

Annual Report 2023



# UTAH LABOR COMMISSION



For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

# 2023



# Table of Contents

Commissioner’s Message.....	4
Accomplishments DTS/Labor Commission.....	7
New Leadership.....	8
Mission.....	9
Values.....	9
Organizational Chart.....	9
2023 Workload Accomplishments.....	10
Budget Summary.....	11

## Divisions

Industrial Accidents Division.....	12
Utah Antidiscrimination and Labor Division.....	14
Boiler, Elevator and Coal Mine Safety Division.....	15
Utah Occupational Safety and Health Division.....	16
Adjudication Division.....	18
Legal Unit.....	19
Workplace Safety Grant Program Accomplishments.....	20
Workplace Safety Poster Contest.....	21
Advisory Boards and Councils.....	22
Comprehensive Report on Coal Mine Safety.....	24



October 2023

Honorable Spencer J. Cox  
Governor, State of Utah

Honorable Members of the Utah State Senate  
Honorable Members of the Utah House of Representatives

It is my pleasure to provide you with the Utah Labor Commission's annual report for FY2023. In doing so, I offer our sincere thanks to Governor Cox and the Utah Legislature for supporting the Labor Commission's efforts to serve the citizens of Utah.

Utah continues to lead the nation in virtually every economic indicator. A thriving economy presents unique challenges for the Labor Commission as it meets an increased demand for services with limited resources. The Labor Commission touches almost every business in Utah, whether through boiler and elevator inspections, workplace safety investigations, workers' compensation, the payment of wages or claims of workplace discrimination.

In FY2023 the Labor Commission continued its support of Governor Cox's remote work and rural work policies, with 90% of Labor Commission personnel working in a remote work setting between one and five days each week. The Labor Commission has also successfully hired employees in rural Utah, including a new Director of Quality and Process Improvement and various boiler and elevator inspectors, workplace safety investigators, and discrimination investigators.

Labor Commission personnel continue to meet their obligations and benchmarks. Among the highlights, investigators in the Utah Occupational Safety and Health Division issued citations within 45 days of the opening conference in 90% of cases. Employment discrimination investigators closed cases within 180 days in 87% of cases. Elevator personnel reduced the percentage of overdue units by 5% over the course of the year during a time of unprecedented demand due to the number of multi-unit apartment buildings under construction in Utah.

The Labor Commission plays a vital role in Utah's economy by ensuring safety in the workplace and fairness in employment and housing. Embracing remote and rural work has enabled the Labor Commission to serve the public more effectively and efficiently throughout Utah. As always, effective collaboration with its many stakeholders remains key to Labor Commission's success, as does the continued support of Governor Cox and the Utah Legislature. With this support, the Labor Commission is confident it can continue to excel in meeting its obligations to the people of Utah.

Sincerely,  
**Jacson R. Maughan**  
Commissioner | Utah Labor Commission





## Accomplishments DTS/Labor Commission

This is a short summary of specific accomplishments completed by DTS working with the Utah Labor Commission during FY2023.

### Labor Commission Intranet move from on-prem to AWS July 2022

DTS migrated the Labor Commission's intranet that was hosted in the TSOB datacenter to the AWS cloud. This is the first website for the Labor Commission to be hosted in AWS. It is more secure, has built in redundancy and simplified access for Labor Commission employees. <https://employee.laborcommission.utah.gov/>.

### Corvel Payment file, Industrial Accidents Division, October 2022

The automated Corvel payment file process is a critical component for Industrial Accidents' capacity to hold uninsured employers accountable to pay for the injuries of their employees. This benefits multiple stakeholders, including the Industrial Accidents division, and ultimately the citizens of the State of Utah. This project has been in the works for many months and required coordination and cooperation between the Labor Commission, vendors, various DTS disciplines and stakeholders.

