



Associated Construction Contractors of New Jersey

# MONTHLY UPDATE

February 2021

## *In Case You Missed It*



Thank you to all who tuned in for ACCNJ's first installment of the Association Services webinar series on Labor Relations. Join us for the rest of the Association Webinar series to learn more about what ACCNJ can do for you.



Business Manager Greg Lalevee and Training Director Willie Vaccaro provide a personal tour of the Operating Engineers Local 825 Training Center to ACCNJ Chair and Railroad Construction Company (RCC) President Art Corwin and RCC's Greg Fallon.



## *COVID-19 Updates*

### **FFCRA MOA Extensions**

In an ACCNJ Alert distributed on February 9, we informed members the mandatory paid sick leave provisions under the FFCRA were not extended beyond December 31, 2020. However, as part of the Consolidated

Appropriations Act of 2021 (“Act”), employers can continue voluntarily paying sick leave under the FFCRA framework and be eligible to receive a tax credit for leave paid through March 31, 2021. To address questions regarding benefits that should accompany leave payments, ACCNJ extended memos of understanding with the various trades whose benefits are based on hours paid. If you need a copy of an extension, please reach out to ACCNJ staff.

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## **Labor**

Access the bulletins referenced below under February Bulletins in the members-only section at [accnj.org](http://accnj.org).

### **FASB Disclosure**

In Bulletin 13-2021, we distributed to Active Members a summary of the most current information provided to us by Fund Counsel and/or Fund Administrators on the various Pension Funds to which ACCNJ members may be party.

### **Wage & Fringe Benefits Ironworkers Local No. 399**

In Bulletin 15-2021, we provided to Active Members information regarding the March 1, 2021 Wage & Fringe Benefits for Ironworkers Local No. 399.

### **Laborers Locals 172 & 472 Settlement**

In Bulletin 17-2021, we informed Active Members a new three-year agreement was reached between the Association and Laborers Locals 172 & 472, effective March 1, 2021.

### **Wage & Fringe Benefits Laborers Local Nos. 172 & 472**

In Bulletin 20-2021, we provided to Active Members information on March 1, 2021 Wage & Fringe Benefits for Laborers Local Nos. 172 & 472.

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## **Government Affairs**

### **Governor Murphy Announces Federal PPP Loans Exempt from State Tax**

In Bulletin 14-2021, we informed members Governor Murphy announced NJ will follow the federal government's lead in allowing Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans to be tax exempt at the State level and enable program recipients to deduct business expenses that were paid with the tax-exempt loan proceeds. For more information, access the bulletin under February Bulletins in the members-only section at [accnj.org](http://accnj.org).

### **Federal PRO Act Introduced in Congress**

In Bulletin 16-2021, we notified members AGC of America, alongside ACCNJ, is monitoring a federal legislative proposal that amends the National Labor Relations Act and related labor laws. During the past two weeks, AGC/A has sent out alerts to members seeking action because of the bill's advancement within the new Congressional session. ACCNJ compiled a summary of issues for union contractors, which is consistent with AGC/A's overview of the “Pro Act.” For more information, access the bulletin under February Bulletins in the members-only section at [accnj.org](http://accnj.org).

## **New Jersey's Legalized Marijuana Legislation Signed Into Law**

In an ACCNJ Alert distributed on February 23, we informed members Governor Murphy signed [A.21](#) into law. The new law provides a comprehensive framework for the legalized possession, use and distribution of marijuana in New Jersey. As expected, this law contains protections for workers from adverse employment action related to recreational marijuana use. The law attempts to balance an individual's right to use marijuana with the employer's need for a drug-free setting.

## **Governor Murphy Delivers FY2022 Budget Address**

In B-19-2022 we informed members Governor Murphy delivered his proposed FY2022 budget address virtually. The Governor's budget proposal was unveiled at \$44.8 billion for FY2022 and includes several components of interest to the construction industry. For details, access the bulletin under February Bulletins in the members-only section at [accnj.org](http://accnj.org).

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## **Safety**

### **ACCNJ Safety Day**

In Bulletin 18-2021, we announced ACCNJ will host Safety Day on Wednesday, May 5, 2021, which will now coincide with Construction Safety Week. On that day, participating members will place a special, coordinated emphasis on safety in a variety of ways. For details on activities and participation, access the bulletin under February Bulletins in the members only section at [accnj.org](http://accnj.org).

### **Safety is a Four Letter Word**

ACCNJ members are invited to participate in Mark Breslin's upcoming program Safety is a Four Letter Word, which will take place on April 28 at 11AM. The program includes a 1.5 hour virtual training session with Mark Breslin, three follow-up safety video lessons and a certificate of completion. Click [HERE](#) for more information and registration.

### **ACCNJ Safety Shorts**

Have you joined us for ACCNJ's "Safety Shorts"? Safety Shorts encourage collective conversation about keeping job sites safe. The calls are bi-weekly via Zoom, and last no more than 45 minutes. The information discussed is based on timely topics and are open for suggestion. Contact [jschiff@accnj.org](mailto:jschiff@accnj.org) with questions or for more information.

