



## “Promote an alcohol and drug free workplace”

The third point of the Code of Excellence applies to all members of the NECA/IBEW partnership, from those in the office to the people on the jobsite.

This month, Sara Currie and Barry Moreland discuss what promoting an alcohol and drug free workplace means to them:



### Sara Currie, Safety and Compliance with Tice Electric

Sara has been working at Tice Electric for over seven years, and has been at the post of Safety and Compliance for a year and a half.

For Sara, this Code of Excellence point is all about safety.

“In this field of work, being at the top of your game both mentally and physically is of the utmost importance. The use of drugs and alcohol doesn’t just put the individual who decides to use them at risk, but everyone around them and their client.”

At Tice Electric, this point of the Code of Excellence is taken very seriously.

“People understand that the use of drugs and alcohol in the workplace is a huge safety risk. It isn’t something that people have to be reminded of, but it is an expectation that’s consistently met here at Tice Electric.”

It is this consistency that reassures employers that jobs will be completed in a safe and timely manner.



### Barry Moreland, Safety Director at NIETC

After graduating from the Training Center in 1998 as an Inside Electrician, Barry returned a few years later to become the Safety Director in 2004.

As the Training Center Safety Director, Barry considers an alcohol and drug free workplace imperative for safety, but he also believes that the importance of this point goes beyond just safety.

“Another concern, besides safety, raised with the use of drugs and alcohol in the workplace is productivity. Workers who are under the influence are not as productive. It then becomes an issue of them not showing up, or others having to redo their work, both of which affect the team and the customer.

There is also a ripple effect associated with the abuse of these substances. Deciding to use them doesn’t just affect you; it can negatively affect your family, your co-workers, your employer, and your community.

If you are going to be employed in this industry, where you are paid fairly and have good benefits, then it is expected that you will be in compliance with upholding the expectation of an alcohol and drug free workplace.”

Though the jobsite and the client may change, NECA/IBEW Local 48’s dedication to ensuring an alcohol and drug free workplace remains the same.