issues specific to small businesses and local governments in communities with 50,000 people or less. Joe Knilans, former Deputy Director of Wisconsin’s Office of Business Development, has been appointed to this role. Although he will be working across the country, he is headquartered in SBA’s Wisconsin District Office in Madison. Joe can be reached at (608) 441-5264 or Joseph.Knilans@sba.gov.

Updated refrigerant recovery webpages now available

The Department of Natural Resources, Air Program, recently revised the Refrigerant Recovery webpages with new and updated content.

The updated web content includes:
- A new fact sheet on DNR requirements for regulated refrigerants and salvaging operations
- Updated registration pages with links to forms for salvagers, dismantlers, and transporters
- A new tab with information on the Department of Transportation salvager license and its relation to the DNR refrigerant recovery program
- An updated Frequently Asked Questions tab, which was expanded to include more information on the Refrigerant Recovery program and information on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) technician certification program and replacing lost certification cards
Other updates include:

- Links to EPA rules and requirements for refrigerants
- Suggested formats for keeping records of removed refrigerants
- Information about what to do with recovered refrigerants
- A link to the DNR Large Appliance Recycling Guide
- Updated facility lists for currently registered salvagers/dismantlers and transporters

For more information on the Refrigerant Recovery program, visit dnr.wi.gov and search "refrigerant" or contact the refrigerant compliance coordinator, Jeff Myers, at jeff.myers@wisconsin.gov or (608) 266-2879.

**Session on handling OSHA inspections – March 8**

What do you do when an OSHA inspector arrives at your project with no advanced notice (and they all show up with no advanced notice)? This session provides tips for those who have not yet had this experience and is a refresher for those who have. Learn from both sides, an OSHA enforcement officer who has spent decades conducting construction inspections (and is now a supervisor) and a safety specialist who has decades of experience being inspected.

Anyone interested in learning more about this topic is invited to attend. You do not have to be a member of WSC. CEU certificates will be awarded as 0.175 units.

**When:** March 8, 2018 from 7 am to 9 am (program starts at 7:15 am)

**Where:** Wisconsin Safety Council headquarters, 501 East Washington Avenue, Madison.

**Cost:** There is no cost for the workshops and you do not need to be a member of WSC to attend.

Sponsors cover the costs of the workshop materials. There is free parking in two lots next to the WSC building. Each lot is marked with blue signs stating WMC Parking.

**Registration:** All attendees should register with the WSC so they are prepared for the number of attendees, especially if a CEU certificate is needed. Please call the WSC at 800-236-3400 or 608-258-3400 with any registration questions. Register online: [https://www.wmc.org/event/osha-construction-breakfast-osharecordkeeping-reporting/](https://www.wmc.org/event/osha-construction-breakfast-osharecordkeeping-reporting/)