

Mason Contractors Association of California

Website

MCAC Membership

News & Events

Industry Resources

Contact Us

June 29, 2022 ISSUE 24

THANK YOU TO OUR NEWSLETTER SPONSOR



In This Issue:

- > Public Works Contractor Renewal Due June 30, 2022
- > MCAC 167th State Meeting September 16-17, 2022- Monterey, CA
- > US Supreme Court Rules Arbitration Agreements Enforceable
- > Build it and We Will Burn it: Volunteer Needed!
- > 6 Ways to Beat Heat Illness
- > Oldcastle Acquires Calstone
- > Industry Events 2022
- > FEATURING MCAC Member Benefits! Insurance Program with Masonry Construction Expertise

2022 MCAC MISSION PARTNERS











Reminder! Public Works Contractor Renewal Due June 30, 2022

Contractors must be registered with DIR (Department of Industrial Relations) before bidding, being awarded, or performing work on public works projects in California.

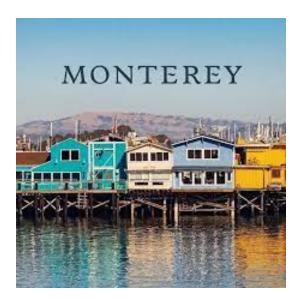
Public works contractors can <u>register or renew</u> for one, two, or three fiscal years (July 1-June 30) for a fee of \$400, \$800 or \$1,200.

Penalties for *late renewals* range from \$400 - \$2,000, and penalties for *failure to register* (first-timers) start at \$2,000. Contractors can be disqualified from bidding public works projects for up to a year if they receive two violations in twelve months.

NOTE: If you have not created a new account since April 3, 2019, you must log in and create a new account then link your previous account.

Side Note: MCAC is supporting a bill (AB 1727) that would reduce the annual public works contractor renewal fee from \$400 to \$200 for small businesses -- defined as those with 200 or less employees and annual gross receipts of \$36M or less over the previous 3 years, among other requirements. We'll keep you posted!

MCAC 167th State Meeting and Board of Directors Installation



September 16 - 17, 2022 Hyatt Regency Monterey Resort & Spa on Del Monte Golf Course Registration Opens Soon!

Supreme Court Rules Arbitration Agreements are Enforceable

On June 15, 2022 the U.S. Supreme Court provided some welcome relief to California employers with arbitration agreements. The Court held that arbitration agreements, which bar employees from pursuing representative claims under the Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA), are enforceable. Arbitration agreements cannot waive a PAGA claim, but they can mandate that the arbitration covers only individual-based claims. ~ Source Cook Brown LLP ~ Read full article here.

MCAC is a member of the California Business and Industrial Alliance (CABIA), a trade organization dedicated to changing PAGA. CABIA submitted <u>arguments</u> to the Supreme Court urging for a ruling that would allow businesses and employees "...to resolve their disputes bilaterally and through arbitration, rather than through abusive, and often frivolous PAGA lawsuits."

While the Supreme Court decision is being hailed as a victory for employers, another battle on the issue is brewing in California with some legislators and the attorney general promising a thorough review of the high court's decision and vowing to stand on the side of employees. We'll see what that means. In the meantime, celebrate this win, review your arbitration agreements with legal counsel and stay tuned for updates on this complex issue.

CABIA has made a <u>FREE arbitration agreement</u> available to those willing to provide some very basic info (company name, contact name, # of employees and email address). You will also be asked if you would like to make a donation to CABIA but you are not required to do so.

There is plenty of press out there on this topic -- most of it in legal ease. If you want to avoid brain bleed from lawyer speak, check out this <u>Fresno Bee June 27, 2022 article</u> written by the CEO of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce, the CEO of the San Joaquin Valley Manufacturing Alliance and CABIA's president.

Build it and We Will Burn it: Volunteer Needed to Build Mock Masonry Wall

MCAC is teaming up with our industry partners Concrete Masonry Assn of California and Nevada (CMACN) and Masonry Institute of America (MIA) to represent masonry at the first ever Wildfire Resilient Structures (WIRES) conference hosted by UC Davis February 7-10, 2023.