### Adjudication Document Upload, March 2023

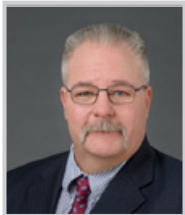
The Adjudication Document Upload system allows case participants to submit legal documents, including petitions and requests for hearings, directly to the Labor Commission Adjudication Division via a web interface. Agency staff can then review and file the documents into the appropriate SPUD case directly from one location. The new system replaces manual email processing, increases productivity significantly, and provides more robust auditing. Constituents are informed of submission status throughout the process by automated emails confirming document receipt and processing.

### Labor Commission Fair Housing Portal Website, June 2023

This portal serves as a template for future interactions between the Labor Commission and the general public. This project has numerous benefits. For the UALD team, it provides an opportunity for the public to file a Fair Housing claim online for the first time. Additionally, complainants can now track their cases online, including seeing key dates and case activity. For the DTS team, this is our first application to be hosted in an AWS environment, and was a total team effort to complete.



# New Leadership



**Rick Sturm** has been appointed the Director of the Boilers, Elevators and Coal Mine Safety division for the Labor Commission.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Sturm served as the Deputy Director of the division and has worked in the division for over 25 years in total. Serving as a Boiler Inspector, Oil and Gas Inspection Specialist and Chief Boiler Inspector.

Mr. Sturm started with the state of Utah in 1988 as a certified mechanic in Fleet Operations, working there for the next decade while also obtaining numerous ASE Certifications.

Mr. Sturm graduated from the Universal Technical Institute with a degree in Auto/Diesel repair and brings a lifetime of experience to the Director position having become familiar with numerous mining and refining operations. He has had the opportunity to sit on numerous boards and committees related to his work and has hands-on experience inspecting oil and gas fields, refineries and power plants.



**Cameron Ruppe** has been appointed as the Director of Quality and Process Improvement for the Labor Commission.

Mr. Ruppe has spent most of his career as a safety professional primarily in the oil and gas industry.

He worked for the Labor Commission from 2016 to 2022, first as the UOSH Compliance Field Operations Manager, and then as the UOSH Director. Prior to that, his career includes serving as a safety consultant for a variety of companies in several industries. He was an adjunct safety instructor at Uintah Basin Applied Technology College, and a safety analyst and safety coordinator for oil exploration and production companies.

Mr. Ruppe earned a bachelor's degree in emergency services administration from Utah Valley University.

# Mission

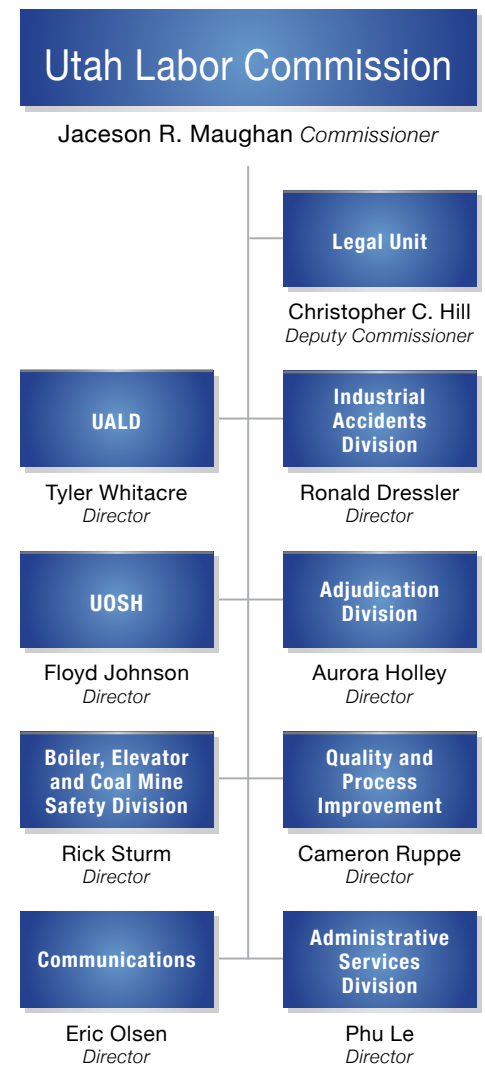
The mission of the Labor Commission is to achieve safety in Utah's workplaces and fairness in employment and housing.

