



**AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING AN ALLIANCE  
BETWEEN  
THE MICHIGAN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION  
AND  
MASONRY INSTITUTE OF MICHIGAN**

The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) and Masonry Institute of Michigan (MIM) recognize the value of re-establishing a collaborative relationship to foster safer and more healthful Michigan workplaces. To that end, MIOSHA and MIM hereby form an alliance to provide MIM members and others with information, guidance, and access to training resources that will help them protect the health and safety of workers. In particular, this will help reduce and minimize exposure to unsupported/inadequately braced masonry walls under construction that are above grade and understand the rights of workers and the responsibilities of employers under the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Act (MIOSH Act). In developing this alliance, MIOSHA and MIM recognize that MIOSHA is an integral part of this effort.

Raising Awareness of MIOSHA's Rulemaking and Enforcement Initiatives

The participants intend to work together to achieve the following goals related to raising awareness of MIOSHA's rulemaking and enforcement initiatives:

- MIM and MIOSHA will seek out opportunities to introduce and expose MIOSHA safety inspectors to the masonry industry in a non-adversarial capacity and to promote mutual discussion regarding the safety of employees relative to bracing masonry walls under construction.
- MIM will keep informed and communicate with the various masonry associations, including Michigan Mason Contractors' Association (MMCA), Mason Contractors' Association (MCA), International Masonry Institute (IMI), the Michigan Council of Employers of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 2, and the Michigan Masonry Coalition (MMC). MIM and MIOSHA will meet annually to discuss opportunities to promote safety in the masonry industry.



## Training and Education

The participants intend to work together to achieve the following training and education goals:

- MIM will train and educate the construction industry and MIOSHA on temporarily bracing masonry walls under construction safely above grade in accordance with the Standard Practice for Bracing Masonry Walls Under Construction and Masonry Wall Bracing Design Handbook.
- MIM will conduct one training session annually to discuss and demonstrate proper wall bracing procedures for MIOSHA construction staff and CET relative to the Construction Safety and Health Standard Part 2 Masonry Wall Bracing.
- With MIOSHA assistance, MIM will conduct at least one training session annually to discuss and demonstrate proper wall bracing procedures for masonry industry personnel and other construction employees relative to the Construction Safety and Health Standard Part 2 Masonry Wall Bracing.

## Outreach and Communication

The participants intend to work together to achieve the following outreach and communication goals:

### MIM

- MIM will communicate through its website ([www.masonryinfo.org](http://www.masonryinfo.org)) conferences, seminars, Safety Day, etc., to educate and share safety information with the construction industry and MIOSHA construction staff.
- MIM will inform the construction industry of changes in MIOSHA's administration and standards to keep the construction industry current with interpretation and compliance relative to wall bracing.
- MIM will promote the MIOSHA Training Institute and MIOSHA cooperative programs to chapter members via email blasts and on websites.

### MIOSHA

- MIOSHA will publish one article, authored by MIM, in their quarterly newsletter, MIOSHA News, pertaining to wall bracing or other masonry related issues.
- MIOSHA and MIM will annually review and edit information in the MIOSHA construction fact sheet that addresses masonry wall bracing and



accepts the “Standard Practice for Bracing Masonry Walls Under Construction and Masonry Wall Bracing Design Handbook” published by the Mason Contractors Association of America as an industry standard.

MIOSHA’s alliances provide parties an opportunity to participate in a voluntary cooperative relationship with MIOSHA for purposes such as raising awareness of MIOSHA’s rulemaking and enforcement initiatives, training and education, and outreach and communication. These Alliances have proven to be valuable tools for both MIOSHA and its Alliance participants. By entering into an alliance with a party, MIOSHA is not endorsing or promoting, nor does it intend to endorse or promote, any of that party’s products or services.

An implementation team made up of representatives of each organization will meet to develop a plan of action, determine working procedures, and identify the roles and responsibilities of the participants. In addition, they will meet at least three times per year to track and share information on activities and results in achieving the goals of the alliance. MIOSHA team members will include representatives of the CET Division construction consultant staff.



This alliance agreement will remain in effect for three years from the date of signing. Either signatory may terminate it for any reason at any time, provided they give 30 days' written notice. This agreement may be modified at any time with the written concurrence of all signatories.

Signed this 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021.



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