



NEWSLETTER

November 2024

Tis the Season!

It's that time of year again! The holidays are upon us as we all prepare to come together with family and loved ones to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday! As we all know, that means that Christmas is close at hand.

Last year, our chapter celebrated together at what we're calling our Holiday Gathering by coming together at the fabulous La Traviata Italian Restaurant. Everyone had a fantastic time as we enjoyed some great Italian food and tons of laughter.

Great news! We're doing it again this year. Please join us on Friday, December 13, 2024, 6:30 PM—9:00 PM at La Traviata Italian Restaurant, 301 N Cedar Ave Long Beach, CA 90802.

Registration is required in advance of the event. Please visit [ASSP Long Beach Chapter Holiday Gathering – ASSP Long Beach Chapter](#) to register.

Like last year, the dinner is subsidized by the chapter, and that saves each member 50% off. The cost is now only \$60 per person.

The menu for this year's dinner is typical La Traviata fabulousness:

Chef's Selection Appetizers,

Della Casa Salad, Choice of: Chicken Picata, Salmon, New York steak and Meat Lasagna, Penne Pomodoro-Vegetarian (Vegan Options Available), and Tiramisu.

A hosted bar (pay as you go) will also be available.

Fun and surprises are in store for all attendees at this year's event and a good time is guaranteed for all!

In connection with the event, our chapter is also once again raiding funds for the annual toy drive

conducted by the Long Beach Fire Department. Instead of bringing a toy to the dinner, we ask that you consider making a donation using the following link: [Toy Drive - Long Beach Chapter of the ASSP](#).

We hope to see everyone there!



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JTS 2024 a Big Success!



Chapter President Luis Ortiz, Vice-President Allyson Clark, Professional Development Chair Marianna Lever, and Past-President Chris Rainwater played leadership roles in the 2024 JTS

The 2024 Joint Technical Symposium (JTS), the largest single safety professional development conference in Southern California each year, was a great success again this year! The JTS was held at the Carson Center on 10 October 2024. Nearly 300 safety professionals attended the event that featured two keynote speakers and 16 speakers in 4 tracks.

It takes a great deal of planning to make the JTS the great success that it was, and Long Beach Chapter Luis Ortiz and Vice-President Allyson Clark did a great job as Speaker Chair and Social Media Chair! Past-President Chris Rainwater served as the Master of Ceremonies once again this year.

Once again this year, the event drew strong support from safety professionals across the region as members enjoyed presentations across a wide array of topics delivered by subject matter experts. Some of the topics included:

Robert McCarthy: 4 Safety Leadership Fundamentals

Kristin Cummings: CDPH's Occupational Health Branch

Andrew Sommer: Tips for Navigating Cal/OSHA Investigations

David Kernazitskas: Intro to the OSHA Standards Board

Christine Georghiou: Assumptions Kill: Adventures in Hazard Control

Roosevelt Ward: Industrial Storm Water Compliance & Sampling

Mark Lundell: Leadership Effect on Safety Culture

Ron Gantt: Beyond Root Cause(s)

Steve Dohman Michael Yeun: Incident Command System: ICS to Manage Large Events (ICS Large Events)

Steve Dohman Michael Yeun: Incident Command System (ICS) and the Tustin Hangar Fire

Kenneth Cox: Understanding Noise Measurement Uncertainty

Lindsay Polic: Informed Gambits: How to Evaluate Risks & Shape Outcomes

Jason Call: The Big Hole in OSHA Training – The Gas Monitor

Tom Cohenno: Safety Professional Coaching at the Sharp End

Miguel Cervantes: Management Commitment and Employee Engagement

Madeleine Dangazyn: The Silica Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) & Fabrication Industry

All of the presentations are temporarily available at: [Southern California Joint Technical Symposium](#) .

Additionally, those who attended enjoyed two dynamic key note addresses :

David Dyjack: A message from Teller

Charlene Gloriani: Cal/OSHA Update

Dozens of exhibitors filled the Carson Center once again this year providing

information about their products and services. Like every year, many of the exhibitors also awarded door prizes.

Next year's JTS is already scheduled for Thursday, October 9, 2025 at the Carson Center. Save the date now!



