

NEWS RELEASE

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**WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY HONORS
IOWANS KILLED IN THE WORKPLACE**

DES MOINES, IOWA – Iowans will gather Thursday, April 28, 2011 to pay tribute and to reflect upon the lives of the Iowa workers who lost their lives in 2010 while at work. Fallen workers will be remembered at a Workers' Memorial Day ceremony beginning at 11:00 a.m. at Iowa Workforce Development, 1000 East Grand Avenue, Des Moines.

"Workers' Memorial Day allows us to pay tribute to those individuals we lost this past year in workplace accidents, and it reminds us all that workplace safety must play a priority in our daily lives," indicated Iowa Labor Commissioner David Neil.

Every year the Iowa Division of Labor, Iowa OSHA, South Central Iowa Federation of Labor AFL-CIO and state and local dignitaries gather to honor those that lost their lives while at work and to renew their commitment to safe and healthful workplaces throughout Iowa. Family and friends of the deceased are invited to attend this annual ceremony. A wooden cross is made for each deceased and families are encouraged to take their respective cross with them upon the conclusion of the ceremony.

During calendar year 2010, 51 Iowans died from OSHA related injuries in the workplace and 6 Iowans lost their lives while serving their country in the military. Additionally, untold numbers of Iowans die each year from the long-term effects of toxic exposures in the workplace.

Governor Terry Branstad and Labor Commissioner David Neil will be joined by representatives of the Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO and representatives from numerous labor organizations and local clergy in remembering Iowa's deceased workers.

A list of honored Iowans is attached.

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