# Values

The Labor Commission's values are instilled in our programs, our relationships with the public we serve, our colleagues and the community in general. The Labor Commission embraces these values in the way we lead and support the Labor Commission every day:

- Each person has value and worth – each individual we interact with has a point of view that is important. For these reasons, we respect individual lives and histories and treat each person equitably.
- We respect and follow the statutes and regulations that govern our activities.
- The public interest is advanced by transparent and open processes.
- We owe the people of Utah and our colleagues at the Labor Commission the highest level of competency and service.
- Labor Commission employees deserve a workplace that provides support, safety, and respect.
- Professional development is essential to a competent, dedicated staff and ultimately to the success of the Labor Commission.

# Organization





# 2023 Workload Accomplishments



- The Adjudication Division issued **400** decisions. It also conducted **124** formal evidentiary hearings and approved **976** settlement agreements. Adjudication also transitioned to an entirely remote evidentiary hearing system which accommodates video hearings for all Utah constituents at no cost to the state.
- The UOSH Division completed **1,525** interventions/inspections/visits, improving safety in the workplace for over **255,013** workers.
- The Industrial Accidents Division issued **754** non-compliance penalties and collected **\$1,717,792** from non-compliant employers and assisted **2134** injured workers.
- UALD’s Employment Discrimination Unit investigated and mediated **592** cases and awarded **\$1,450,833** to claimants. The Fair Housing Unit opened **85** cases and investigated and mediated 72 claims to closure. The Wage Claim Unit processed **971** claims and collected **\$667,268** in unpaid wages on behalf of claimants.
- The Boiler, Elevator and Coal Mine Safety Division performed **24,963** safety inspections, administered **356** coal mining exams, and regularly visited every operating coal mine in the State.
- The Workplace Safety Program awarded **\$691,091** in **27** individual workplace safety grants to Utah businesses and community organizations

# Labor Commission Budget Summary

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022 with Comparative Totals for Year Ended June 30, 2023

Revenues:	FY 2022	FY 2023
General Funds	\$ 6,882,211	\$ 7,622,500
General Fund - Covid 19		
Fed Fund CARES		
General Funds Returned	\$ 2,911	445
Workplace Safety	\$ 1,678,600	1,702,500
Unused WPS	611,657	625,964
Industrial Accidents Restricted Acct	3,694,100	3,800,300
ERF	85,600	88,700
Federal Grants	3,022,000	2,950,118
Other	120,443	121,745
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$16,097,524</b>	<b>\$16,912,273</b>

### Expenditures by Division:

TAA Labor Commission Administration	\$ 2,011,537	\$ 2,173,669
TAA Small Business Quarantine Grants		
TAB Industrial Accidents	1,563,457	1,721,510
TAC Appeals Board	16,633	12,240
TAF Adjudication	1,479,993	1,680,231
TAG Boiler Elevator and Coal Mine Safety Division	1,858,186	1,980,568
TAH Workplace Safety	613,092	601,635
TAJ Antidiscrimination and Labor	2,189,936	2,333,527
TAK Utah Occup and Safety Division	4,216,692	4,483,319
TAL Building Operations and Maintenance	184,018	184,293
<b>Total Expenditures by Division</b>	<b>\$14,133,549</b>	<b>\$15,170,995</b>

### Expenditures by Type of Expense/Expense Category:

Salaries and Benefits	\$ 11,113,352	\$ 11,724,690
Travel Costs	49,502	76,012
Data Processing	1,286,743	1,533,266
Other Operational Exp	1,223,376	1,357,635
WorkPlace Safety Grants	460,574	479,391
Quarantine Grants		
<b>Total Expenditures by Type of Expense/Expense Category</b>	<b>\$14,133,549</b>	<b>\$15,170,995</b>



# Industrial Accidents Division



## Overview

The Industrial Accidents Division (IA) is responsible for administering Utah's Workers' Compensation Act. Since 1917, Utah's workers' compensation system has provided medical care and disability payments for injured workers and immunity from personal injury lawsuits for employers. With few exceptions, all employers must provide workers' compensation coverage for their employees.