Tour of Port of Los Angeles



In September, members who turned out for the boat tour of the Port of Los Angeles were in for a treat as the weather was Southern California perfection. On a beautiful morning, the Port of Los Angeles team, including our very generous and kind host, Mr. John Martinez, boarded a boat and, for the next hour and a half, enjoyed a guided tour of the amazing Port of Los Angeles. Following the tour, members enjoyed lunch at Gladstones.

The Port of Los Angeles, together with its neighbor, the Port of Long Beach, forms the bustling San Pedro Bay port complex. Renowned globally, this complex handles more containers per ship call than any other port system in the world. Its economic influence extends far and wide, touching both local and national economies.

In 2023, the Port of Los Angeles alone ranked 16th globally, while the combined Port of Los Angeles and Port of Long Beach claimed the 9th spot on the global stage. The ports are a cornerstone of the local job market, with the Port of Los Angeles supporting 128,000 jobs in Los Angeles County—one in every 15 jobs. When combined with the Port of Long Beach, this figure rises to 171,000

jobs, or one in every 13 jobs in the region.

The reach of these ports expands across the five-county region of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura, where the Port of Los Angeles supports 462,000 jobs—one in every 19. Together, the two ports contribute to 931,000 jobs in the same area, or one in every nine jobs.

On a national scale, the Port of Los Angeles supports 1.4 million jobs, approximately one in every 111, while the combined complex generates 2.7 million jobs across the country—one in every 58 jobs. Their market share is equally impressive. The Port of Los Angeles alone commands 41% of the West Coast's containerized cargo market and 16% of the United States' market share. Combined, the San Pedro Bay port complex handles 75% of the West Coast's market share and 29% of the nation's.

The Port of Los Angeles and Port of Long Beach stand not only as logistical powerhouses but as vital economic

engines fueling job creation and commerce locally and across the nation. The vast Port sprawls across 7,500 acres, a balanced expanse of 4,300 acres of land and 3,200 acres of water. Its remarkable 43 miles of waterfront are bustling with activity, supported by a deep Main Channel that plunges to 53 feet. Within this dynamic hub, 25 cargo terminals, including seven state-of-the-art container terminals, operate seamlessly.

The Port's infrastructure is a marvel. Towering over its docks are 83 ship-to-shore container cranes, complemented by an impressive fleet of 1,932 cargo-handling machines. A web of 122 miles of rail winds through the Port, featuring five on-dock railyards and a classification yard that keep goods moving efficiently.

If you missed this event, keep your eyes open for other upcoming events in the chapter via email announcements.

Volunteer to Serve at Thanksgiving

TO SIGN UP FOR AN OPPORTUNITY, PLEASE EMAIL
KATHERINE.FUKUDA@USW.SALVATIONARMY.ORG



11/11

VETERAN'S DAY DINNER SERVICE (BELL SHELTER)

November 11th | 4pm-6pm (10 volunteers needed)
 Bell Shelter (5600 Rickenbacker Rd, Building 2A/B, Bell, CA 90201)

THANKSGIVING MEAL PREP/SET UP (COMPTON)

Tuesday, November 26 | 4pm-6pm (4 volunteers needed)
 The Salvation Army Compton (736 E Compton Blvd Compton, CA 90221)

11/26

TBD

THANKSGIVING MEAL SUPPORT (PASADENA)

Date and Time TBD
 The Salvation Army Pasadena Tabernacle (960 E Walnut St, Pasadena 91106)

11/28

THANKSGIVING LUNCH SUPPORT (BELL SHELTER)

Thursday November 28th | 10am-2pm (30 volunteers needed)
 Bell Shelter (5600 Rickenbacker Rd, Building 2A/B, Bell, CA 90201)

HOMELESS THANKSGIVING LUNCH (BELLFLOWER)

Tuesday, November 26th | 12PM - 2PM
 The Salvation Army Bellflower (644 Cedar St, Bellflower, CA 90706)

11/26

11/13-14
 11/22

THANKSGIVING MEAL BAG PREP & DISTRIBUTION (INGLEWOOD)

Prep: November 13th to November 14th 9AM - 3PM | Distro: Friday, November 22nd
 The Salvation Army Inglewood (324 E Queen St, Inglewood, CA 90301)

THANKSGIVING MEAL SUPPORT (HOLLYWOOD)

November 21st | 9AM - 1PM
 The Salvation Army Hollywood (5941 Hollywood Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90028)

11/21

The Long Beach Chapter of the ASSP is teaming with the Salvation Army on Thanksgiving to volunteer to help with meal preparation and serving dinners to those less fortunate.

