



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
OFFICE OF MINERS' HEALTH, SAFETY AND TRAINING
BUREAU OF COMMERCE

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GASTON CAPERTON
GOVERNOR

MEMORANDUM

STEPHEN F. WEBBER
DIRECTOR

TO: All MHS&T Employees
FROM: Stephen F. Webber, Director *SFW*
DATE: May 20, 1996
RE: Training, Mine Rescue, and Other Activities Providing
Services to Coal Industry Employees

It has come to my attention that MHS&T employees are providing services for (other than regular work assignments) to coal operators and/or independent contractors.

As you are all aware in the past year a number of mine inspectors, coal operator's representatives, and coal industry consultants have either confessed to fraudulent activities or been found guilty of such activities by various courts.

There have been reported cases of inspectors accepting money or other considerations in exchange for good inspections, certified trainers have issued certifications without proper participation and proper testing, and industry personnel have attempted to extract favors for pay or other consideration. When this happens everyone in the coal industry is looked upon in a negative manner.

It is my intent that there not be the slightest perception that our agency's staff participates in fraudulent activities.

After careful review of agency activities, effective May 20, 1996, **no** MHS&T employee may participate in any activities that are not part of your normal work duties. Under **no** circumstances should you receive compensation or other considerations from any company or individuals which are regulated by MHS&T.

Any request for your services other than your normal daily duties, and during normal work hours, should be presented to the Director and your participation in such activities must be with written approval from the Director. If any compensation or other fees are to be paid for approved services, they must be paid to the MHS&T fees account.

If this policy directive creates an undue hardship on any company to the extent that they cannot easily replace mine rescue team members, training consultants, or other personnel, a compliance extension may be granted by the affected company contacting the Director and making a request for such extension.

If you have any questions regarding this memorandum or its content, please contact me.

SFW:ks