AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS
Gulf Coast Chapter

November 2026 NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 6 | OKC ASSP Sporting Clay Tournament
Quail Ridge Sporting Clays • McLoud, OK
Enjoy a day outdoors while supporting the OK City Chapter's fundraiser.
tps://lnkd.in/gdnFxWuS)

November 12 | Corpus Christi Safety Summit
Portland Community Center • Portland, TX
Join the Coastal Bend Chapter for sessions
(https://safetycorpus.com)

ASSP and AIHA Gulf Coast Chapter Holiday Gathering
December 3rd | 6PM - 9 PM
Mark your calendars!

Early May 2027– Annual Crawfish Boil – 11-3pm (date TBD)

December 2026- Nominations for EXCOMM

May 2026 -Leadership Retreat

2026 PDC - Humble Civic Center



UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

Stay Cougar S.A.F.E.

FIRE & LIFE SAFETY PRESENTS: THANKSGIVING FIRE AND SAFETY TIPS

CLICK HERE

Share this story

For most, the kitchen is the heart of the home, especially during the holidays. From testing family recipes to decorating cakes and cookies, everyone enjoys being part of the preparations.

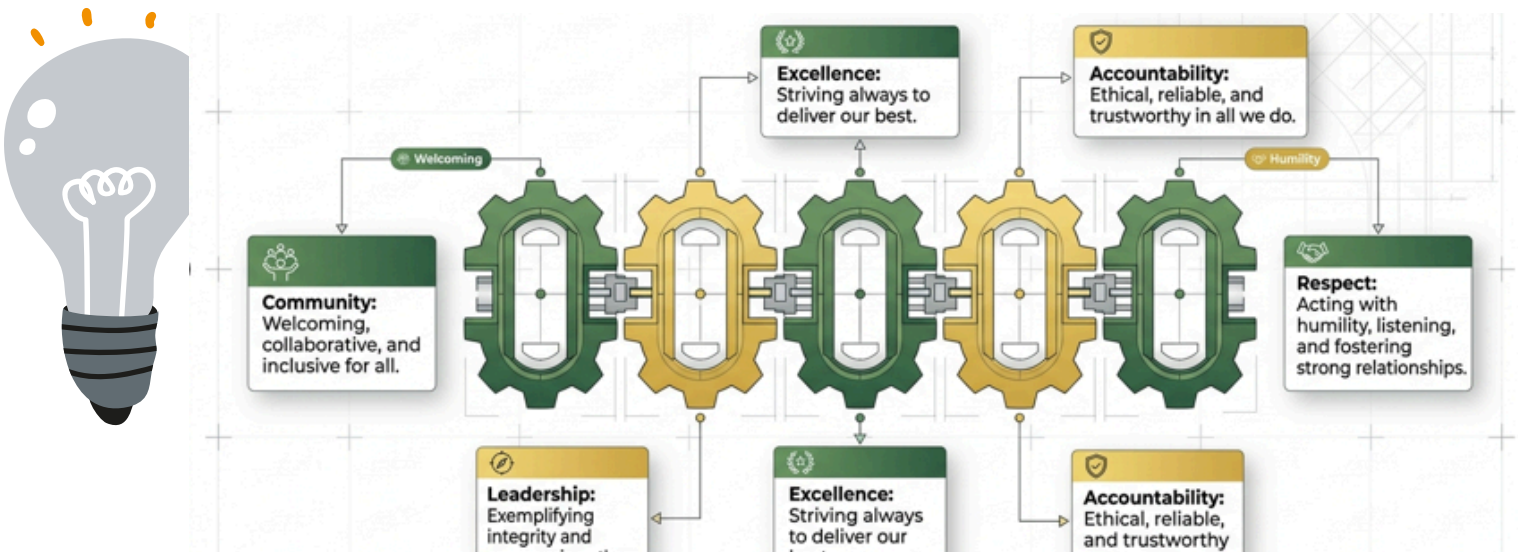
Keeping fire safety top of mind in the kitchen during this joyous but hectic time is important, especially when there's a lot of activity and people at home. As you start preparing your holiday schedule and organizing that large family feast, remember that by following a few simple safety tips, you can enjoy time with your loved ones and keep yourself and your family safe from fire.



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS
Gulf Coast Chapter

Leading with our CLEAR Values

ASSP's new strategic plan incorporates these five values:



CLEAR *is an acronym used to help people remember and share key points easily across the ASSP ecosystem. It serves as a simple framework for communicating the ideas with stakeholders.*
https://www.assp.org/about/strategic-plan

Help us GROW & Refer a Member

Annual Member-Get- A- Member Program

ASSP'sannual member referral program returns for 2026.

