



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

LONG BEACH CHAPTER

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

★ A PLATINUM LEVEL CHAPTER • 2025-2027 ★

Summer 2026 Edition

Serving the safety profession across the Greater Long Beach area

www.longbeach.assp.org

IN THIS ISSUE

- Women Lead the Chapter for a Second Consecutive Term
- Long Beach Reclaims Platinum Chapter Status
- Your 2026-2027 Executive Committee
- 3rd Annual Awards & Honors Gala
- Grants & Scholarships Awarded
- A Chapter on the Rise: Membership Growth

- Record-Breaking Event Registrations
- Rainwater Named Region I Safety Professional of the Year
- Rainwater to Chair Professional Safety Editorial Review Board
- Long Beach at Safety26
- 2026 Membership Milestones
- Welcome, New Members

★ CHAPTER LEADERSHIP ★

Women Lead Long Beach for a Second Consecutive Term



Kaye Horton — President



Krizia Jurczyk — Vice President

For the second consecutive term, women hold both of the ASSP Long Beach Chapter's highest elected offices. Kaye Horton steps into the role of Chapter President and Krizia Jurczyk serves as Vice President for the 2026-2027 term, continuing a leadership legacy that reflects the depth, diversity, and strength of talent within our membership.

Their election marks an important milestone for the Chapter. Following a term led by outgoing President Allyson M. Clark, the continuity of women in the top two positions underscores a culture in which experience, mentorship, and merit drive advancement. Both leaders bring extensive experience in occupational safety and health, a passion for member engagement, and a clear vision for building on the Chapter's recent momentum.



“We are proud to carry this leadership forward and to keep raising the bar for what a local chapter can achieve for its members and its community.”



CONNECT ★ ENGAGE ★ ADVANCE





Long Beach Reclaims PLATINUM CHAPTER STATUS

The ASSP Long Beach Chapter is proud to announce that it will once again be recognized as a Platinum Chapter — the highest level of achievement awarded by the American Society of Safety Professionals. Platinum status is reserved for chapters that demonstrate excellence across membership growth, professional development, programming, community outreach, government affairs engagement, and consistent service to members.

Earning Platinum again is a significant accomplishment, reflecting a sustained, chapter-wide commitment to excellence. This recognition is a direct result of the dedication of our Executive Committee, volunteers, mentors, and every member who attends events, shares expertise, and helps advance the safety profession throughout the year.



PLATINUM
HIGHEST ASSP HONOR



AGAIN
REPEAT RECOGNITION



ALL
PROGRAM AREAS MET

★ LEADERSHIP ★

Meet Your 2026–2027 Executive Committee

The Chapter's incoming Executive Committee begins its term on **July 1, 2026** and serves through **June 30, 2027**. This dedicated team of officers and committee chairs guides the Chapter's programs, membership, professional development, outreach, and recognition efforts throughout the year. Please join us in thanking these volunteers for their service.

★ ASSP Long Beach Chapter Executive Committee, 2026–2027 Term ★

Officer / Chair	Role
★ Kaye Horton	President
★ Krizia Jurczyk	Vice President
★ Dr. Chris Rainwater	Treasurer
★ Luis Artigas	Secretary
★ Luis A. Ortiz	Programs Chair
★ Ernesto Solorzano	Membership Chair
★ Steven Vanderlaske	Professional Development Chair
★ Andrew Sommer	Government Affairs Chair

Officer / Chair	Role
★ Rocio Luna	WISE Chair
★ Bryan Oliva	Awards & Honors Chair
★ Azza Carmona	Grants & Scholarships Chair
★ Mariana Lever	Social Media Chair
★ Allyson Clark	Nominations & Elections Chair
★ Tony Villatoro	Veterans Affairs Chair
★ Winnie G. Hom	Newsletter Chair



A CHAPTER ON THE RISE: MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

The Long Beach Chapter grew from 145 members in March 2022 to a record 224 members in July 2026, an increase of 79 members or 54.5%.

After a low point of 141 in July 2023, the chapter experienced sustained recovery and expansion.

The curve is no longer flat; the chapter has moved from a multi-year base near 145 members into a period of sustained, accelerating growth.



From a multi-year base to a record high.



224
Current membership



+79
Net new members since March 2022



+54.5%
Growth since March 2022



10.6%
Annualized growth



141
Low point in July 2023



+72
Since Nov 2023
47.4% growth



+37
Since Nov 2025
19.8% surge in 8 months



+29
Jan–Jul 2026
14.9% growth



AWARDS & HONORS

Celebrating Service, Leadership & Impact

3rd Annual Awards & Honors Gala



The Chapter was honored to welcome Sal's wife, Lorena Oliva, and his son, Bryan Oliva, as guests of honor.

