



Wonder Where the Toys Go?

For the past fifteen years CASF has been collecting toys at the Annual Holiday Party to give to ChildNet for distribution to a local child during the Christmas Holidays, who in many cases would not be receiving gifts of any kind. It is a chance for people in the construction industry to reach out and touch the lives of children less fortunate than our own.



ChildNet's mission is to protect abused, abandoned and neglected children in the communities we serve. Their system of care was developed with extensive input from local stakeholders and its effective implementation depends upon their continued support. As a regional community based care lead agency ChildNet is responsible for 3600 children in foster care. ChildNet coordinates a network of child welfare services that provide case management, adoption, diversion, family preservation, family strengthening, foster homes, and group and resi-

dential care. ChildNet manages this comprehensive system of care through partnerships, subcontracts, and service agreements. Each year, several hundred children enter the child welfare system due to abuse, abandonment or neglect.

As the local Community-Based Care (CBC) lead agency for Broward and Palm Beach Counties, ChildNet manages a network of child welfare services that

provide foster care, adoption and family preservation ser-

vices for the more than 3,600 children in care and their caregivers.

Our thanks go out to all of our members who bring the toys and a special thanks to **Lotspeich Company of Florida**, who provide their trucks and manpower every year to make sure all of the toys get to ChildNet headquarters, so they can start giving toys out the day after our party.



Member News

January 2014
Vol. 25, No. 01
Ft. Lauderdale,
Florida

Miller Construction Company has named Traci Miller vice president--business development and marketing for the South Florida design/builder and construction services firm.

Traci Miller joined the Fort Lauderdale based company in 1993, is a shareholder of the firm and most recently served as director of business development and marketing.

In her role she oversees all business development and marketing functions and fosters the company's industry, civic and charitable relationships. She also serves on the firm's executive committee and leadership team, mentoring teammates on effective community involvement.

Plaza Construction/ Brad Meltzer, Principal and President, was named Contractor of the Year 2013 by the American Institute of Architects Miami Chapter at its 59th Annual Design Awards Gala held November 22, at the Miami Center for Architecture & Design. In accepting the award, which recognizes the highest level of achievement in commercial construction, Meltzer stated, "On behalf of the entire Plaza team, we are especially honored to receive AIA Miami's coveted Contractor of the Year 2013 Award. It is a testament to our dedicated team of professionals who are committed to delivering the highest standard of performance."



Traci Miller



Brad Meltzer



Building Strong Customer Relationships

Each month Construction FOCUS features a CASF member company, selected by drawing a business card from among those attending the monthly networking breakfast. The next breakfast, sponsored by John Moriarty of Florida, will be held on Thursday, January 23, 7:30 a.m. at Shula's Hotel in Miami Lakes.

Florida Builder Appliances was founded in 1975 by William B. Matz and the main philosophy of the company till this day is to always build strong customer relationships and strive to improve each and every day. The company's utilization of teamwork, integrity,

attention to customers' needs and the extremely vast array of brands, has

enabled them to be recognized as Florida's largest distributor of prestigious kitchen, laundry, and outdoor cooking appliances.

Each of the five showrooms located in Miami, Pompano Beach, West Palm Beach, Sarasota, and Bonita

Springs are complete with kitchen packages including live working appliances, local cabinetry and counter-tops all designed by the area's top interior kitchen designers. The showrooms display some of the world's finest and most exclusive brands, including Bosch, Sub-Zero, Viking, Dacor, Jenn-Air, Wolf, Miele, Thermador, Kitchen-Aid, GE, Maytag, and Gaggenan just to name a few.

Customer satisfaction is extremely important to the Florida Builder Appliances staff. Their sales teams' work hand-in-hand with each buyer to ensure maximum efficiency as well as offer a total satisfaction package with detailed line drawings in order to help your project run smoothly from start to finish. "One of the best things about work-

ing for Florida Builder Appliances is that the company truly appreciates its employees as well as the customers and provides every possible tool to help you succeed," states Jason Rahrig, who has been with the company for two years as a builder account manager.

The company provides the construction industry with the exceedingly specialized appliance needs of the finest luxury high-rise and project developers, custom builders, cabinet shops, remodelers, and homeowners. The fact they are structured to service single family home-builders as well as the very large scale projects is what sets them apart from their competitors. A few larger scale projects FBA has been working on are the Brickell City Center and The Bond Condo's in Brickell and plan on also operating on 1000 Museum and 400 Sunny Isles in the future.

Florida Builder Appliances has been a member of CASF for over 10 years and the networking events have helped them build great relationships. "Attending all of the different events is a great way to meet new people in the construction industry and discover new projects that are on the horizon," expresses Rahrig.