Share the benefits and resources ASSP offers with safety colleagues, directing potential members to the ASSP website to encourage them to join the Gulf Coast Society.

The more people you refer, the more rewards you can earn, such as a **1-year membership** extension, an on-demand webinar, or a $50 Amazon gift card.



For every complete member referral, the referring member will receive an entry in the grand prize drawing for a trip to ASSP's annual professional development conference, which includes full conference registration, 3 nights' hotel accommodations, and a $250 gift card for expenses

Learn more at ***https://assp .us/38VZ7kF***

Government Affairs Update

OSHA VPP Core Elements Realigned

Effective June 2026, VPP aligns with OSHA's Recommended Practices. Directive CSP 03-01-005 outlines updates to Medical Access Orders and creates new VPP Elite and VPP Emeritus levels.

ASTM SIF Standard (E2920-26)

Establishes a 4-level classification for Serious Incident & Fatality prevention. Defines Level 1 incidents as having a clear workplace connection and establishes guidelines for tracking potential SIFs (pSIFs).

Harwood Training Grants

$12.7M available for targeted educational development, emphasizing high-risk small businesses.

Note: OSHA names Jennifer Rous as the new Director of Whistleblower Protection Programs.



Executive Committee Nominations

NOMINATIONS DUE

December 31, 2026

This is the time of year when we seek nominations from Gulf Coast Chapter members to run for the Gulf Coast Chapter Ex-Comm positions.

What's Next?

Complete the Nomination Form in this newsletter. All nominations are due by close of business on December 31, 2026!

You'll receive an email due by close of business ballot before the end of February to see if there will be some additional competition for the positions. The April Gulf Coast newsletter will include the names and qualifications of the candidates.

How Is the Election Conducted?

The nominating and election committee serves as the teller committee. Elections are by voice vote when only one candidate is nominated, otherwise by secret ballot.

Qualifications to run are simple: you must be a chapter member in good standing and an ASSP member for a year.

Nominate Someone

Know a member who should run? Follow these three steps:

1. Complete the 2026 Elections & Nominations Form at gulfcoast.assp.org/files
2. Provide your 'Business Professional' picture for publication.
3. Your biography will be used to announce the nomination.

Election Timeline

- **January** Slate of candidates finalized
- **February** Presented to ExCom
- **March** Ballot published
- **April** Voting
- **May** Leadership retreat
- **June** Outgoing/incoming transitions
- **July** Term begins!

Student Services Update

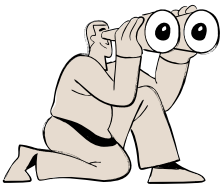
Brought to you by the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP)

SPRING
STUDENT MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Our student membership drive is a vital activity for your student section. The number of members your section recruits propels growth and enables you to expand your programs. It also helps build the professional network for your section members. The peers you meet as a student will become the colleagues you rely on throughout your career.

Help us recruit graduating students to join the Gulf Coast Chapter!



ASSP Grants & Scholarships

Investing in the Next Generation of Safety Professionals

Left Panel
(ASSP Grants & Scholarships)

Career development grants available to support professional advancement.

- **Status**: Applications accepted year-round.
- **Process**: Awards made on a rolling basis, based on availability.
- **Portal**: asspfoundation.secure-platform.com

Right Panel
(Student Recruitment)

Vital initiative to expand student section programs and build early-career networks.

- **Goal**: Recruit graduating students to join the Gulf Coast Chapter.
- **Impact**: Today's student peers become tomorrow's trusted industry colleagues.

join us

DON'T FORGET TO ATTEND THE ENERGY CORRIDOR

STUDENTS spotlight

The Region III ASSP 2027 Student Leadership Conference

Student Leadership Conference

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS
Gulf Coast Chapter

ASSP Student Leadership PDC

Elevating the Next Generation of EHS Professionals

Designed for EHS/OHS Students, Emerging Professionals, Faculty, and Industry Mentors across Region III and beyond.

April 8–9, 2027 | Fort Worth, Texas

Community & Respect	**Networking Night & Mentorship Connection Opportunities.** Fostering a collaborative environment and building vital industry relationships.
Leadership & Accountability	**Student Project Displays & Interactive Case Study Competition.** Showcasing integrity, empowering peers, and applying ethical problem-solving.
Excellence	**Career Panel, Lightning Round Interviews, Resume Reviews, & Exclusive Off-Site Facility Tour (April 9).** Striving for the best in professional transition and operational safety knowledge.