Numerous members have already volunteered to give up part of their holiday to serve, and we truly appreciate them!

Please see the schedule to the left to find your opportunity to volunteer at this very worthwhile event.

To sign up to volunteer at any of the events on the left, contact chapter Point of Contact Krizia Jurczyk at KriziaLeah.Jurczyk@va.gov. If you are unable to reach Krizia in time for the holiday, please reach out directly to Jenny Santic, Volunteer Coordinator for the Salvation Army at Jenny.Santic@usw.salvationarmy.org.



Holiday Food Drive Underway Now!

The Long Beach Chapter of the ASSP is holding a food drive to support those in need during the holiday season. The food drive is being coordinated by our intrepid WISE Chair, Ms. Kay Horton. You may contact Kay at kevehorton@gmail.com.

We invite you bring your donations and join Kaye Horton at her employer's Open House on December 5th from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM at 1910 Lime St, Orange, CA 92685. Don't worry if you cannot attend the open house as the food drive collection period is November 15th - December 5th, 2024. The same drop-off location: 1910 Lime St, Orange, CA 92685.

If it's more convenient to drop off your donation in Long Beach, please do so at the offices of Safety First Management, 320 Pine Avenue, Ste. 1003, Long Beach, CA. To en-

sure that you have no difficulty with your donation, please coordinate in advance by contacting Program Chair Mayra Ramirez at may-

ra.ramirez@safetyfirstmgmt.com.

Let's ensure a great response for this important effort as we give back to the community and those in need.



Education and Networking Events

The Long Beach Chapter of the ASSP continues to offer a vibrant schedule of Education and Networking Events. Although these monthly events take a break each year at the holidays, they resume in January.

All members receive vital continuing education units for attendance at the monthly sessions. The events are held in hybrid format as members are welcome and encouraged to attend at the CSUDH campus or virtually via Teams. Those who attend in-person are treated to a complimentary lunch!

The 24-25 term has already seen great events and participation, and 2025 promises to continue that record. Be sure to check the Long Beach Chapter website at [Events – ASSP Long Beach Chapter](#) to stay up to date on all events. Registration links are provided on the web site, and registration is required.

Here's a look at the Education and Networking events completed and scheduled (so far) for the 24-25 term.



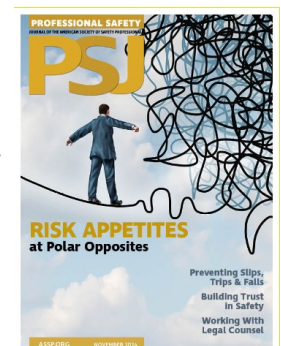
The July session, titled *Ethical Considerations for Safety Professionals*, was led by Past-President Chris Rainwater, Chief of Safety for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District. It highlighted the critical role of ethics in the safety profession, emphasizing the responsibility to protect human life and well-being while fostering trust and credibility. The discussion underscored the moral responsibility safety professionals bear to act with integrity and uphold the dignity of human life, with practical examples illustrating the application of these principles in daily practice.

The August session, titled *Understanding Psychosocial Hazards in the Workplace*, was led by Rosa Antonia Carrillo, MSOD. Psychosocial hazards are increasingly recognized as critical factors impacting workplace health, safety, and productivity. Join us for an in-depth presentation where we will explore these hazards and their implications for both employees and employers. Our expert speaker will delve into the causes, effects, and strategies to mitigate these risks, ensuring a healthier and more supportive work environment.



The January 2025 session, titled *OSHA Recordkeeping*, will focus on understanding the OSHA requirement for posting the 300A form and knowing how to complete the associated documents. This is essential for maintaining workplace transparency, compliance, and safety accountability. The OSHA 300A, which summarizes work-related injuries and illnesses, must be posted annually in a visible location from February 1 to April 30, ensuring employees are informed about workplace safety outcomes. This process not only fulfills a legal obligation but also demonstrates a commitment to fostering a safe and informed workplace. Current chapter President Luis Ortiz will present this important information.