Florida Builder Appliances' Miami showroom is located at 6300 S. Dixie Highway, Miami, FL 33143 and the Pompano Beach showroom is located at 1742 W. Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach, FL 33069. For more information please call 305-669-0910 or 954-956-7051 or visit

www.floridabuilderappliances.com



CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION of South Florida

2929 North West 62nd Street, Ft. Lauderdale, FL., 33309
Phone: 954-974-6333; FAX: 954-974-6633
casf@casf.org

OFFICERS

Craig Heiser, Whiting-Turner Contracting Co., President
Bob Baer, Central Florida Equipment, First Vice President
Frank Frione, GFA International, Second Vice President
Russell Anderson, Moss & Associates, Secretary/ Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

♦**Tim Anderson**, JWR Construction Services ♦**Sidney Blaauw**, Steel Fabricators, LLC
♦**Michael W. Fee**, Lotspeich Co. of Florida, Inc. ♦**Donald Ferguson**, Cayman National Manufacturing
♦**Chris Long**, Kaufman Lynn Construction ♦**Justin Lord**, Central Broward Construction
♦**Michael O'Donoghue**, Suffolk Construction ♦**Richard W. Schuerger**, John Moriarty & Assoc. of FL.
♦**Jeff Slade**, Miller Construction Company ♦**Mindy Szarowicz**, Baker Concrete

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Doug Wallace, Stiles Construction Company

PAST PRESIDENT

Bill Bower, Southeast Mechanical Contractors

♦ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, **John C. Siegle**
♦FINANCIAL ADVISOR, **Robert Benson**, Crowe, Horwath, LLP
♦LEGAL ADVISOR, **Heath Eskalyo**, Kelley Kronenberg
♦CONTRIBUTING WRITER, **Genna Fisher**

Construction Focus is the official publication of the Construction Association of South Florida. Article suggestions and submissions for publication consideration should be forwarded to the Executive Vice President.

Don't Ignore Aggressive Behavior on the Job

We have all seen it on the 6:00 News. A disgruntled employee picks up a gun and uses it against his employer and fellow employees. We all think of workplace violence as a sensational, isolated incident that happens elsewhere. But violence in the workplace is a serious issue that occurs more often than we think. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI), homicide is the third-leading cause of fatal occupational injury in the United States. The United States Department of Justice National Crime Victimization Survey reports about two million assaults and threats of workplace violence each year.

OSHA defines workplace violence as any physical assault, including unwanted touching or any other offensive physical contact, threatening behavior or verbal abuse. This includes being followed, shouted at, sworn at, and threatened, as well as physical violence. It can occur at or outside the workplace and can range from threats and verbal abuse to physical assaults and homicide, one of the leading causes of job-related deaths. However it manifests itself, workplace violence is a growing concern for employers and employees nationwide.

There are four categories of Workplace Violence: Stranger on Employee, Customer on Employee, Partner on Employee and Employee on Employee. Statistics show that the most common is Stranger on Employee. Security on the

job site is something that everyone should think of. Restricting entry to job sites, requiring identification and knowing security procedures can reduce this type of violence.

On the construction job site, raising awareness is the first step in reducing violent incidents. The best protection employers can offer is to establish a zero-tolerance policy toward workplace violence against or by their employees.

The employer should establish a workplace violence prevention program or incorporate the information into an existing accident prevention program, employee handbook, or manual of standard operating procedures. It is critical to ensure that all employees know the policy and understand that all claims of workplace violence will be investigated and remedied promptly. In addition, employers can offer additional protections such as the following:

- ◆ Provide safety education for employees so they know what conduct is not acceptable, what to do if they witness or are subjected to workplace violence, and how to protect themselves.
- ◆ Secure the workplace. Where appropriate to the business, install video surveillance, extra lighting, and alarm systems and minimize access by outsiders through identification badges, electronic keys, and guards.
- ◆ Equip field staff with cellular phones and hand-held alarms or noise devices, and require them to prepare a daily work plan and keep a contact person informed of their location throughout the day.

The employer must provide a work place that is free from recognized hazards that can cause death or serious physical harm to his employees. In a workplace where the risk of violence and serious personal injury are significant enough to be "*recognized hazards*," the general duty clause would require the employer to take measures to reduce those risks. If the employer fails to take steps to reduce the risk it could result in a violation of the OSHA standard.

On the other hand, if the occurrence of acts of violence are unforeseeable or may be random antisocial acts, then the employer would not subject to a citation for a violation of the OSHA Act. Whether or not an employer can be cited is entirely dependent upon the specific facts, which will be unique in each situation.

Preventing workplace violence involves recognizing potential warning signs, having company policies that address workplace violence and communicating these policies to employees.

OSHA has various publications, standards, technical assistance, and compliance tools to help you, and offers extensive assistance through its many safety and health programs: workplace consultation, voluntary protection programs, grants, strategic partnerships, state plans, training, and education. This information is available on OSHA's website at www.osha.gov.



CONSTRUCTION
FOCUS

CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH FLORIDA

3500 NW 9TH AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33309

ROUTE TO:

2013 Holiday Kick-off Party
Riverside Hotel on E. Las Olas Boulevard
Wednesday, December 4