[$99] =

[2 Nights Hotel] + [All Meals] + [Full Conference Access] + [Off-Site Tour]

Registration:
Open June 8, 2026 – March 31, 2027.



Travel Tip: Out-of-area attendees (e.g., Decatur, IL) should coordinate travel to Fort Worth early.

Proudly Sponsored
By Texas Safety Foundation, Inc

For sponsoring, volunteering, mentoring, or partnering, contact: Region III Regional Vice President
Email: abby.holovach@vibeenvironmental.com

new PROJECT

An ASSP Gulf Coast Initiative

ASSP Gulf Coast Chapter Career Pathways Series

Highlighting Local Safety Career Progression, Hiring Insights & Professional Growth Opportunities.

Designed to help safety professionals, emerging leaders, and students navigate and accelerate their careers in Occupational Safety & Health.

Learn from the experiences of fellow practitioners while expanding your professional network.

Today's Career Progression Spotlight

Chika Samuels, CSP | From Safety Professional to Regional Health & Safety Leader

Foundational Depth
Diverse Experience
Manufacturing, industrial operations, construction, and supply chain.

The Strategic Lateral Move
Environmental Manager
Intentionally exploring the E in EHS.
Gained exposure to environmental compliance, process safety, regulatory strategy, and business operations.

The Vertical Jump
Regional Health & Safety Manager. 2026
Expanded from site-level leadership to regional oversight of safety culture transformation across multiple facilities in the Southeast U.S.

Executive Pro-Tips:

- Strategic lateral moves can build the breadth of experience needed to accelerate into larger leadership opportunities.
- Seek opportunities that increase influence, not just title.
- The best career opportunities are often found at the intersection of preparation and timing.

Feature Your Journey

Have a recent career advancement or milestone? Help inspire fellow safety professionals by sharing your leadership journey with the Gulf Coast Chapter.

Email Us to Share Your Story

Sharpen Your Skills

Looking for your next opportunity? Learn what hiring managers are really looking for through our semi-annual Resume Review and Mock Interview Workshops featuring leading industry recruiters.

Email Us to Schedule

Your next opportunity may be one conversation away.

NIOSH-TPG

Grant

- **Provides financial support for OSHE Undergraduate students** ***($2,000/semester)***
- **Eligibility:**
  - Undergraduate Full-time students (enrolled in >12 credit hrs.)
  - Declared OSHE major
  - 2.5 GPA min.
  - Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident
  - Students report **10 hrs** of student activities/wk
- **How to apply?**
  - Email Dr. Magdy Akladios (Akladios@uhcl.edu)

UHCL HAWKS

NIOSH

National Institutes of Health

UHCL

University of Houston Clear Lake

The choice is clear.

CONTINUING EDUCATION



Honolulu, HI

October 27-28
Pacific Rim Safety & Health Conference
This biennial conference provides attendees opportunities to learn the profession's best practices focusing on safety, health, industrial health and environmental issues. The 2-day event features three keynote speakers and 28 breakout sessions in four concurrent tracks as well as an exhibition of more than 50 sponsors and exhibitors. Topics include safety training, risk prevention, fall protection, artificial intelligence, adult learning principles, construction safety and hazard assessments.
ASSP Hawaii Chapter; https://hawaii.assp.org

OCTOBER 2026

Online
10/5-10/7 • ASP Exam Preparation. ASSP; (847) 699-2929; www.assp.org.

Online
10/6 • AI and the Future of Fire Protection Engineering: Opportunities, Risks and Real-World Applications. Learn how artificial intelligence (AI) is being applied to structural and fire engineering challenges, where the technology is delivering value today, and where future opportunities and limitations remain. ASSP Fire Protection Practice Specialty; https://bit.ly/4y8Mq1q.

Online
10/7 • Silence Before the Incident: Psychological Safety as a Critical Control. Learn about reframing psychological safety as an operational safety control that determines whether concerns, weak signals, near misses and deteriorating conditions surface while there is still time to act. ASSP Women in Safety Excellence Common Interest Group; https://bit.ly/4hfGCg9.

Online
10/7: The Business Value of Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety Across Global Industries: A Review of Case Studies. American Congress of Governmental Industrial Hygienists; (513) 742-2020; www.acgih.org.

Online
10/8-10/10 • CSP Exam Preparation. ASSP; (847) 699-2929; www.assp.org.