Getting published in the Professional Safety Journal (PSJ) is a significant challenge and a prestigious honor, representing the pinnacle of professional contribution to the safety field. Join us for an engaging inside look at the ASSP's Professional Safety Journal during the February 2025 Education and Networking event. PSJ Editorial Review Board member and Past-President Chris Rainwater will share valuable insights on how to improve your chances of being published. Learn what the Editorial Review Board looks for during the peer review process, discover practical tips to enhance your submission, and gain a deeper understanding of how to contribute effectively to our professional knowledge base. This session is designed to equip you with the tools to submit work that meets the high standards of peer review, significantly increasing your likelihood of being published and making a lasting impact on the safety profession.



Using AI? A Few Thoughts...



Chris Rainwater

Like many of you, I am discovering the world of AI and navigating its usefulness as a tool to increase efficiency.

Artificial intelligence (AI) is increasingly pervasive, promising advancements across various fields, from legal practice to criminal justice (Pasquale, 2020). However, as the case of attorney Steven Schwartz demonstrates, uncritical reliance on AI can lead to serious consequences. Schwartz's use of ChatGPT to generate a legal brief resulted in fabricated judicial opinions and citations, revealing the dangers of trusting AI systems without verification.

We should take time to investigate Schwartz's case, analyze other real-world instances of harmful AI reliance, and examine potential risks within our own organizations. The Schwartz example underscores the need for a critical approach when incorporating AI into professional settings, especially given the documented biases and ethical concerns associated with these systems (Pasquale, 2020).

Steven Schwartz, an attorney, used ChatGPT to assist in preparing a legal brief, believing that the AI-generated content would be accurate.

However, the brief was filled with fabricated citations and judicial opinions, which Schwartz did not verify, resulting in severe professional repercussions. His case exemplifies the dangers of "automation bias," where individuals trust AI outputs without critical review, especially in high-stakes settings (Parasuraman & Riley, 1997).

As ChatGPT and similar large language models (LLMs) are known to produce plausible but false information—known as "hallucinations"—Schwartz's oversight illustrates the risk of treating AI as an infallible source (Bender et al., 2021).

The use of fabricated legal citations could have severe consequences for Schwartz's clients, as their legal cases might be dismissed or delayed, potentially jeopardizing their outcomes. Trust in legal representation is paramount, and if clients perceive that their attorney is unprofessional or reckless, it could lead to a loss of confidence in the legal system.

Moreover, Schwartz's actions may expose him to sanctions, further undermining his reputation and diminishing his clients' trust. Thus, this case reinforces the need for professionals to critically evaluate AI-generated information, particularly in sensitive areas like law, where the stakes are high (Katz, Bommarito, & Blackman, 2014).

Numerous examples in recent years illustrate the dangers of uncritical reliance on AI. In criminal justice, the use of AI algorithms such as the Correctional Offender Management Profiling for Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS) has re-

sulted in biased sentencing recommendations. A study by Angwin et al. (2016) found that COMPAS disproportionately classified African American defendants as high-risk for reoffending, even when their actual risk was low. This bias in recidivism prediction has led to unjust sentences and has exacerbated existing social inequalities.

In the hiring sector, Amazon's AI-driven recruitment tool demonstrated similar risks. The tool, intended to streamline hiring by ranking resumes, inadvertently downgraded applications that included terms commonly associated with women due to biases in the training data. This gender discrimination in hiring highlights how reliance on biased datasets can perpetuate systemic inequalities (Dastin, 2018). This case underscores the necessity of AI auditing to prevent unintended discrimination, a principle critical across domains that utilize AI systems.

AI bias has also been evident in facial recognition technology. Studies, such as one by Buolamwini and Gebu (2018), have demonstrated that these systems are more likely to misidentify individuals from certain racial groups. For instance, an African American man was wrongfully arrested due to a faulty facial recognition match, showing how biases in training data can lead to severe consequences for marginalized communities. These examples reflect how AI can exacerbate social and ethical issues, particularly when users place undue trust in its accuracy without verification (Unit VII AI Considerations Presentation, Box 1).

Using AI as a tool to supplement rather than replace human thought is essential, as AI lacks the nuanced reasoning and emotional intelligence that define human decision-making. While AI can process vast amounts of data rapidly and identify patterns that may not be immediately evident to human analysts, it operates within the parameters of its programming and data inputs. Thus, AI can significantly enhance human efficiency, automating repetitive tasks, analyzing large data sets, and even aiding in complex decision-making processes, which frees humans to focus on more strategic and creative tasks (Miller, 2019).

