

Protecting Kentucky's Hospital Caregivers

Kentucky hospitals are committed to the safety of their employees, who dedicate their lives to caring for the people of the Commonwealth. The Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and its members hospitals are working together on multiple fronts to address workplace violence.



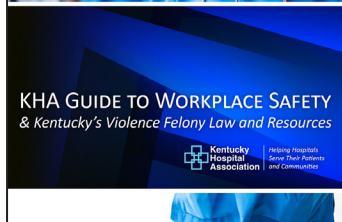
Health care workers make up 10% of the workforce, but experience 48% of the nonfatal injuries due to workplace violence (Bureau of Labor Statistics).

Hospitals are taking action and making investments to protect staff:

- Zero tolerance policies
- Increasing the number of security personnel
- Daily safety huddles and review of incidents
- Comprehensive cultures of safety
- Staff education on safety protocols and reporting procedures
- Education for patients and visitors regarding zero tolerance policies through signs, posters, and code of behavior forms
- De-escalation training
- Hands-on Safety Training
- Enhanced security measures based on ongoing risk assessments
- Metal detectors and/or AI systems
- Partnerships with local law enforcement to prevent and respond to violence
- Resources and support for staff who have experienced violent incidents

Working Together to Keep Staff Safe

KHA worked with the state legislature to pass a new law making it a felony in Kentucky to assault any employee in a health care facility. **The new law creates a greater deterrent to patients and visitors committing the crime in the first place.**



KHA also created the ***KHA Guide to Workplace Safety & Kentucky's Violence Felony Law and Resources*** to provide actionable strategies for hospitals as they continually adapt and update policies and practices. The guide includes newly developed sample policies, forms, and posters for hospitals to use as needed to supplement their work.

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**Kentucky
Hospital
Association**

***Helping Hospitals
Serve Their Patients
and Communities***