Events during October, November & December
• Current month advertiser
• ASSP community
*These ASSP courses have a live virtual classroom option available. For information, visit www.assp.org/education.
Send event announcements to professionalsafety@assp.org.

Online
10/9 • From Fear to Fuel: Getting Over Your Fear of Public Speaking. Learn practical tips for managing anxiety that can interfere with effectively communicating critical safety messages, including eight methods to counteract nervousness. ASSP Healthcare and Training and Communications practice specialties and Women in Safety Excellence Common Interest Group; https://bit.ly/4h1ja5j.

Online
10/13 • Workers' Compensation 101: Part 2. Gain an expanded view of workers' compensation and how it functions as well as a better understanding of the experience modification rate. ASSP Risk Management Practice Specialty; https://bit.ly/4cvrXLo.

Ashland, OR
10/13-10/15 • Southern Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Conference. This conference features 3 days of informative sessions, keynotes, and safety and health educational breakout sessions. ASSP Southern Oregon Chapter and Oregon OSHA; www.soassp.org.

Online
10/14 • Cybersecurity Risks for Contractors. Learn practical strategies to better recognize, evaluate, and manage cybersecurity risks as part of a comprehensive safety and operational risk management program. ASSP Oil, Gas, Mining and Mineral Resources, and Risk Management practice specialties; https://bit.ly/46dJBlF.

Online
10/22: Measuring What Matters: Risk, Impact and Value in Decision-Making. American Industrial Hygiene Association; (703) 849-8888; www.aiha.org.

Online
10/22-11/5 • Bow-Tie Risk Assessment. ASSP; (847) 699-2929; www.assp.org.

Online
10/22-11/19 • Corporate Safety Management. ASSP; (847) 699-2929; www.assp.org.

Online
10/22-11/19 • ANSI/ASSP Z16: Using Safety Metrics to Drive Operational Excellence. ASSP; (847) 699-2929; www.assp.org.

Online
10/22-11/19 • Integrating Z10 to Manage Occupational Health and Safety. ASSP; (847) 699-2929; www.assp.org.

Online
10/22-11/19 • Incident Investigation Techniques. ASSP; (847) 699-2929; www.assp.org.

Online
10/22-11/19 • Integrating ISO 45001 to Manage Occupational Health and Safety. ASSP; (847) 699-2929; www.assp.org.

Online
10/22-11/19 • Influential Leadership Skills. ASSP; (847) 699-2929; www.assp.org.

Online
10/22-11/19 • Enterprise Risk Management for Safety Professionals. ASSP; (847) 699-2929; www.assp.org.

Nashua, NH
10/27-10/28 • ASSP New England Area Professional Development Conference. ASSP New England Area; https://region8.assp.org.

Birmingham, AL
10/28-10/30: 2026 Annual Southeast Mine Safety and Health Conference. Southeast Mine Safety and Health Conference; www.southeastmineconf.org.

NOVEMBER 2026

Kennewick, WA
11/2-11/6: Confined Space Rescue Team Leader. D2000 Safety; (800) 551-8763; www.d2000safety.com.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS
Region III

ASSP Resources for Members:

Scholarships Open Oct. 15,

GULF COAST CHAPTER
HOUSTON, TEXAS

NOMINATION FORM
Candidate Profile

Under the Gulf Coast Chapter Bylaws, Article VI, each candidate for office must sign the acceptance statement below and have employer approval.

I, _____, do hereby accept the nomination for the office of _____ and if elected, agree to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of this office(s).

Candidate's Signature _____ Date _____

Supervisor's Signature _____ Date _____

Please provide the following details in both written and electronic formats for inclusion in the Chapter Newsletter and other communications about this election:

Check one: Are you a _____Professional Member or a _____Member

If you are a Professional Member, please check the Registrations/Certifications you would like to have listed after your name for publications:

CSP _____ ASP_____ GSP _____ CIH _____ OHST_____ COSS _____ ARM _____ PE _____

Other not listed above:

_____

Employer: _____ How Long? _____ Position: _____

Education: (Degree/University) _____

ASSP Office(s) Held: (Chapter/Regional/National) _____

ASSP Committee(s) Served On: (Chapter/Regional/National) _____

Safety/Loss Prevention Experience: _____ yrs.

Other Safety-Related Activities: (If additional space is needed, please attach a separate sheet)

_____

_____

_____

All nominations are due no later than Friday December 31st, 2026

Please email the following three items to including "nomination" in the title

This is completed form
Your most recent "business Professional" Photo
A Brief Biography