At our initial planning meeting, the question before us was "How do we present masonry as a superior fire resistive material in a visually impactful way?" The answer was clear: Put live fire on a wall! Then, watch it *not* burn.

We are hiring a film production crew to capture this demonstration but we need someone in Northern California to build a mock masonry wall.

Specs:

- block and brick
- wall size TBD
- filming to occur Fall 2022
- the closer to Sacramento the better -- location selection contingent upon local burning restrictions

We are very excited about this opportunity to put masonry in front of an estimated 400 building officials, architects, engineers, building and material industry reps, researchers, first responders, and more. Let's show them 'why masonry' is a solution to building fire resilient structures.

You want in? Send an email to MCAC Executive Director, Julie Trost | <u>julie@mca-ca.org</u> | Call (916) 966-7666

6 Ways to Beat Heat Illness

California enacted the first <u>heat illness standard</u> in the country in August 2005, so California employers are not new to the requirements of keeping workers safe in the heat. However, as we onboard new employees and acclimatize workers at the onset of the hot season, it bears repeating.

Moreover, construction employers have added responsibilities for protecting workers in the heat since construction is one of five industries required to implement <u>high heat</u> <u>procedures</u> when temps hit 95 degrees.

State Fund reminds us of 6 ways to 'beat the heat' and provides access to a <u>sample heat</u> <u>illness plan</u> in the article below.

REMINDER: The basics for adhering to Cal/OSHA's heat illness standard are:

- 1. Have a written plan. See link to sample above.
- 2. Train your people on the plan.

- 3. Provide clean drinking water. 2 gallons per employee in an 8-hour workday.
- 4. Have shade available before temps hit 80 degrees and put it up once it's 80 degrees.

Starting and stopping the work day early is another practice to keep outdoor employees protected from the heat of the day. Work safe!

State Fund article **here**

MCAC Heat Illness Advisory Aug 14 2019 (the rules are the same then as they are today)

OLDCASTLE ACQUIRES CALSTONE

On March 30, 2022 Oldcastle announced its acquisition of Calstone, a leading manufacturer of pavers, concrete masonry, segmental retaining walls and packaged products in Northern California. Calstone was established in 1947 and serves markets including San Francisco, Sacramento, San Jose and the Central Valley. Oldcastle President, Tim Ortman, stated, "This is a strategically important addition to the Oldcastle APG family as we strive to offer complete outdoor living solutions to our customers across the country."

Read PR Newswire announcement <u>here</u>.

INDUSTRY EVENTS

July 4, 2022 - Independence Day. MCAC Office Closed. Happy 4th Everyone! September 16-17, 2022 - MCAC 167th State Meeting & Board of Directors Installation - Monterey, CA. Registration opens soon!

September 23, 2022 - Concrete Masonry Design Awards - South Lake Tahoe, NV. More info here. September 26, 2022 - Masonry Industry Training Association (MITA) Golf Tournament - Victoria Club - Riverside, CA. More info here.

October 1, 2022 - The Veneer Masters Competition - OMEGA facility - Corona, CA. Register here. October 21, 2022 - Spec Mix Bricklayer 500 Regional - Thompson's Building Materials - Sacramento, CA. More info here.



The Veneer Masters Competition October 1, 2022



MCAC FEATURES MEMBER BENEFIT PROGRAMS FOR YOU!

Need an Insurance Quote??



The team at Saint Moore Insurance Agency (SMIA) is ready to help. Saint Moore is MCAC's Preferred insurance Provider and brings decades of experience to meeting the needs of mason contractors. Hear what other MCAC members have to say about Saint Moore, then see if Saint Moore Insurance Agency, can get you the coverage you need AND *save you some money.

Contact Amy Mulder amy@stmooreinsurance.com

*Saint Moore Insurance Agency provides discounted premiums and pays a portion of MCAC member program participant dues. MCAC members saved a collective \$6,881.25 on their 2021/22 dues.

Sincerely,
Julie Trost
Executive Director
Mason Contractors Association of CA
7844 Madison Avenue, Suite 140
Fair Oaks, CA 95628
p. 916.966.7666
julie@mca-ca.org