

**NEWS RELEASE – For Immediate Release****DATE:** August 27, 2014**SUBJECT:** City of Jasper receives state INSHARP re-certification**CONTACT:** Cale Knies – 812.482.4255 – cknies@ci.jasper.in.us

INDIANAPOLIS (Aug. 27, 2014) – Indiana Department of Labor Commissioner, Rick Ruble, was among the dignitaries in attendance at a Wednesday afternoon presentation at Jasper City Hall. The purpose of the event was to mark the City of Jasper's 11 consecutive years of Indiana Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (INSHARP) certification. The City of Jasper became Indiana's first INSHARP site in 2003 and the continued certification represents the status of the City of Jasper as one of the state's quality employers.

"The City of Jasper took the initiative to become the first INSHARP certified site in the state," said Indiana Department of Labor (IDOL) Commissioner Rick J. Ruble. "They led the way in employee safety and health, and continue to demonstrate their dedication by maintaining INSHARP certification for more than a decade", said Ruble.

City Director of Personnel/Safety/Loss Control Cale Knies said the credit goes to the City's employees, especially the Safety Committee. The Committee is comprised of representatives of multiple departments. Knies says the group is "committed to maintaining a clean and safe work environment while continuing to provide excellent training to educate employees in health and safety. Without their dedicated teamwork and participation, this program would not be where it is today."

To participate in INSHARP, a company (or municipality) must develop, implement and maintain an exemplary worker safety and health management system and pass a comprehensive safety and health evaluation by the IDOL. In addition, the facility's occupational injury and illness rates must be below the national industry average. Since the City of Jasper first became certified in 2003, 39 Indiana businesses have received and maintained INSHARP certification.

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About INSHARP

Indiana Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (INSHARP) provides recognition, rewards and ongoing support to small Hoosier employers that operate exemplary safety and health management systems. Certification in INSHARP is an achievement of status that will single employers out among business peers as a model worksite for occupational safety and health. www.in.gov/dol/insharp