Honorees of the Evening



Founders' Award — Luis A. Ortiz.

The Chapter's highest honor, recognizing exceptional service and leadership over time and broad impact on the profession and community.



Safety Professional of the Year Award — Kaye Horton, recognized for outstanding achievement in the occupational safety and health field while advancing the profession overall.



Thomas Butler Award for Safety Excellence —

Dr. Christopher S. Rainwater, recognizing superior service, extraordinary dedication, and commitment to the highest ideals of ASSP.



ASSP Achievement Awards — CDR Steven Vanderlaske, Lisa Hale, Josh Pendengrats, Allyson M. Clark, Bryan Oliva, Sal Oliva (posthumously), Rocio Lana, Mariana Lever, Ashley Mewes, Matt Dingman, Mayra Ramirez, and Krizia Jureczyk.



Special Recognition — Dr. Christopher S. Rainwater, honored as the 2026 ASSP Region I Safety Professional of the Year.



GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Investing in the Next Generation



Award	Amount	Recipient(s)
Student Scholarship	\$500	Miranda Guzman • Vince Santana
PDC Grant	\$1,000	Azza Carmona
CSUDH OSHA Matching Scholarship	\$815	Galilea Lugo • Bill Foss • Winnifred Hom
Sal Oliva Memorial Scholarship	\$500	Esau Gomez



Congratulations to all of this year's recipients. Your commitment to the safety profession represents the future of our field — and the Chapter is proud to invest in it.

A DRAMATIC INCREASE IN EVENT REGISTRATIONS!

Our monthly Education & Networking events are attracting more safety professionals than ever before. Thank you to our members, speakers, and supporters who make this growth possible!



1,087

TOTAL REGISTRATIONS

Across 9 reported events



+777%

GROWTH VS. BASELINE

From 26 registrations in Aug 2025 to 228 in Jul 2026



121

AVERAGE PER EVENT

Nearly 5x the August baseline



6 OF 9

EVENTS REACHED

TRIPLE-DIGIT REGISTRATIONS

Event Registrations: August 2025 — July 2026



From 26 to 228 registrations — a new level of engagement and impact.

Stronger programs. Growing community. Greater impact.



LONG BEACH CHAPTER
NEWSLETTER
SUMMER 2026 EDITION



Connect ★ Engage ★ Advance

Serving the safety profession across
the Greater Long Beach area



PAGE 5



MEMBER ACHIEVEMENT

Dr. Chris Rainwater Named Region I Safety Professional of the Year



The Chapter congratulates Dr. Chris Rainwater on being named the 2026 ASSP Region I Safety Professional of the Year (SPY). This prestigious and highly coveted award recognizes a member who demonstrates outstanding achievement in occupational safety and health while advancing the profession across an entire ASSP region. Region I spans California, Nevada, Hawaii, and Alaska.

Dr. Rainwater was recognized at the Leadership Awards event at Safety26.

This honor reflects Dr. Rainwater's sustained leadership, technical excellence, and tireless service to both the Long Beach Chapter and the broader safety community. It is a tremendous accomplishment and a proud moment for our entire Chapter. Congratulations, Dr. Rainwater!



 Dr. Chris Rainwater — 2026 ASSP Region I Safety Professional of the Year, and Linda Trapp, ASSP President share a laugh at the Leadership Awards event at Safety26.



MEMBER ACHIEVEMENT

Rainwater to Chair the Professional Safety Editorial Review Board



Adding to a remarkable year, Dr. Chris Rainwater has been appointed Chair of the Editorial Review Board for *Professional Safety*, the peer-reviewed journal of the American Society of Safety Professionals. In this national role, he will help guide the technical review and editorial direction of one of the profession's most respected publications—shaping research, standards guidance, and best practices that reach safety professionals across the country and around the world.



It is a significant honor for Dr. Rainwater and a point of pride for the Long Beach Chapter, further establishing our members' influence and leadership at the highest levels of the profession.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Long Beach on the National Stage at Safety26



SAFETY26
CONFERENCE + EXPO



 Dr. Chris Rainwater gave a well-received presentation at Safety26.



Congratulations Luis A. Ortiz

Long Beach Chapter Past President
Owner, Safety First Management

 Highly Rated Presentation at ASSP Safety26
Session 5012: From Heroes to Systems: Transitioning From Individual Safety Ownership to the ANSI/ASSP 210 Safety Management System Standard

 The ASSP Long Beach Chapter celebrates your leadership and contribution to the profession.



 Congratulations to Luis A. Ortiz on his outstanding presentation at Safety26!

Long Beach was well represented at ASSP's Safety26 Conference + Expo, the profession's premier annual gathering.

