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Contact: Patti Romero
promero@buildsafe.org

Construction Safety Council Names Robert Lahey as its First President & CEO

HILLSDALE, IL (April 28, 2017) – The Construction Safety Council (CSC) has appointed Robert T. Lahey to the newly-created position of President and Chief Executive Officer. Lahey brings over 25 years of leadership experience in public sector agencies and at professional associations to CSC, which is the premier provider of safety training for the construction industry in the greater Chicagoland area. He succeeds Gayla Hurson, who has been Executive Director for the past 5 ½ years and is retiring after 28 years at CSC.

“CSC is fortunate to have someone with Bob’s extensive background joining our team,” stated O’Brien Mills, President, CSC Board of Directors. “He brings a depth of knowledge to the new role, and I am confident in the continuation of sustainable growth.”

Lahey comes to CSC from the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County where, as Director of Community Services & Education, he oversaw delivery of the District’s educational and recreational programs and managed 100 staff in eight different departments at the nationally-recognized conservation agency.

Previously, Lahey was Executive Director at the Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy where he directed the start-up and expansion of a 20-acre training facility for firefighters, police officers, and public works personnel, resulting in a one-of-a-kind approach to emergency preparedness and response.

He has also served as Executive Director at the West Central Municipal Conference where he led a team focused on developing collaborative solutions to public policy challenges faced by mayors and managers in 40 different communities within Cook County. Earlier in his career, Lahey was the World Trade Division Director at the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce where he fostered international business relations through a public-private partnership with the City of Chicago and the World Trade Center Chicago.

“The work of the Construction Safety Council benefits all of us who live and work in the region,” Lahey said. “It is a privilege to lead the expansion of the CSC mission and ensure the safety and well-being of our local workforce.”

Lahey received an MBA from the Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management and a BA from Northwestern University.

He will begin his duties at the Construction Safety Council on June 19, 2017.

The Construction Safety Council develops, promotes and delivers high quality, cost effective, practical safety training to the construction industry for the purpose of improving safety performance and preventing tragic and costly accidents, injuries and fatalities. For more information, visit www.buildsafe.org.

The Construction Safety Council engaged Kittleman & Associates to conduct a search for its first President & CEO. Kittleman & Associates is a Chicago-based national executive search firm that specializes in the recruitment of CEOs for tax-exempt nonprofit organizations, public charities and philanthropic organizations. For more information, visit www.kittlemansearch.com.

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