

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FEBRUARY 4, 2021

N.J. Business Action Center to Host ‘COVID-19 Workplace Health/Safety & Worker Benefits: What Employers Need to Know’ Webinar

Free webcast on Feb. 18 will detail available resources for New Jersey businesses regarding COVID-19 workplace safety

TRENTON, N.J. – Feb. 4, 2021 – [The New Jersey Business Action Center](#) (NJBAC), a no-cost, confidential “business-first” resource housed within the New Jersey Department of State, will host a free webinar titled, “COVID-19 Workplace Health/Safety & Worker Benefits: What Employers Need To Know” on Thursday, Feb. 18 at 12 p.m. EST. The webcast will provide New Jersey businesses of all sizes with critical information regarding COVID-19 workplace safety and employee benefits.

In partnership with the [New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development](#), this tri-county virtual event will also feature economic development leaders from [Hudson](#), [Bergen](#) and [Passaic](#) counties.

Speakers will discuss state and federal worker benefits and protections, as well as health and safety resources for employers. Worker benefits topics will include reports on earned sick leave, paid family leave and more.

“The NJBAC is committed to helping New Jersey businesses, especially when most are recovering and trying to get back to work during these uncertain times,” said Melanie Willoughby, executive director of the NJBAC. “These resources can help business owners understand the updated COVID-19 workplace safety rules and worker benefits directly from the New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development.”

Speakers from the New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development include:

- **Holly Low, Manager of Strategic Outreach:** Low’s work promotes the NJDOL’s commitment to equitable access to labor laws and protections, and she helps N.J. workers understand their rights. She holds a Master’s in Public Policy from the Bloustein School at Rutgers University and a Bachelor’s in Sociology from Boston College.
- **Mark Wadiak, Assistant Director:** Wadiak oversees the OSHA-PEOSH Consultation and Training Programs and the Mine Safety Education Program. Wadiak’s background includes working as a quality control chemist in the pharmaceutical industry and working with the U.S. Department of Labor – OSHA as a Compliance Safety and Health Officer for several years. He has over thirty-five years’ experience with the New Jersey Department of Labor assisting companies in identifying OSHA hazards and developing effective safety and health programs.

Willoughby, of the NJBAC, along with representatives from the aforementioned North Jersey counties will also speak. The webinar will be streamed live, and the slides and the recording will be circulated to all registrants after the webcast. Guests will be invited to ask questions and participate in the discussion.

The February program will run for one hour and is free and open to the public. Registration for the session can be secured [here](#).

About the New Jersey Business Action Center

The New Jersey Business Action Center (NJBAC), housed within the New Jersey Department of State and operating under the leadership of Executive Director Melanie Willoughby, is a business-first resource that offers no-cost, confidential assistance to help businesses grow. The team helps companies of all sizes save time and money by getting answers from government agencies, directing businesses to appropriate officials and contacts, and facilitating meetings and follow-ups from regulatory agencies. For further information, call 1-800-JERSEY-7, visit <https://nj.gov/state/bac/> or follow up on Twitter at [@NJ_BAC](#).

About the New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce

Whether you are a business operator, worker, job seeker, student, or person seeking or receiving benefits, the staff of the Department is here to assist you. We want to help you succeed and we want to help New Jersey's economy thrive. We're committed to providing quality service and helping New Jersey's skilled and productive workforce enable employers statewide to compete successfully in the world marketplace. For further information, visit <https://www.nj.gov/labor> or follow us on Twitter at [@NJLaborDept](#).

About the Bergen County Division of Economic Development

Under the leadership of Bergen County Executive James J. Tedesco, the Division of Economic Development connects current and prospective businesses to office, retail and industrial real estate, tax incentives, grants and financing options, business data and demographics, skilled talent, customized training and more to help create jobs and enhance the economy. The Division also works with municipalities to assist in developing downtowns. With 46,000+ business establishments throughout 70 municipalities, Bergen County maintains Moody's highest Aaa bond rating. For further information, visit <https://www.co.bergen.nj.us>.

About the Hudson County Economic Development Corporation (HCEDC)

The Hudson County Economic Development Corporation (HCEDC) is a not-for-profit corporation operating since 1994. Our mission is to serve Hudson County's diverse communities by providing access to capital, information, professional training, and housing. The HCEDC is committed to building a healthy local economy through collaborative partnerships for business organizations and individuals. For further information, visit <https://www.hudsonedc.org/>

About the Passaic County Division of Economic Development

The Division of Economic Development of the County of Passaic provides direct technical support and assistance to companies seeking to relocate to or expand in the County of Passaic. In addition, the Division of Economic Development initiates large-scale real estate development projects, develops the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the County, promotes the redevelopment of brownfield sites, sponsors the County of Passaic Motion Picture and Television Film Commission, and encourages the creation of local partnerships between the Passaic County business community and residents. For further information, visit <http://www.passaiccountynj.org>.

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