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# **media ADVISORY**

Oklahoma City, April 2, 2014 –

Governor Mary Fallin has named April 7-11, Speak Out for Workplace Safety Week.

Each year, thousands of Oklahoma teens will transition into summer jobs, part-time work, or internships to earn extra spending money, develop new skills, and network with others. Federal and state youth employment laws are in place to ensure that youth workers are protected in their working environments. This includes restrictions on the legal age to work, the work permit process, schedules, and permitted/prohibited occupations.

In an effort to bring education, business & industry, and government together to promote teen worker safety, the Oklahoma Department of Labor, in partnership with Online Video Solutions, will kick off the state’s first-ever “Speak Out for Workplace Safety” video contest. Other sponsors/contributors include the Ponca City Chamber of Commerce and Pizza Hut of Ponca City and Blackwell / Chisholm Enterprises. The goal of this contest is to create awareness and allow teens to teach other teens about the laws designed to protect them while at work. The contest will begin Monday, February 6 and will end Friday, March 30.

According to Labor Commissioner Mark Costello, “Our first-ever video contest will be a fun way for students to take an interest in workplace safety and create strong awareness in smaller communities throughout the state when it comes to Oklahoma’s youngest workforce. We want to make sure that everyone is working together to look out for their best interest while they are on the job.