Department of Veterans Affairs

Memorandum

Date: July 19, 1999

From: Designated Agency Safety and Health Official (00S/006)

Subj: Federal Worker 2000 Presidential Initiative

To: See list below

1. On July 2, 1999, President Clinton signed the "Federal Worker 2000 Presidential Initiative" to call our attention to the human and financial cost of preventable workplace injuries and illnesses and to establish measurable occupational safety and health and workers' compensation program goals for all Federal agencies. A copy of the memorandum is attached.

2. This 5-year initiative calls for Federal agencies to:

- reduce overall injuries by 3 percent per year and improve the timeliness of injury and illness reporting by 5 percent per year;

  reduce the occurrence of injuries by 10 percent per year at those work sites with the highest rates of serious injuries;

- reduce by 2 percent per year the rate of lost production days (the number of days employees spend away from work); and

- report our progress toward these goals annually through the Secretary of Labor.

3. The Department of Veterans Affairs supports this initiative and values your cooperation and assistance in meeting the President's goals. Our ability to serve veterans is considerably improved by any effort that enhances operational efficiency, employee working conditions, and cost saving efforts. A safer and more healthful workplace contributes to all these facets of veteran service.

4. Please advise your managers of these requirements and initiate or continue your organization's injury and illness prevention programs to accomplish these important goals. Additional information on annual report requirements will be forwarded to you upon receipt from the Secretary of Labor.

2.

See list below

5. Please contact John Hancock, Director, Office of Occupational Safety and Health, on 273-9742 if you require additional information. Thank you for your support.

Eugene A. Brickhouse

Attachment

Addressees:
Acting Under Secretary for Health (10)
Under Secretary for Benefits (20)
Acting Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs (40)
Assistant Secretary for Financial Management (004)
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration (03)
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Resources Management (05)
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management (90)