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## **US Labor Department's OSHA to hold teleconferences for small businesses to provide input on proposed column for employer injury and illness logs** *Change would involve checking box for a musculoskeletal disorder*

**WASHINGTON** – The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration, in partnership with the Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy, today announced a series of three teleconferences to reach out to the small business community for input on OSHA's proposal to add a column for work-related musculoskeletal disorders on employer injury and illness logs. This proposal would require those employers already mandated to keep injury and illness records to add the step of checking a column when recording work-related musculoskeletal disorders.

Small businesses from around the country are encouraged to participate in the teleconferences. The first will be held on Monday, April 11 at 1:30 p.m. EDT. The second and third will be held Tuesday, April 12, 2011, at 9 a.m. EDT and 1:30 p.m. EDT. Participants may provide input about their experiences in recording work-related MSDs and how they believe the proposed rule would impact them.

The proposed rule only covers MSDs that employers are already required to record under the longstanding OSHA rule on recordkeeping. Prior to 2001, OSHA's injury and illness logs contained a column for repetitive trauma disorders that included hearing loss and many kinds of MSDs. In 2001, OSHA proposed separating hearing loss and MSDs into two columns, but the MSD column was deleted in 2003 before the provision became effective. OSHA's proposal would restore the MSD column to the Form 300.

Interested businesses that wish to participate in one of the teleconferences should contact Regina Powers at [powers.regina@dol.gov](mailto:powers.regina@dol.gov) by April 4, and indicate the teleconference in which they wish to participate. For more information, contact Robert Burt, director of OSHA's Office of Regulatory Analysis, at 202-693-1952 or Bruce Lundegren, assistant chief counsel for SBA Advocacy, at 202-205-6144.

Additional information is available online at  
[http://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping/MSD\\_Column\\_Meeting\\_General\\_Info.html](http://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping/MSD_Column_Meeting_General_Info.html).

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