

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY HONORS  
IOWANS KILLED IN THE WORKPLACE**

**DES MOINES, IOWA** – Iowans will gather Friday, April 27, 2007 to pay tribute and to reflect upon the lives of the Iowa workers who lost their lives in 2006 while at work. Fallen workers will be remembered at a Workers' Memorial Day ceremony beginning at 11:00 a.m. at Iowa Workforce Development, 1000 East Grand Avenue, Des Moines.

"Workers' Memorial Day allows us to pay tribute to those individuals we lost this past year in workplace accidents, and it reminds us all that workplace safety must play a priority in our daily lives," indicated Iowa Labor Commissioner David Neil.

Every year the Iowa Division of Labor, Iowa OSHA, South Central Iowa Federation of Labor AFL-CIO and state and local dignitaries gather to honor those that lost their lives while at work and to renew their commitment to safe and healthful workplaces throughout Iowa. Family and friends of the deceased are invited to attend this annual ceremony. A wooden cross is made for each deceased and families are encouraged to take their respective cross with them upon the conclusion of the ceremony.

Typically the Workers Memorial Day Ceremony is held on April 28 every year, but because the 28<sup>th</sup> falls on a Saturday this year, the ceremony will be held on Friday, April 27. Legislators and other local dignitaries are invited to attend and extend their condolences to the families of the deceased.

During calendar year 2006, 44 Iowans died from injuries in the workplace. Additionally, untold numbers of Iowans die each year from the long-term effects of toxic exposures in the workplace.

Governor Chet Culver and Labor Commissioner David Neil will be joined by representatives of the Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO and representatives from numerous labor organizations and local clergy in remembering Iowa's deceased workers.

*Iowa Workforce Development envisions a future where Iowa has safe workplaces, a productive and economically secure workforce, and where Iowans are prepared for an ever-changing future.*

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**An Equal Opportunity Employer/Program**

Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities.  
[www.iowaworkforce.org](http://www.iowaworkforce.org) • [www.iowaworks.org](http://www.iowaworks.org) • [www.iowajobs.org](http://www.iowajobs.org)