



INTERACTIVE TRAINING — **HOW TO PERFECT A MECHANICS LIEN**

On June 25th, the Austin Area Black Contractors Association conducted two interactive training sessions on “**How To Perfect A Mechanics Lien**” and the most common types of construction liens.

Session 1 focused on how to file Construction Commercial and Residential Construction Original Contractor and First tier Subcontractor liens. **Session 2** focused on how to collect, document and prepare the Lien Affidavit.

Mr. Leonard Woods, Attorney At Law with the law firm of *Duggins Wren Mann & Romero, LLP*, served as the instructor for these sessions. Mr. Woods has an extensive background with small and large construction firms regarding business and contract law, specifically in the areas of mechanics lien, payments, and agreements.

Additionally, the training covered the **Lien Notice Affidavit Timeline** and the processes used to document the specific months in which unpaid work was performed; deadlines for sending notices of unpaid balances to the owner and original contractor; and the deadlines for filing the lien affidavit.

Mr. Woods encouraged interactive participation from all of the attendees. “All were pleased and accolades were at its highest”.

Attendees included: Ralph Wright, *RAW Trucking*; Leonard Wood, Attorney at Law; Ben Warmate, *Unism Development*; Heath Williamson; *Earthco Landscape Construction, LLC.*; Larry Cross; *Trini Construction Builder, LLC.*; Nick Sheffield, *Avery Landscaping Services, Inc*; *JHarper Construction Company, Inc.*; Alvin Washington, *Washington Trucking Company*; Teresa Thomas, *SMITCO Concrete Construction*; Calvin Williams and Ronda Houston, *Zlynx Enterprise, Inc.*; Nicole Jackson, Joe Almendaritz, and Alayne Johnson, *All Points Inspection Services, Inc.*; and Carol S. Hadnot, *Business Resource Consultants*.

A “**Big Thank You**” to Patrick Carter, President of Unity Contractor Services, Inc., for allowing the use of their facility for the training.

Note: Go to ABCA’s Website (www.bcatx.com) and click on the training link to review or download the “How To Perfect a Mechanics Lien”, training materials).



Construction Technology

Mobile computers are utilized in the construction industry for a variety of purposes. Often, the project foreman has a laptop in his truck that he/she can take onto the job site. Pulling up blueprints or project requirements, communicating with the office, on-site material management & timekeeping are typical mobile applications. Essential features for construction computers are: sunlight-viewable display, protection against drops, water & dust and against in-vehicle vibrations from rough roads.

Source: GroupMobile

Trimble Nomad 900 Series Rugged Handheld



The Trimble Nomad 900 Series rugged handheld computer packs functionality into one of the most powerful and full-featured rugged handheld PCs available. The Nomad meets demanding military standards for drops, vibration, humidity, altitude, and temperature extremes. It also comes with an IP68 rating, meaning the Nomad handheld PC is completely sealed against dust, and can survive immersion in up to a meter of water for 240 minutes. This rugged handheld computer is truly ready for the outdoors!

Panasonic Toughpad FZ-M1 Rugged Tablet New Rugged Panasonic Toughpad!



The 7" Panasonic Toughpad FZ-M1 Windows® 8 Pro tablet is built to enable mission-critical mobile worker productivity where exposure to xtreme environments is a continuous challenge and the result of a failure is significant. It can withstand up to a 5ft. drop and has a dust and water-resistant design. The Toughpad FZ-M1 offers a wide range of configuration options for a flexible user experience. Wi-Fi, Bluetooth®, and optional 4G LTE keep users connected while on the go. With a long-life, user-replaceable battery and sunlight-readable, high-sensitivity multi-touch screen for use with heavy gloves, the Toughpad FZ-M1 is the perfect compact rugged tablet for today's mobile workforce.

Motion J3600 Tablet Computer



The Motion J3600 is a rugged tablet PC for mobile professionals requiring a tough device for harsh working conditions such as construction, field services, and healthcare. Equipped with up to the Intel® Core™ i7 vPro™ processor, optimized for mobility, the J3600 offers relentless levels of security, power and manageability. Work any place at any pace, confident that your sensitive data is secure.

