

Economic Growth Region 11

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BATTLING UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FRAUD

A Lamar resident pled guilty December 14 in Spencer County Circuit Court in Rockport to unemployment insurance fraud, a Class D Felony. The individual purposefully defrauded the system by collecting unemployment insurance benefits while working full-time. The investigation began when an Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD) employee confirmed wages were reported for the individual while claiming unemployment insurance benefits. Using agency records and information from the employer, DWD investigated and was able to verify the individual worked while claiming unemployment insurance benefits. "Individuals who receive unemployment benefits while working full-time are knowingly breaking the law, and will be held accountable," said Scott B.

Sanders, Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development. "Unemployment benefits are for those who are truly in need." The individual was ordered to pay \$325 a month to DWD for the benefits he collected; and also sentenced to a year and a half of probation, but will serve the time in prison if the terms of the plea agreement are violated. DWD receives wage reports and new hire data from Hoosier employers documenting who is employed and receiving compensation. The agency uses this information to ensure people are not collecting unemployment insurance benefits while working. You can also help combat unemployment insurance fraud and abuse by reporting it online at www.in.gov/dwd/fraud.

HOW TO SUCCESSFULLY CONQUER THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

The phrase "elephant in the room" refers to a difficult topic about which everyone is painfully aware, but that is so uncomfortable that nobody is willing to mention it publicly. Companies and organizations are often vexed by their own elephants. The most effective way to make those vexing elephants shrink beyond recognition is to admit that you (and everyone else) can see them, explain exactly what you're doing to eliminate them, and then move on. Once you admit to the elephant's presence, those who would speak against your company lose a very powerful weapon. It's hard to call someone to task when they've already done it themselves. In 1982, Johnson & Johnson faced the greatest threat to its hard-earned reputation when someone laced

Tylenol capsules with cyanide, killing seven people. Instead of letting an enormous elephant surround one of the world's most trusted products, Johnson & Johnson immediately went public. They recalled the product from store shelves and urged consumers to discard any Tylenol in their homes. They quickly rolled out tamper-resistant packaging. Their candor not only saved Tylenol's reputation, but quickly returned it to the number one position in the marketplace. Be bold and speak the plain truth, make believable promises, and then walk right past the elephant. Once you own up to his presence and look him in the eyes, he'll stop getting in your way. For the full article click [here](#).

INDIANA'S HIGH-WAGE HIGH-DEMAND OCCUPATIONS

The Hoosier Hot 50 Jobs list gives a snapshot of the job market into the future based on eight weighted occupational and employment-related measures. This year's methodology added the analysis of current job demand as illustrated by current levels of Indiana online job ads by industry.

The website - www.HoosierHot50.com - gives the job listing, data-collection details and video profiles of Hoosiers now working in each of the jobs. The videos include such information as what a typical day on the job is like, how the job was obtained and what the worker enjoys most about the position.

The 2012 list shows that 40 of the 50 projected high-wage, high-demand jobs will require at least post-secondary vocational training, and 37 of the jobs require an associate degree or higher.

The 2010 list placed computer software engineer with an annual salary of \$72,268 in the top spot, but the 2012 version of the Hot 50 Jobs ranking has physician/surgeon at the top with an estimated annual salary of \$160,451. Computer software engineer fell to number five. Registered nurse, physical therapist, and dental hygienist round out the top five Hoosier Hot 50 Jobs.

DWD officials view the Hoosier Hot 50 Jobs as a helpful tool that allows job-seekers to identify and understand the skills needed for the job market in Indiana.

Did you know....

- Twenty jobs are included on the list for the first time, with marketing specialist taking the highest spot at number 14.
- Physician/Surgeon, Registered nurse, physical therapist, and dental hygienist make up the top five high-wage high-demand occupations in Indiana

Upcoming Events:

Business Seminars: Davis Bacon Act

• February 7, 2013
WorkOne Southwest
700 E. Walnut St.
Evansville, IN 47710
7:30am-9am CST
To register please contact Cathy Boatman
cboatman@dwd.in.gov

• February 28, 2013
VU Jasper Campus
850 College Ave
Jasper, IN 47546
7:30am-9am EST
To register please contact Nancy Schroering
nschroering@vinu.edu

Contact:

For more information on mentioned programs please contact:

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