## Mission

To assist in resolving disputes involving workplace injuries fairly and efficiently and to monitor and enforce state-required workers' compensation coverage.

## 2023 Highlights

### Claims Section

The Claims Section administers the day-to-day operation of the workers' compensation system and also assists injured workers, employers and insurance carriers in resolving workers' compensation disagreements. During the last year, the Claims Section:

- Recorded **63,018** reported injuries
- Assisted **2,134** injured workers

### Compliance Section

The Compliance Section enforces statutory requirements that employers maintain workers' compensation coverage for employees. During FY23, the Compliance Section assessed non-compliance penalties against **745** employers and collected **\$1,717,792** in outstanding penalties for the Uninsured Employers Fund.

In FY23 the waiver program received **19,462** applications and issued **13,393** waiver certificates.

Ronald Dressler, Director  
(801) 530-6841  
rdressler@utah.gov



## Outreach

IA conducted three educational sessions for stakeholders, with an emphasis on new small businesses and assisting injured workers.

## Employers Reinsurance Fund (ERF)

The ERF pays benefits to workers with a permanent and total disability as a result of work accidents that occurred prior to July 1994. During FY23, the ERF paid **\$11,435.50** in benefits to **623** claimants.

## Uninsured Employers Fund (UEF)

The UEF pays benefits to the injured employees of uninsured and insolvent employers. In FY23, the UEF paid **\$1,996,715** in benefits, which was more than offset by **\$7,808,388** collected on employer and carrier non-compliance penalties, employer reimbursements on paid claims, and self-insurance fees.

The ERF and UEF are funded in whole or in part by assessments paid by workers' compensation insurance carriers and self-insured employers. These assessments, which are subject to statutory limits, are set each fall by the Labor Commission in consultation with the Workers' Compensation Advisory Council. The assessment rate is based on independent actuarial evaluations of the revenue necessary to fund the ERF and UEF's future liabilities.



# Utah Antidiscrimination and Labor Division



## Overview

The Utah Antidiscrimination and Labor Division (UALD) enforces employment discrimination and fair housing laws, as well as laws regarding payment of wages, employment of minors and minimum wage laws.

UALD is organized into four units: the Employment Discrimination Unit, the Fair Housing Unit, the Wage Claim Unit and the Mediation Unit. UALD also has an effective education program to teach employers, employees, housing providers, tenants, and the general public about rights and responsibilities under the laws enforced by UALD.

## 2023 Highlights

In FY23 the Wage Claim Unit processed **971** claims and collected **\$667,268** in unpaid wages on behalf of claimants.

The Employment Discrimination Unit investigated and mediated **592** cases and awarded **\$1,450,833** to claimants.

The Fair Housing Unit processed **85** claims, with **72** cases investigated and mediated to closure.

UALD conducted outreach activities at **33** educational events around the state, reaching **1722** people.

**Tyler Whitacre**, Director  
(801) 530-6921  
twhitacre@utah.gov

# Boiler, Elevator and Coal Mine Safety Division

## Overview

The Boiler, Elevator and Coal Mine Safety Division (BECMS) is responsible for enforcing state laws pertaining to boilers, pressure vessels, elevators, escalators, coal mine safety and coal miner certification.

BECMS maintains an office in Price, Utah, housing the State's program for Coal Miner Certification and the Office of Coal Mine Safety. This office, assisted by its associated panel and advisory council, works to maximize safety in Utah's coal mines, BECMS relies on these entities to advise and assist in BECMS responsibilities and to provide advice and guidance.

