

CRIMINAL ASPECTS IN VOSH ENFORCEMENT

This session will deal with the criminal prosecutions that can result as part of VOSH inspection activities. It will start with a discussion of some cases where criminal prosecutions resulted from our inspections. Criminal willful cases when an employee dies as result of a willful violation of VOSH law on the part of his employer and manslaughter violation for gross negligence on the part of a foreman or other supervisors will be discussed.

We will also discuss more mundane violations of the law that can result such as giving advance notice of an inspection; obstructing a VOSH inspection; and knowingly providing false statements in connection with a VOSH inspection.

Presenter: ROBERT B. FEILD, SENIOR STAFF ATTORNEY, VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY

Robert B. Feild is a Senior Staff Attorney for the Division of Legal Support with the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry. His work includes evaluating enforcement options, drafting pleadings, conducting discovery, preparing witnesses and negotiating settlements.

Rob works with the Office of the Attorney General and the Commonwealth's Attorneys throughout Virginia. He has been appointed as a Special Assistant Attorney General to represent the agency in several VOSH enforcement actions. He provides preliminary legal and technical assistance on cases relating to employee fatalities, willful violations and other significant cases.

Prior to joining Labor and Industry, Rob worked for the Virginia Municipal League. Rob received his undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia and his law degree from the University of Richmond.