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## ***ESC Will Host Ceremonies For Workers Memorial Day April 28***

**BY MOSES CAREY JR.**

When most of us leave the security of our homes each morning to go to our jobs, we assume that we will be returning to our loved ones later that day.

But for some people, that assumption is not realized. These people either die on their way to or from work, or while they are on their jobs.

For the past eight years, the North Carolina Employment Security Commission has paid tribute to these workers on April 28, observed internationally as Workers Memorial Day. This day not only honors those people whom were killed while doing their jobs, but also calls attention to the importance of workplace safety.

This Tuesday, April 28, we will again host ceremonies dedicated to honor fallen workers everywhere, including those in the ESC family.

Our staff — as well as many other dignitaries from throughout local, state and federal governments, as well as friends in the business community — will pause to reflect and be reminded of the vibrancy of human life and the importance of workplace safety to protect employees everywhere.

The ceremony — which will begin at noon in Room GB-111 on the ESC's Central Office Campus at 700 Wade Avenue in Raleigh — will also point out the need for employers and workers to remember that our state's workplace is becoming more and more diverse. Language and other barriers must be overcome to ensure a safe day on the job for everyone.

Workers Memorial Day is a time for us to reflect on the safety and well-being of our greatest resource — North Carolina's workers. Our theme again is: "*Safety Saves . . . lives, time, jobs and money.*" Without healthy workers and safe workplaces, our state's economy suffers. In addition, we need to strive each day for a better and safer workplace — the most critical component to achieving our goals in this important area.

Please make safety — both yours and your neighbor's at work — your first thought each workday.

*(Moses Carey Jr. is chairman of the N.C. Employment Security Commission.)*