



National Electrical Contractors Association  
THE VOICE OF THE ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

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## Alaska Chapter News

### Upcoming Meetings & Events

The next Board of Directors and Membership meeting will be held tentatively May 13, 2020. **It is very important to let Michelle know if you will be attending meetings, no later than the Friday before, so that the Chapter may get an accurate head count for catering. If you have not confirmed as attending, the Chapter will assume you will not be at the meeting.**

### COVID-19 Updates

The Chapter is diligently working to keep you informed on all industry related Coronavirus news. If you have any questions regarding the material being sent out, we are here to help.

You can also find information on National NECA's [Coronavirus Resource Center](#).



## Government Affairs

### NECA Legislative Top Three: Paycheck Protection Program Loan Funds Run Dry

1. [OSHA Issues Additional Guidance on COVID as Recordable Illness](#)

On April 10, 2020, OSHA released updated enforcement guidance for recording cases of COVID-19. The guidance clarifies that OSHA's recordkeeping requirement for COVID-19 as a recordable illness applies to those in the healthcare industry and emergency response organizations. OSHA will not enforce its recordkeeping requirements to employers outside of these sectors.

2. [GSA Issues Order Allowing Electronic Signatures for Bonding](#)

NECA Government Affairs has worked with allied groups in the construction industry to push the General Services Administration (GSA) to issue an order allowing bonding vendors and sureties to use electronic signatures instead of the

### Events

05/13/20

Board of Directors /  
Membership Meeting  
[RSVP](#)

05/25/20

Memorial Day

06/10/20

Board of Directors  
Only Meeting

07/04/20

Independence Day

07/08/20

Board of Directors  
Only Meeting

08/12/20

Board of Directors /  
Membership/Veteran  
Member/Retiree/Guest  
Meeting at O'Malley's  
on the Green

08/13/20

NECA Open at  
Anchorage Golf Course

09/07/20

Labor Day

09/09/20

Board of Directors /  
Membership Meeting

typically required 'wet' signatures. By doing so, our contractors can receive bonding, necessary on a majority of jobs, sooner and with less unnecessary contact during these challenging times. We are pleased to announce that this reform was recently issued. While this strictly applies to only GSA contracts, NECA government affairs, along with others, is working to spread this reform to the entirety of the federal government.

### 3. NECA Calls for Additional Funding for Paycheck Protection Program

NECA and many of its Chapters joined over two hundred trade associations in sending a letter to Congress to urge emergency funding for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). The PPP has been very successful and widely utilized by the construction industry according to the Small Business Administration. The program ran out of funding on April 16, 2020.

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## NECAPAC

If you would like to contribute to NECAPAC for 2020, you can do so by asking the Chapter for a NECAPAC personal or corporate contribution form, pick one up at the Chapter, or click on "Learn More" below to contribute online. They are also available on the chapter's website <http://www.alaskaneca.org/neca-links/>. You can check out NECA's take on key industry issues here: <https://www.necanet.org/industry-priorities/advocacy>

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## Education & Training

### NECA COVID-19 Legal Update: The CARES Act Loans, Recent Guidance and Contractor Liability Webinar

Thursday, April 23, 2020 | 2:00-3:00 PM ET

NECA's General Counsel, Jef Fagan, and Frank Swain, a business and regulatory attorney with Faegre Drinker, will provide an update on the CARES Act stimulus program and recent guidance from the IRS and SBA relative to the available loans and tax credits.

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## On the Job

### COVID-19 Poster to be Hung up by All Employers

10/03-06/20

**2020 NECA Convention & Trade Show in Chicago, IL**

10/14/20

**Board of Directors / Membership Meeting**

11/11/20

**Veteran's Day**

11/04/20

**Board of Directors / Membership Meeting**

11/26/20

**Thanksgiving Day**

12/05/20

**Annual Board of Directors / Membership Meeting & Holiday Party in Anchorage**

12/25/20

**Christmas Day**

01/01/21

**New Year's Day**

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA or Act) requires certain employers to provide their employees with paid sick leave and expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19. These provisions will apply from April 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

This sheet must be posted by all Employers.

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## Publications & Resources

### **Announcing the NECA Education Advancement Resource Network**

#### ***A Network of Higher Learning...Powered by NECA***

The personal development of the individuals in the electrical contracting industry has an immeasurable benefit on the whole, and to facilitate this, NECA is announcing the Education Advancement Resource Network (EARN).

This new initiative provides a network of higher learning opportunities for our membership, connecting individuals with a curated selection of programs from three world-class educational institutions.

*"While our industry depends on hands-on skills like bending conduit and pulling wire, this program allows our contractors to advance further, with learning opportunities in project management, business administration, marketing, accounting, and human resources, among others,"* said NECA CEO David Long.

NECA has initially partnered with Brandman University, Louisiana State University Online and Oakland City University, offering 17 certificate programs, with some providing additional college credits. These programs are hosted entirely online and many are offered on-demand, allowing individuals to start right away.

*"We have carefully selected institutions that have a proven track record of delivering quality online education,"* said Long. *"We're very proud to offer a program that will allow the many dedicated electrical contracting employees across the country build their own career path on their own timeline."*

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### **New ELECTRI International Research Project**

At the request of NECA CEO David Long, the Program Review Committee has released an RFP and is in the process of commissioning an emergency study on "The Effects of COVID-19 on Productivity". The winning proposal will be selected by April 5th. A special task force is assembling, with work to begin immediately, to produce this vital information. Our contractors and the entire industry face an unprecedented time of dealing with this pandemic that is impacting businesses and daily lives across our country, and the world.

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### **NECA Safety Stand Down for the COVID-19 Pandemic**

NECA is sponsoring a safety stand down on April 29 to recognize the many electricians and utility workers have been deemed essential workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, and continue to go to work each day and make sacrifices to better our country. Take part and share a note or photo with #NECASafety, and on NECA's [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#) accounts. Please share the number of workers who participated with [safety@necanet.org](mailto:safety@necanet.org) so we can feature this in the future. Material for your safety stand down can be found below at the NECA Coronavirus Resource Center.

### **NECA Safety Personnel Special Communications Network**

In recent response to COVID-19, NECA is developing a NECA Safety Personnel Special Communications Network. The need for fast and effective communication between NECA and NECA Member Safety Professionals and representatives is very important. This network will provide a targeted communication forum for NECA to provide solutions and resources to our members.

Please provide your name, email and company information to the NECA Safety inbox as soon as possible.

For additional information, contact Wesley L. Wheeler at [wlw@necanet.org](mailto:wlw@necanet.org) or 301-215-4546.

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### **Safe.Right.Fast: Track the Health, Safety and Availability of Your Workforce**

During the COVID-19 outbreak, stay ahead of standard care with this risk management application. Safe.Right.Fast has developed an app that enables your Safety, HR and Executive team to track and manage the health, safety and availability of your workforce. Document the many actions you are taking to keep your workforce safe and strategize long term business plans with this cutting-edge tool.

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### **eSafetyLine Toolbox Talks**

Each month, NECA's safety website addresses a specific topic and offers downloadable materials to enable you to provide related weekly toolbox safety talks to employees. You can also find more great safety resources here <https://esafetyline.net/neca2/>.

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