

August 2017 | Volume 11 Issue 8.2

Federal Background Check Requirements for Child Care Providers. According to the Office of the Administration for Children and Families ([ACF](#)) the reauthorized Child Care and Development Block Grant ([CCDBG](#)) act contains new background check requirements for child care providers, including FBI fingerprint background checks. Be sure that the early learning and school-age Child Care Directors at your organization are aware of the new [background check requirements](#) and [compliance dates](#). Check the website of the state agency overseeing child care (typically the state health department) to see if your state has applied for, or been granted, an extension to give your state additional time to ensure it has the necessary policies and procedures in place to meet the background check requirements. Familiarize yourself with the state policies and procedures that your organization will need to follow in complying with the new requirements. You can assess whether these background check requirements apply to your organization by asking the following questions: Are the child care programs at your organization licensed, registered or regulated by the state? Does your organization receive funds from the federal CCDBG to subsidize children in your child care programs? Click [HERE](#) for more information and additional resources from the ACF on the CCDBG act and how these requirements may apply to your organization.

Fidget Spinners Safety Alert. According to acting Chairman Ann Marie Buerkle, of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission ([CPSC](#)) “Fidget spinners have become a phenomenon! They seem to be everywhere”. But unfortunately, in light of reported incidents with fidget spinners, the CPSC is issuing the following safety tips in relation to child use; Keep fidget spinners away from children under 3 years of age. The plastic and metal spinners have small pieces (including batteries) that can be a choking hazard. Choking incidents involving children up to age 14 have been reported. Warn children of *all ages* not to put fidget spinners or small pieces in their mouths and not to play with the fidget spinner near their faces. Click [HERE](#) for additional precautions related to battery-operated fidget spinners. Click [HERE](#) to read the full statement from the CPSC on fidget spinner safety.

Preventing Pool Chemical-Associated Health Events. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)) an estimated 4,247 persons per year visited an emergency department (ED) for pool chemical–associated injuries in the U.S. during 2003–2012. In 2012 alone, an estimated 4,876 persons visited an ED for injuries associated with pool chemicals. Aquatic facilities use and store many types of chemicals for cleaning, disinfection and sanitation. Handling and storage practices are crucial to preventing accidents and injuries. Staff must be aware of chemical properties and trained to follow safe handling practices. Click [HERE](#) to view our updated Chemical Handling Safety document available on the Safe-Wise Consulting [Online Resource Library](#). Laminated *Pool Chemical Safety: Storage* posters can also be [ordered for FREE](#) through the CDC. Click [HERE](#) to download a PDF of the poster.

Product Recall: Trango Vergo Belay Devices. According to the US Consumer Products Safety Commission ([CPSC](#)) this recall involves [Trango Vergo belay devices](#) with batch numbers 16159 and 16195 printed on the side of the unit—consumers should stop using the recalled devices and contact [Trango](#) for instructions on receiving a free replacement. The devices were sold in blue, gold, or purple and feature the word “VERGO” on the front plate of the unit. Although no injuries have been reported, the firm has received three reports of the belay device’s handle over-rotating and braking malfunction. Visit the [UPSC](#) for more information on this recall, or call 800-860-3653.

Blog: Click [HERE](#) for our latest blog: **5 Questions to Re-Focus Your Risk Function**

Did you see this in the last E-news?

2017 Solar Eclipse; Monday, August 21, 2017. According to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration ([NASA](#)) on Monday, August 21, 2017, a [solar eclipse](#) will be visible (weather permitting) across all North America. Looking directly at the sun is unsafe except during the brief total phase of a solar eclipse (“[totality](#)”), when the moon entirely blocks the sun’s bright face. The only safe way to look directly at the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed sun is through special-purpose solar filters, such as “eclipse glasses” or hand-held solar viewers. Homemade filters or ordinary sunglasses, even very dark ones, are not safe for looking at the sun. To date four manufacturers have certified that their eclipse glasses and handheld solar viewers meet the [ISO 12312-2 international standard](#) for such products: [Rainbow Symphony](#), [American Paper Optics](#), [Thousand Oaks Optical](#), and [TSE 17](#). Tips for safely viewing the solar eclipse include: Always supervise children using solar filters. Stand still and cover your eyes with your eclipse glasses or solar viewer before looking up at the bright sun. After glancing at the sun, turn away and remove your filter — do not remove it while looking at the sun. Do not look at the uneclipsed or partially eclipsed sun through an unfiltered camera, telescope, binoculars, or other optical device including taking selfies with a smartphone. Similarly, do not look at the sun through a camera, a telescope, binoculars, or any other optical device while using your eclipse glasses or hand-held solar viewer — the concentrated solar rays will damage the filter and enter your eye(s), causing serious injury. By following these simple rules, you can safely enjoy the view. Click [HERE](#) for printable safety information from [NASA.gov](#) located in the [Safe-Wise Online Resource Library](#).

OSHA Form 300A. On Aug. 1, 2017 the Occupational Safety and Health Administration ([OSHA](#)) will launch a [web-based form](#) that will allow employers to electronically submit required injury and illness data from their completed 2016 OSHA Form 300A. OSHA published a [notice of proposed rulemaking](#) last month to extend the deadline for electronically submitting the data to Dec. 1, 2017. The proposed extension gives those affected sufficient time to familiarize themselves with the electronic reporting system, and provides the new administration an opportunity to review the new electronic reporting requirements prior to their implementation. Click [HERE](#) to view OSHA’s July 14th news release.