## 2023 Highlights

- Inspected **412** new elevators, **765** new boilers and **1,308** new pressure vessels
- Performed a total of **24,963** inspections and issued **15,204** operating permits
- Administered **356** certification exams to coal miners
- The Office of Coal Mine Safety conducted **94** total visits to every coal mine in the state in FY2023.



## Mission

To maximize boiler, elevator and coal mine safety, and provide for effective coal mine accident response.

**Rick Sturm**, Director  
(801) 326-7266  
rsturm@utah.gov





# Utah Occupational Safety and Health Administration Division



## Overview

The Utah Occupational Safety and Health Division (UOSH) is responsible to enforcing health and safety standards in Utah's workplaces.

On July 16, 1985, Federal OSHA approved Utah's request to recognize its occupational safety and health program as a state plan. UOSH has jurisdiction over approximately **1,618,670** employees and over **125,516** employers in Utah.

## Mission

Helping to ensure a safe and healthy workplace for every worker in the State of Utah.

## 2023 Highlights

### Compliance

UOSH Compliance conducts safety and health inspections in general industry, construction, and public-sector facilities throughout the State of Utah.

#### During FY23, UOSH Compliance:

- Conducted **807** safety and health inspections/interventions
- Issued **1,094** citations (This means single violative conditions found in the **807** inspections/interventions above)
- Evaluated safety and health conditions at work sites employing over **157,302** employees.



## Consultation

UOSH Consultation provides on-site safety and health services, at no cost, to small/ high-hazard businesses and agencies. UOSH Consultation helps employers recognize hazards in the workplace and suggests options for correcting the hazards.

#### During FY23, UOSH Consultation:

- Conducted **718** safety and health visits/interventions
- Identified **2,311** hazards
- Assisted employers in improving workplace safety and health for over **97,711** employees
- Trained approximately **10,632** workers from **344** entities in general industry and construction.

Floyd C. Johnson, Director  
801-530-6898  
fjohnson@utah.gov



# Adjudication Division



## Overview

The Adjudication Division (Adjudication) is responsible for adjudicating disputed workers' compensation claims. It does so in a fair and impartial manner to ensure quick, efficient and predictable delivery of medical and salary benefits to injured workers at a reasonable cost to employers and insurance carriers. Adjudication also hears appeals of employment and housing discrimination investigations, UOSH citations, and workers' compensation insurance compliance penalties.

### Mediation Section

This section assists injured workers, employers and insurance carriers in resolving workers' compensation disagreements.

During the last year the Mediation Section:

- Performed **115** mediations
- **100** mediations (**87%**) resolved

### 2023 Highlights

Adjudication continues to make great strides in improving accountability, transparency and professionalism. For cases filed in FY2023, the Division issued **74%** of all final decisions within **60** days.

The Division also:

- Created a new document upload platform which automated filings and will form the basis for a new online docket (review of pleadings filed).
- Transitioned to a completely digital archive system;
- Implemented a new conflict of interest protocol;
- Continues to complete cases in a timely manner, closing a total of **1045** cases in FY2023.

**Aurora Holley**, Director  
and Presiding Administrative  
Law Judge  
(801) 530-6865  
auraraholley@utah.gov

# Legal Unit

## Overview

The Legal Unit is responsible for reviewing decisions issued by administrative law judges, representing the Labor Commission in appellate proceedings before Utah's Court of Appeals and Supreme Court, representing the Labor Commission in the legislative process, rulemaking, and providing public information about the Labor Commission.

### Motions for Review

The Legal Unit assists the Commissioner and Appeals Board in reviewing decisions of administrative law judges in workers' compensation, antidiscrimination, and workplace safety cases.

Pursuant to Utah Code Ann. §34A-2-801, the Commissioner and Appeals Board are required to issue decisions on motions for review within 90 days of the date the motion is filed with the Labor Commission.

