

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
BOARD AGENDA LETTER**



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:

Prepared on: September 21, 2004
Department: General Services
Budget Unit:
Agenda Date: October 5, 2004
Placement: Departmental
Estimate Time: 45 Minutes on October 5, 2004
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Ronald S. Cortez, Director
General Services Department

STAFF CONTACT: Tara Murphy, County Safety Officer
884-6864

SUBJECT: Departmental Injury and Illness Prevention Presentation
All Districts

Recommendations:

That the Board of Supervisors set October 5, 2004 as a hearing date to accept a staff presentation on the Departmental Injury Illness Prevention Presentation. **Estimated time of presentation is 45 minutes.**

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendations are primarily aligned with Goal No. 3. A Strong, Professionally Managed County Organization.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

In June of 2004 your Board requested that the departments prepare a presentation outlining, "What are departments doing to prevent accidents?". In response to your request, the departments formed an Accident Prevention Committee. The Accident Prevention committee met to discuss similarities between their accident prevention programs and their reactions to their department's Bickmore study. The committee then created a subcommittee to create an accident prevention presentation. Three departments volunteered; Department of Social Services, Clerk-Recorder-Assessor, and Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services, and will present an outline of the accident prevention efforts for their departments.

Each of the three selected departments will give a brief overview of the safety challenges unique to their department, highlights of the Bickmore Risk Services study, and the efforts implemented to meet Bickmore's recommendation. In addition the departments will ask the board to consider some of Bickmore's recommendations on a County level.

As a whole the departments were pleased with the findings of the Bickmore Risk Services study. The departments have accepted and implemented many of Bickmore's recommendations. In summary, Bickmore found that the County of Santa Barbara has historically viewed safety as a priority. It is now appropriate to make it a core value. The County's goal of reducing the number and costs of workers' compensation injuries can only be achieved when safety is shifted from a priority to a value. By way of example, the departments will present how they are meeting the recommendations of the Bickmore study.

Note: The departments which make up the Accident Prevention Committee found the meetings to be a productive forum to discuss safety challenges common to more than one department. As a result the committee will continue meeting to discuss common prevention efforts that departments are implementing to prevent workplace injuries and reduce workers' compensation costs.

Mandates and Service Levels: NA

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts: Not yet determined, they will be developed by the individual departments.

Special Instructions:

Concurrence: