STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: The Arkansas Department of Labor and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor work with employers, as well as with various associations, employers groups, unions, and others to improve worker safety in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: An integral part of improving worker safety is recognizing Arkansas employers who have made a commitment to safety and have established an exemplary record reflecting that commitment, as well as providing other employers the opportunity to benefit from the information, techniques and experience of the safest workplaces in the state; and

WHEREAS: The Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) of the U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), acknowledges private-industry employers and workers who have implemented effective safety and health management systems and who maintain injury and illness rates below the national Bureau of Labor Statistics averages for their respective industries; and

WHEREAS: The Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) recognizes small business employers who operate exemplary injury and illness prevention programs; and

WHEREAS: The Arkansas SHARP/VPP Association is open to all Arkansas employers for the purpose of encouraging, developing and promoting the principles of VPP and SHARP for all industries and employers in Arkansas through mentoring, outreach and partnership between management, employees, and OSHA; and

WHEREAS: The annual SHARP and VPP Safety Conference provides Arkansas employers with information, techniques and networking opportunities designed to improve worker safety. This event offers the unique opportunity to work and learn directly from some of the safest employers in the State; and

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas appreciates those employers who have worked diligently to achieve SHARP or VPP status, and we pledge to remain dedicated to reducing occupational injuries, illnesses and fatalities to Arkansas's workers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas do hereby proclaim September 17, 2015, as

SHARP AND VPP SAFETY DAY

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 16th day of September, in the year of our Lord 2015.

Asa Hutchinson, Governor

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Mark Martin, Secretary Of State