

Learn How to Handle Surprise OHS Inspections



OHS inspectors don't only arrive after an incident or to resolve an issue that has brought them to the workplace. They can and do arrive unannounced to conduct surprise inspections of the workplace.

Inspectors can arrive with their own agendas and have difficult personalities. They have the power to issue onerous orders and directions to employers and other workplace parties.

Surprise OHS inspections are more common than you may think. In a recent poll, we asked if your workplace has ever been subjected to a surprise inspection and nearly half (48%) of respondents said yes.

So employers should be prepared for such inspections before they happen in order to ensure that they're properly managed.

To learn how to handle a surprise OHS inspection of your workplace, attend this free June 15, 2016 webinar with OHS lawyer and former health and safety prosecutor Jeremy Warning, Partner, Matthews, Dinsdale & Clark LLP.

In this hour and a half long webinar, Warning will discuss the inspection process, the issues that can arise from such inspections and best practices for managing them. Topics to be addressed include:

- Understanding the powers of the OHS inspector when conducting a surprise inspection;
- An employer's rights during a surprise inspection;
- The remedial powers of an OHS inspector;
- Setting the stage for success;
- Managing the heavy-handed inspector or over-zealous worker; and
- Appealing orders and directions without repercussions.

There will also be a Q&A session at the end in which you can ask your own questions about handling OHS inspectors.

The webinar is free but you do need to register in advance.

Jeremy Warning is a partner at Matthews, Dinsdale & Clark LLP. He's a former

health and safety prosecutor with special expertise in OHS matters. Jeremy provides proactive and strategic advice to organizations and management following serious workplace incidents, during regulatory inspections, and on sensitive health and safety issues. He's also an experienced advocate who defends charges under health and safety and other regulatory legislation, represents employers and management in appeals or reprisal proceedings before administrative tribunals, and appears as counsel during Coroner's Inquests. Jeremy also designs and delivers training for organizations, officers, directors, supervisors and managers on a range of health and safety and workplace law issues. Jeremy, a frequent speaker and writer on health and safety and other issues, is a co-author of the Annotated Occupational Health and Safety Act, a leading text used by lawyers and human resources and health and health and safety professionals. He's ranked as a 'consistently recommended' OHS lawyer in the Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory and is listed in the Best Lawyers in Canada as a leading OHS lawyer.