During FY2023, there were 76 motions for review filed with the Labor Commission. The Commissioner and/or Appeals Board issued decisions on 79 of 79 motions within 90 days of the date the motion was filed for a 100% compliance rate. Of the 79 decisions issued, the Commissioner issued 32 and the Appeals Board issued 47

### Appellate Litigation

Decisions of the Commissioner and Appeals Board are subject to review by the Utah Court of Appeals and Utah Supreme Court. The Legal Unit represents the Labor Commission in proceedings before these courts.

### Legislative Issues

The Legal Unit works with Labor Commission staff, stakeholders, legislative counsel, and individual legislators to evaluate legislative proposals.

### Rule-Making

The Legal Unit assists the Labor Commission in developing, drafting, and enacting administrative rules.

### Public Information

The Legal Unit participates in seminars and other forums to provide information about the Labor Commission and responds to public inquiries about Labor Commission activities.

## Mission

In cooperation with the Utah Attorney General, to provide representation and counsel to the Utah Labor Commission.

**Christopher C. Hill**, Deputy  
Commissioner/General Counsel  
(801) 530-6113  
chill@utah.gov



# Workplace Safety Grant Program Accomplishments

The Workplace Safety Grant Program is designed to support the development of safety initiatives in the workplace and to reduce accidents.

This program is funded through assessments on workers' compensation premiums paid by Utah employers. Funds are appropriated by the Legislature to award grants for projects or initiatives designed to assist Utah employers and their employees through programs such as OSHA training, specialized safety initiatives, the development of resources for existing safety programs, and safety training between organizations.

For the calendar year 2023, **\$691,091** was provided in 27 different workplace safety grants to organizations throughout the state of Utah.

### Below are some of the programs most notable projects during this fiscal year:

- Approved funds to the Utah Safety Council for the production of a workplace safety podcast available to employers and employees as well as for a safety-centered workgroup for female employers and employees called "Women in Safety".
- Approved funding for a safety training program for employees of the Boys and Girls Club of Salt Lake City.
- Approved funding for Alliance Community Services and Comunidades Unidas, two local non-profits in Salt Lake and Utah County, to provide outreach and education through workshops and health fairs in order to increase awareness of workplace safety practices among the Hispanic-Latino and other Limited-English Proficient (LEP) communities.

**Eric Olsen,**  
 Communications Director  
 (801) 530-6918  
 eolsen@utah.gov

# Workplace Safety Poster Contest

Each year, as part of the Labor Commission's outreach program and by utilizing resources appropriated by the legislature from the Workplace Safety Fund, the Labor Commission sponsors a "Take Safety Seriously" poster contest among Utah's schools aimed at promoting safety awareness for Utah's future workforce.

The poster contest is currently open to all middle and junior high schools across the State of Utah, including charter schools and private schools. Cash awards are given to the winners and matching awards to the school's art program for participating. This year, the school poster contest received over **1,000** entries.

The top **12** entries selected are included in the Labor Commission's annual safety calendar that is distributed to schools, businesses and community organizations throughout the state in an effort to increase workplace safety. In addition, the Grand Prize winner and top three runners up and their teachers were recognized by the Governor for their work.



2nd Runner Up  
**Zethun Mekuria**  
Shoreline Jr. High

1st Runner Up  
**Lucy Barlow**  
Shoreline Jr. High

3rd Runner Up  
**Eden Murray**  
Central Davis Jr. High

Grand Prize Winner  
**Addison Zollinger**  
Centerville Jr. High



# Advisory Boards and Councils

## Appeals Board

- Kimberly Chytraus, *J.D., Chair*
- Monica Whalen, *J.D.*
- Eric Strindberg, *J.D.*

## Workers' Compensation Advisory Council

### Employer Representatives

- Todd R. Bingham, *Utah Manufacturers Association*
- Dave Davis, *Utah Food Industry Association*
- Ryan Nelson, *Employer's Council*
- Joey Gilbert, *Utah Chapter of Associated General Contractors*
- M. Jeff Rowley, *Utah Local Government's Trust*