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## **Education & Workforce Development**

### **Internship Program – Resumes Available!**

As you know, ACCNJ works within the CIAP structure to offer a summer internship program to all active members. This program is open to heavy, highway, utility and building contractors. Student resumes for Summer internships are now available to all active members. For details, access the bulletin under February Bulletins in the members-only section at [accnj.org](http://accnj.org).

### **Tuition Reimbursement Program**

As a reminder, in Bulletin 05-2021, we informed Active Members the ACCNJ Industry Advancement Trust (IAT) has approved the continuation of the Tuition Reimbursement Program for eligible, full-time employees of ACCNJ member firms that contribute to the IAT. The courses selected must be aimed at providing job-related knowledge and skills for construction personnel in either office or field operations. For details, access the bulletin under January Bulletins in the members-only section at [accnj.org](http://accnj.org).

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## ***Webinars and Events***

### **ACCNJ Services Webinar Series**

ACCNJ's Association Services webinar series will continue to address the various programs and services offered by ACCNJ. Each webinar will focus on a specific service area and be presented by staff who is directly involved in that arena. We hope you will take advantage of having the appropriate staff from your company participate in these webinars, which will not exceed 45 minutes.

The next webinar of the series, on ACCNJ's Government Affairs, will take place on March 9, 2021. [CLICK HERE](#) for details and registration information.

### **ACCNJ's Golf Tournament and Dinner – *Save the Date!***

Let's get back into the swing of things! Save the Date for ACCNJ's Annual Golf Tournament and Dinner, which will take place on June 7, 2021 at Rockaway River Country Club. The day will consist of lunch, followed by golf, a dinner reception and prizes.

### **NJ Recreational Marijuana: Considerations For Contractors - *Save the Date!***

On February 22, 2021, Governor Murphy signed the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory, Enforcement Assistance, and Marketplace Modernization Act (the "Act"). As New Jersey enters a new frontier of legalized marijuana use, employers will have to grapple with the need for drug-free workplaces, while not running afoul of the Act's new legal protections. ACCNJ is pleased to have the firm of Susanin, Widman & Brennan, PC provide a presentation that will analyze the Act's employment provisions and explain what the law means for contractors. We will also host Dr. Jeff Altholz, a Medical Review Officer from Clarity Testing Services, who will explain the current world of drug testing and some of the limitations that exist when testing for marijuana. ACCNJ is confident our team of presenters will place members in a better position to navigate this challenging topic. Join us on March 23, 2021 at 9:30 AM. Look for registration information in your inbox.

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## ***AGC of America***

### **AGC of America Discount Program with Cintas**

In Bulletin 11-2021, we reminded members of AGC's discount program, which provides discounts on a variety of products, services, and technologies, available to ACCNJ members and staff. Recently, AGC/A announced the launch of the new uniform purchasing program with their partner Cintas. For

details, access the bulletin under February Bulletins in the members-only section at [accnj.org](http://accnj.org).

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## ***Member News***

### **CohnReznick "Business of Construction" Newsletter**

On February 8, CohnReznick released its inaugural Business of Construction newsletter. New versions will be distributed monthly. You can access and subscribe to the newsletter [HERE](#).

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## ***Hiring and Job Opportunities***

### **Position Available**

JP Hogan Coring & Sawing is looking for an Operations Manager. The operations manager is responsible for scheduling jobs and real-time operations that facilitate the maximization of resources (human and automated) to achieve customer satisfaction, productivity, schedule adherence and economic goals. For more information on this position, please contact [aadams@accnj.org](mailto:aadams@accnj.org).

### **Resume Available**

ACCNJ has obtained the resume of a safety professional in search of employment in the field. For a copy of the resume, please contact [aadams@accnj.org](mailto:aadams@accnj.org).

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## ***Hot Topics Recap***

In February, we posted these Hot Topics at [accnj.org](http://accnj.org):

- UPDATE: Lake Lenape Dam Repair Recommended for DEP Approval
- Woolwich to Get Three New Warehouses
- Bayonne Approves UPS Distribution Center
- Jersey City's Loew's Theater Set to Become PAC
- Elizabeth Cold Storage Facility Gets Construction Loan
- Brick Superdome and Retail Projects Progress
- More January Price Hikes on Construction Materials
- Vineland Transfers Land Industrial Commission for Sale
- Hamilton Project Receives Construction Financing
- AGC Pens Letter to Biden on Lumber Tariffs
- UPDATE: Walter Rand Transportation Center Overhaul Announced
- Gateway Project Funding Opens Up After Rule Rescinded
- Materials Price Hikes in January, AGC Asks for Tariff Halt
- Wildwood Crest Approves Old Library Rehab
- REMINDER: Compliance with NYC Local Law 196
- Hamilton Township Takes Up Vote on Lake Lenape Dam Repairs
- Wildwood Hopes for Back Bay Redevelopment
- Millville Library to Double in Size and Update Infrastructure
- Union Workforce Grows in New Jersey

- US Construction Unemployment Stagnates in January
  - New Owner, New Plans for Montclair's Lackawanna Plaza
  - Mixed-Use Development Proposed for East Orange
  - Mahwah Considers Senior Housing Mixed-Use
  - December Construction Jobs Drop in More Than Half US Metros
  - Vineland Approves Another Plant Expansion
  - Hamilton Brownfield Could Become Redevelopment Area
  - December Construction Spending A Mixed Bag
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