Motion R12 Tablet Computer



The Motion R12 is a sleek and lightweight rugged tablet PC with innovative accessories that are made for incomparable efficiency and unbeatable productivity in public safety, construction, and field service. Equipped with up to the Intel® Core™ i7 vPro™ processor and optimized for mobility, the 12.5" R12 is an ideal desktop replacement.

Trimble Yuma 2 Rugged Tablet Computer



The Trimble® Yuma® 2 rugged tablet computer is designed for ease of use and high performance mobility with everything users expect from a tablet computer — along with the confidence that it will perform flawlessly, no matter where the workplace may be. The Yuma 2 offers the best sunlight readable display on the market and is available with a 1-2 meter real-time Enhanced GPS. The Trimble Yuma 2 is built rugged from the inside out, with IP65 protection from dust and water, and with military-grade MIL-STD-810G certification for temperature, altitude, humidity extremes, vibration and shock.

Outdoor Automation Solution



Group Mobile has created an Outdoor Automation Solution bundle for your savings and convenience. This tablet PC and accessory bundle is ideal for mobile workers in industries that require work to be done outdoors and in other challenging work environments. **Bundle includes:** Trimble Yuma 2 out door-rugged tablet computer, standard battery set, Yuma Carry Case, and a heavy duty vehicle charger.

Toughbook H2 Rugged Tablet PC



The Panasonic Toughbook® H2 tablet PC is the ultimate productivity tool for mobile workers. With advanced ergonomics, a 10.1-inch sunlight-viewable LED screen, and sealed all-weather design, the H2 lets you work virtually anywhere. Designed with magnesium alloy chassis, the IP65 and MIL-STD-810G certified Toughbook H2 delivers a complete range of embedded wireless features. Hot-swappable twin batteries allow for maximum uptime. With ports such as USB, serial, and Ethernet, and optional integrated barcode and SmartCard readers, the Toughbook H2 tablet can handle a variety of field service, mission critical, and healthcare applications.

Durabook R8300 Rugged Laptop



The GammaTech DURABOOK R8300 is designed to withstand extremely harsh environments. The R8300 notebook meets a host of rugged certifications such as Military Standard 810G, 461F, IP65, and more. This fully rugged powerhouse is equipped with Intel's i7-core processor and includes the Windows 7 operating system. The R8300 boasts a 13.3" TFT LCD display with sunlight readable feature for working in bright, mid-day sun. With its quick-release hard disk drive, users can inter-swap hard drives simply by turning a couple knobs. Other features include security protection such as Computrace, TPM 1.2, a Kensington lock, and various connectivity support such as Wireless LAN and Bluetooth 4.0, SIM card slot, GPS module, Wi-Fi, and and more. It is designed for the military, public safety and utility markets.

Toughpad 4K Tablet



The Panasonic Toughpad™ 4K tablet is the highest resolution display ever sold commercially with nearly 10 million pixels — all in a portable, lightweight 20" tablet! It is designed for professionals in fields where visual clarity and collaboration are essential to productivity, such as video production, architecture, design, photography, and healthcare. With its crystal-clear, immersive display, the Toughpad 4K UT-MB5 also can be utilized in settings such as museums, training centers, sales showrooms, and galleries.

Panasonic Toughbook 19 Convertible Rugged Laptop



The unique Toughbook 19 fully rugged PC by Panasonic is a convertible-style computer that can be used as either a rugged notebook or as a rugged tablet PC. The Panasonic Toughbook 19 (also known as the CF-19) is the perfect solution for someone that needs the functionality of both.

Panasonic Toughbook 31 Laptop



Unrivaled ruggedness, drop shock protection and certification exceeding MIL-STD-810G, the Toughbook 31 is the leader in the fully-rugged laptop computer category. Its Intel® Core™ i5 processor combined with available discrete graphics deliver amazing performance and greatly enhanced video and graphics. A 1,200 nit sunlight-viewable touch screen display allows you to work efficiently in any lighting condition. An integrated webcam option and larger storage capacity set it apart from the competition.