However, AI's inability to engage in genuine reasoning or understand emotional context highlights its limitations. For example, AI systems lack the "situational awareness" to make ethical judgments in ambiguous scenarios, a capacity that requires emotional and contextual understanding unique to human cognition (Pasquale, 2020).

Moreover, while AI can make predictions based on historical data, it cannot fully account for the emotional or moral dimensions involved in many human decisions. As Bostrom (2017) notes, AI lacks intrinsic motivations or a sense of ethics, meaning it can follow rules and protocols but does not understand the underlying values that shape human societies. This makes AI an unreliable substitute for the human mind, particularly in con-

texts that require empathy, moral discernment, and complex judgment calls, such as healthcare and legal systems. Therefore, AI should be seen as a powerful assistant that enhances human capabilities rather than a replacement, ensuring that human oversight and ethical considerations remain central in decision-making (Bostrom, 2017; Miller, 2019).

The case of Steven Schwartz, coupled with numerous documented instances of AI bias, underscores the importance of a critical approach to AI implementation. Across fields, uncritical reliance on AI has led to significant negative outcomes, including racial and gender bias, wrongful arrests, and unjust hiring practices. Within organizations, unchecked AI use could introduce privacy concerns, exacerbate workplace biases, and compromise critical projects. As AI technologies continue to advance, it is crucial that or-

ganizations implement robust oversight, ensuring these systems are used ethically and responsibly. Only through a cautious and critical approach can the full potential of AI be realized while minimizing harm.

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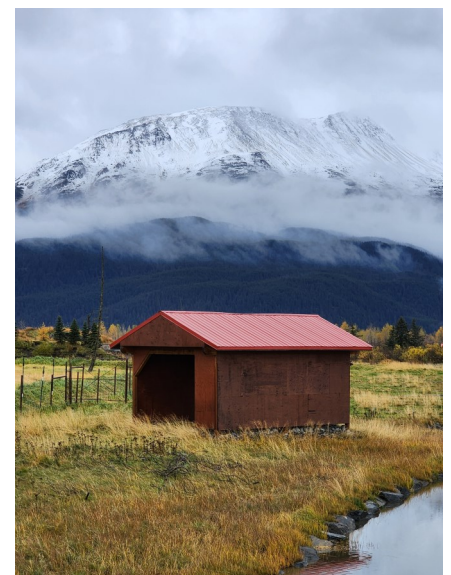
Fall 2024 Region 1 ROC Held in Alaska



Luis Ortiz presents at the Region 1 ROC in Anchorage, Alaska

Region 1 of the ASSP, which consists of 20 chapters located in Alaska, Hawaii, Washington, Oregon, and California, held its fall meeting of the Regional Operating Committee (ROC) in October. The meeting was hosted by the Anchorage, Alaska chapter.

Current and Past-Presidents, Luis Ortiz and Chris Rainwater, represented the Long Beach Chapter at the meeting. Over the course of two days, the Region 1 Chapters completed a wide variety of tasks and voted on a number of issues pertinent to ASSP operations.



The fall Region 1 ROC was held in Anchorage, Alaska.

Your 24-25 Term Officers

Your Long Beach Chapter ASSP Officers are always working hard to ensure that your membership in the ASSP (and your home at the LB chapter) is a great resource to your career.

Feel free to reach out to any of your 24-25 term officers by using the following link: <https://longbeach.assp.org/contact-us/>.

Have suggestions for events? Would you like more information about ASSP or the Long Beach Chapter? Want to help us grow membership? We'd love to hear from you!

Active participation in your chapter is the key to unlocking the full value of your membership. By getting involved, you have the opportunity to connect with industry professionals, share ideas, and build relationships that can propel your career forward. Engaging in chapter activities allows you to stay informed about the latest trends, gain valuable insights, and develop skills that enhance your expertise.

Your involvement not only enriches your own professional journey but also strengthens the chapter community, creating a supportive network for everyone. Make the most of your membership—join events, contribute, and let your voice be heard!



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**WISE (WOMEN IN
SAFETY EXCELLENCE)**
Kaye Horton



**PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT**
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