### Employee Representatives

- Reo Castleton, *Salt Lake County Fire Department*
- K. Dawn Atkin, *Law Firm of Atkin & Associates*
- Brian Kelm, *Law Office of Brian D. Kelm*
- Brandon Dew, *District Representative, Operating Engineers Local Union #3*
- William Brandt Goble, *Painters and Tapers Union Local 77*

### Non-voting Members

- Ray Pickup, *WCF Insurance*
- Jon Pike, *Utah State Insurance Commissioner*
- Eric Vanderhooft, *M.D.*
- Ron Nielsen, *Utah Business Insurance Company*
- Senator Karen Mayne
- Representative James Dunnigan

## Mine Safety Technical Advisory Council

### Voting Members

- Mike Dalpaiz, *United Mine Workers of America*
- Eric Anderson, *Southeastern Utah Health Department*
- Keith Jensen, *Bronco Utah Operations LLC*
- John Byars, *Wolverine Resources*
- Matt Efaw, *Emery County Coal Resources*
- Brian Somers, *Utah Mining Association*
- Tyson Huntington, *Emery County Sheriff's Department*
- Pratt Rogers, *University of Utah*
- Dr. Kristine L. Pankow, *University of Utah*
- Kim McCarter, *University of Utah*
- Danny Viers, *Wolverine Resources*
- Jeff Passarella, *USU Eastern, Mining Department*
- Ryan Mann, *Emery County Coal Resources*

### Non-voting Members

- Jaceson Maughan, *Commissioner, Utah Labor Commission*
- Steve Salas, *Utah State Department of Public Safety*
- John Baza, *Utah State Department of Natural Resources*
- Representative of the Mine Safety and Health Administration.
- Representative of the Bureau of Land Management.

## Utah Miner Certification Panel

### Members

- Brett Allred, *SUFCO Mine*
- Wendell H. Christensen, *Lila Canyon Mine/Bruno Engineering*
- Douglas C. Luke, *Gentry Mountain Mine*
- Chase Behling, *SUFCO Mine*
- Ryan Mann, *Lila Canyon Mine*
- David Howley, *Skyline Mine*
- Mitchell Hadden, *Lila Canyon Mine*
- Keith Jensen, *Bronco Utah - Emery mine*





# Comprehensive Report of the Status of Coal Mine Safety in Utah/Calendar Year 2022

## Introduction

For convenience, this report has been incorporated with the Labor Commission's annual State Fiscal Year 2023 report; however, this section of the report covers coal mining activities in the state of Utah during calendar year 2022.

Utah Code Annotated § 40-2-303 directs the Labor Commission, with its Office of Coal Mine Safety (OCMS) and Mine Safety Technical Advisory Council (MSTAC), to submit to the Governor and Legislature an annual comprehensive report regarding coal mine safety in Utah for the preceding calendar year. The statute requires that the report include: **1)** a compilation of major coal mine accidents or other coal mine emergencies within the state during the calendar year;<sup>1</sup> **2)** a statement of actions by the commission, office, or council to implement this chapter; **3)** without a breach in confidentiality, a summary of reports of alleged unsafe conditions received by the office, with a statement of the office's responses; **4)** recommendations for additional action to promote coal mine safety; and **5)** any other items the commission, office, and council consider appropriate. Each of these items are discussed in this report.

<sup>1</sup>Though not inclusive, the list of accidents or emergencies includes:

1. A death of an individual at a mine
2. An injury to an individual at a mine which has a reasonable potential to cause death
3. An entrapment of an individual for more than thirty minutes or which has a reasonable potential to cause death
4. An unplanned inundation of a mine by a liquid or gas
5. An unplanned ignition or explosion of gas or dust
6. In underground mines, an unplanned fire not extinguished within 10 minutes of discovery, in surface mines and surface areas of underground mines, an unplanned fire not extinguished within 30 minutes of discovery
7. An unplanned ignition or explosion of a blasting agent of an explosive
8. An unplanned roof fall at or above the anchorage zone in active workings where roof bolts are in use; or, an unplanned roof or rib fall in active workings that impairs ventilation or impedes passage
9. A coal or rock outburst that causes withdrawal or minders or which disrupts regular mining activity for more than one hour
10. A unstable condition at an impoundment, refuse pile, or culm bank which requires emergency action in order to prevent failure, or which causes individuals or evacuate an area; or failure of an impoundment, refuse pile, or culm bank
11. Damage to hoisting equipment in a shaft or slope which endangers an individual or which interferes with use of the equipment for more than thirty minutes
12. An event at a mine which causes death or bodily injury to an individual not at the mine at the time the event occurs

## II. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COAL MINE SAFETY ACT

The OCMS has continued to implement the Coal Mine Safety Act. Major activities in 2022 include:

- MSTAC held quarterly meetings in March, June, September, and December 2022.
- The OCMS Director visited all the operating coal mines in the state at least once per quarter to discuss safety related issues.
- The OCMS Director routinely visited the training facilities that provide mine safety training throughout the state.
- OCMS also maintains a safety hot line that allows miners and mine operators to report any unsafe mining conditions. During 2022 there were no hot line calls to the OCMS.
- The OCMS Director has also been active in the community and with various mining organizations.

## III. SUMMARY OF REPORTS OF ALLEGED UNSAFE CONDITIONS

There were no reports of unsafe conditions during 2022.

## IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

There are no recommendations for the coming year.

## CONCLUSION

During calendar year 2022, the OCMS continued its role as an ombudsperson for coal mine safety throughout the State of Utah. In working with various federal and state entities, research and education organizations, emergency responders, the mining industry, and coal miners, OCMS strives to improve safety and to fulfill the statutory intent of the Coal Mine Safety Act.



## REPORTABLE ACCIDENTS JULY 2022 THROUGH JUNE 2023

Date	Mine	Accident or Emergency
8-1-2022	Bronco, Emery Mine	An inundation of water occurred when heavy rains washed a dam out allowing water to enter the mine. This water had poked holes in stoppings and disrupted travel.
8-15-2022	Skyline Mine	A roof fall occurred on the 7th Right Longwall Bleeder at XC18. This roof fall was above the anchorage zone.
8-20-2022	Lila Canyon Mine	A fire occurred in the 3rd East Mains XC 31. The fire has caused mine to be idle and with limited work (mining, rehab) to occur. Work is being done to allow the mine to resume normal working conditions.
11-7-2022	Bronco, Emery Mine	A roof fall occurred in the 3rd North intake #9 entry XC 7. This roof was above the anchorage zone and disrupted ventilation.
12-6-2022	Bronco, Emery Mine	A roof fall occurred in the Mains West #1 entry XC 22. This roof fall was above the anchorage zone and impeded travel.
12-12-2022	Skyline Mine	A roof fall occurred on the Longwall Tailgate entry adjacent to the gate shields.
12-31-2022	Bronco, Emery Mine	A roof fall occurred in the 3rd West intake #5 entry XC 35. This was at the anchorage zone and impeded travel.
1-29-2023	Skyline Mine	A roof fall occurred on the Longwall Tailgate entry adjacent to the gate shields.



Date	Mine	Accident or Emergency
4-17-2023	Skyline Mine	A roof fall occurred on the Longwall Tailgate entry and in front of the gate shields.
7-16-2023	Sufco Mine	A roof fall occurred on the #5 belt at XC 39. This roof fall was above the anchorage zone.
8-1-2023	Bronco, Emery Mine	A roof fall occurred in the Mains West return #6 entry XC 21. This roof fall was not above or at the anchorage zone but impeded travel and thus was reportable.



### Salt Lake City Office

Heber Wells Office Building, 160 East 300 South, 3rd Floor | PO Box 146600  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-6600

### Price Office

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451 East 400 North, Rooms 135 and 137, Price, Utah 84501

**(801) 530-6800**

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