5 Safety Tips for Construction Workers on Avoiding Stress and Injury

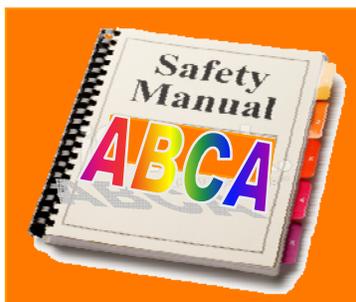
Working as a construction worker is much like being a superhero. Every day, you're tasked with bearing heavy loads and using ultra cool equipment and tools. Riding in cranes and squatting on scaffolds put you so high in the sky that you almost feel like flying. But the same things that make construction job extraordinary could put you in a lot of stress. If you're not too careful, you'd likely meet injuries along the way. Fortunately, there are some safety measures you can follow to avoid common stress and injury in construction sites. Here they are:

1. Lift objects properly

Back aches are every construction worker's number one enemy. While it's easy to get injured by carrying heavy loads, it's not that hard to avoid this hazard altogether. Remember to always bend your knees and to avoid twisting to the side when lifting. To maintain balance, put one foot slightly in front of the other.

2. Use ergonomically correct portable and high-powered tools

Tools are supposed to make your life easier. Of course you know this but still you find yourself reaching out for the same hammer that puts a strain on your hand or those pliers that always slip from your grip. You may not know it but by frequently using poorly designed tools, you could develop such conditions as carpal tunnel syndrome, tendonitis, white finger, and trigger finger. Even powered tools can cause you serious problems with their high vibration and excessive noise. For this reason, employers must make sure that power tools they choose for workers not only have lower vibration but have a long trigger. They should also consider both left-handed and right-handed workers when selecting tools. In the case of hand tools, employers or safety coordinators must choose those that need less force to use and do not strain the hand when you hold them tight. Hand tools must also be balanced and do not conduct heat or electricity.



3. Sit down when working at lower levels

Avoid squatting or kneeling when you have to work at lower levels. By sitting on a stable stool, you avoid straining your knees and waist.

4. Keep your wrists in neutral

Same goes with your arms. Otherwise, by the end of the shift, your body will be suffering from swelling, tingling, strains and pains. If things get worse, *you could develop carpal tunnel syndrome.*

5. Balance the weight of your tool belt

Tool belts sure are small and handy but they have the ability to pull your body out of alignment. That is unless you keep its weight balanced. If you find that one side of your belt is heavier than the other, then make the necessary adjustments by transferring tools to the lighter side.

Article of Interest

First African-American Mayor Elected In San Antonio



SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Ivy Taylor has been elected mayor of San Antonio, becoming the first African-American elected to the post.

Taylor who was appointed interim mayor last summer defeated former state Sen. Leticia Van de Putte in the runoff election Saturday. Taylor captured the election with nearly 52 percent of the vote.

Taylor said in her victory speech, "The work starts on Monday at City Hall. We come together now as a city." Taylor last July was on the San Antonio City Council when fellow members voted to appoint her as mayor to replace Julian Castro. He became secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Van de Putte said she's not sure what her future in politics holds, but for now she plans to spend more time with her family.



**The Austin Area
Black Contractors Association
is reaching out to all
African American Construction Contractors
located in Travis, Hays, Williamson,
Bastrop and Caldwell Counties to get
MBE/WBE/DBE Certified with the City of Austin.**

Additionally, check-out ABCA's 2007 & 2008
award winning website at
www.abcatx.com.

View calendar of events • training curriculums •
tool box tips guide • and summary of upcoming
construction opportunities advertised weekly in
the on-line Bid Briefs!

For More Information, Call 512-467-6894

**Get certified with the City of Austin
as a MBE, WBE or DBE, Call the —
Small & Minority Business
Resources Dept (SMBR) Certification
Division at 512-974-7645**



Check-out ABCA's website:

www.abcatx.com

View the *Bid Briefs' link* for a current listing of
*Construction Procurement
Opportunities!*

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