Chapter Past President Luis A. Ortiz, owner of Safety First Management, delivered a highly rated presentation — Session 5012, "From Heroes to Systems: Transitioning From Individual Safety Ownership to the ANSI/ASSP 210 Safety Management System Standard." The session explored how organizations can move beyond dependence on individual "safety heroes" toward durable, systems-based safety management.

Dr. Chris Rainwater also took the stage with his presentation, "If They're Laughing, They're Learning: The Role of Humor in Safety Training and Adult Education," which resonated strongly with attendees.



LONG BEACH CHAPTER NEWSLETTER
SUMMER 2026 EDITION

Connect ★ Engage ★ Advance

SERVING THE SAFETY PROFESSION ACROSS
THE GREATER LONG BEACH AREA

PAGE 3





MEMBER RECOGNITION

Celebrating 2026 Membership Milestones



Longevity in ASSP reflects an enduring commitment to the safety profession and to one another. The Chapter proudly recognizes the following members who reached significant membership milestones in **2026**. Thank you for your years of dedication, mentorship, and service.

★ Milestone	Members
5 Years	Alycia A. McCord, CSP, ASP, STSC • David Larriva, CSP • Dioa Grim, M.S., CHST, GSP, STSC Gabe Encarnacion • Iris Penales, CSP, CHMM • John Martinez, CIH • Jose Rodriguez Daniel Garay, ASP, CHST • Raul Avila, CHST • Victoria Duarte, STSC
10 Years	Allyson Mari Clark, CSP, ASP, CHMM • Oscar J. Jimenez, CHST • Paul E. Sanders, SMP Robert Rodriguez, CSP, ASP, CHST, STS
15 Years	Larry Kendall Tunnel, CHST, SMP
20 Years	Francisco C. Acedo, CSP • Kevin T. <u>McDermott</u> • Stephen D. Conley, P.E., CSP Steven T. Simon, ARM
25 Years	William Victor Carnoy, M.S., CSP, CHST
30 Years	Casey P. Kervin, CSP, CHMM • Daniel H. Ginsborg, CSP
35 Years	Darrell G. Mathis, CHST

MEMBERSHIP

A Warm Welcome to Our New Members



The Chapter is growing — and that growth is powered by the safety professionals who join our community every month. Please join us in welcoming the newest members of the ASSP Long Beach Chapter who joined in **2026**. We're glad you're here!



Month	New Members
January	Esau Gomez
February	Clifford Bedford, CHST • Jesse Lee • Katina Midori Pullmer, CSP • Marina Conroy • Mary Yanez • Timothy Ralph McCoy, CSP • Raymond Moya, ASP
March	Eddie Aviles, CHST • Nate D. Kerr • Richard Joseph Medina
April	Galilea Lugo • Martin Deseau • Raul Avila Soto
May	Andrew Sanchez, ASP • Anthony Rocha, SMP • Bertha Aide Banuelos, CHST, STSC, CSP • Casey L. Ostroff, SMP • David Daniels • Jeanette Bledsoe • Jose Gonzales, CHSP • Juanita Mackinany, KCCER, 540, 541 • Samuel Grigoryan • Tristan Nguyen, CSP
June	Anthony Villaleda Rodriguez, SMP • Harry Lodisio Oneonetter, CHST, STSC • Jack T. Grier, SMP • Joshua Reeves, CHST • Jungwon Kang, M.S., ASP • Adam Dehsmia, CTPA • Robert Richard Ruiz • Tunisia Boudreaux, CHST



STAY CONNECTED

Join us at our monthly Education & Networking meetings.

www.longbeach.assp.org





MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Celebrating Allyson M. Clark

HONORING HER SERVICE AS CHAPTER PRESIDENT



As Chapter President through June 30, 2026, **Allyson M. Clark** led the Long Beach Chapter with passion, energy, and an unwavering commitment to the safety profession. She helped create outstanding social and networking events, guided the Chapter to once again achieve **Platinum status**, and oversaw the Chapter's **strongest membership and event-registration growth** in recent years. Her leadership, enthusiasm, and dedication to the safety community are deeply appreciated.

In accordance with Chapter bylaws, Allyson now serves the current term as **Nominations & Elections Chair** and joins the newly formed **Past Presidents Advisory Committee**.



**PASSIONATE
LEADERSHIP**

Guiding with vision,
heart, and integrity.



**PLATINUM STATUS
ACHIEVED**

Leading the Chapter
to excellence.



**RECORD
MEMBERSHIP
GROWTH**

Building our community
stronger than ever.



**MEMORABLE
NETWORKING
EVENTS**

Creating connections
that inspire.

*Thank you, Allyson,
for your leadership and lasting impact
on the Long Beach Chapter.*

