



Lawmaker Visit Resources

August 2020



Hosting Lawmakers at Jobsites and/or Chapter Events

- **Objective:** Achieve ABC Strategic Goal No. 2, Political Advocacy, Success Criteria 2.1a - Hold 150 lawmaker visits, 10% by Democratic members.
- Includes elected officials and candidates for office at the federal, state and local levels.
- Great way to give these individuals a chance to learn about the industry and meet employees.
- Serves as a valuable opportunity to reinforce personal relationships, show elected officials how their actions affect the construction industry and discuss relevant issues.
- Legislators enjoy meeting their constituents and ABC builds awareness of the merit shop through these productive interactions, which can also generate good press coverage.



Arranging an In-person Visit During COVID-19

- Safety is of utmost importance, especially during the COVID-19 outbreak. Comply with [CDC guidelines](#), adhere to [best practices during a pandemic](#) and keep up with the latest [workplace compliance guidance from DOL](#).
- Consult your state and local jurisdiction's latest COVID-19 workplace and jobsite policies, as well as [National's Coronavirus Resources](#).
- Communication is key. Clearly state the purpose of the event and safety protocol, along with time, location, audience and number of attendees.
- Contact ABC National Government Affairs for assistance obtaining necessary contact information.

Arranging Visits – Things to Keep in Mind

- Because of the COVID-19 public health crisis, ABC National adjusted to counting chapters' virtual interactions with elected officials and candidates towards this goal.
- Connect with them virtually. This is the safest option during the national health crisis, even when they're in Washington, D.C. And, it's tough for elected officials and office seekers to say no.
- Contact ABC National Government Affairs for assistance obtaining appropriate contact information or advice on organizing a virtual event.

2020 congressional calendar

■ Both chambers in session
 ■ Senate only in session
 ■ House only in session
 House is convened remotely for committee work

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Sources: RollCall, Ballotpedia.

Slide last updated on: June 1, 2020

The House is scheduled to return briefly Aug. 22 then recess until Sept. 14.



Virtual Meetings Tips

- Many chapters pivoted to the new normal and have been hosting meetings with elected officials and candidates on virtual platforms, like GoToMeeting, Zoom and Webex.
- Do a dry run with the speakers/presenters to ensure they know how to use the software. Connect with the appropriate individuals 15-20 minutes before the event begins to confirm everything is working smoothly.
- Have someone familiar with the official, like the chapter president, staff or a member who is a constituent, make the introduction.
- Discuss the Q&A process in advance (written, verbal, who decides which questions will be answered) and have canned questions to get things started.
- Just like in-person events, have a clear goal for the event (e.g. PAC fundraiser or virtual town hall), promote the event to membership in the run-up and document afterwards.

Be Prepared – Do your Homework

- Look up your elected officials and their voting records on key ABC issues [here](#) or by downloading the [ABC Action app](#).
- Take action today! Responds to ABC's action alerts on the [ABC Action Center](#).
- Read the [2020 Congressional Recess Grassroots Toolkit](#).
- Watch ABC National's latest video on the PRO Act, and read the 2020 Legislative Day Cheat Sheet by clicking on the images below.





Tips on Developing Your Message

- Have a single, focused message that could be conveyed in a short headline.
- Stick to issues most important to your members, the district or state economy and ABC.
- The event should be newsworthy or of particular interest to your membership and the general public.
- Ideas for visits: jobsite tours, bill signings, ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremonies, fundraisers, networking events, etc.
- Ask the elected official whether they want the event open or closed to the press. Please keep in mind the official may be more candid if the event is closed to press.
- Identify employees or members whose stories could add to the narrative.



Media and Communications – Before the Event

- Identify strong speakers, such as the board chair or construction workers at the jobsite, who can introduce the member or share their own stories with the audience and press.
- Create a media alert three to five days before the event and share with targeted local media inviting them to attend. It's helpful to include interview opportunities in the alert, such as with the member, chapter president or select workers (ABC National can help identify proper media contacts) and send a reminder. You can also add the alert to the news section of your website.
- Provide talking points or scripts with a run of show to speakers. Conduct mock interviews as needed.
- Use banners or podium signs with ABC branding.
- Hire a photographer or identify a team member to document the event.



Media and Communications – Day of the Event

- Send an early morning reminder or call media who haven't RSVP'd; share the list of media attending with the member in advance.
- Identify an ABC staff person can greet any reporters in attendance and assist throughout the event with interviews and other needs.
- If appropriate, put out a press release about the member's visit with photos and captions once the event concludes.
- Post photos and highlights from the event on social media channels. Please keep COVID-19 best practices in mind when taking and sharing photos. Attendees should be six feet apart and wearing masks, as appropriate.
- Share highlights and photos with ABC for inclusion in the Balanced Scorecard, Newsline or Year in Review.



ABC PAC Meet & Greet Series Held in Conjunction with Chapters



ABC Members,

As the incoming 2021 National Chair, I would like to personally invite you to the upcoming ABC PAC Virtual Meet and Greet series.

ABC PAC is thrilled to host Republican Whip Steve Scalise, Ranking Member Virginia Foxx and Senators Cory Gardner and David Perdue in support of ABC PAC and the merit shop philosophy.





Candidate for Minnesota's 2nd Congressional District Tyler Kistner Tours ABC MN/ND Member Bauer Design Build Jobsite






A huge thank you to @KistnerCongress for stopping by our Tailgate Tuesday lunch and safety talk today in Lakeville. We were on site with ABC member Bauer Design Build as crews there are finishing up the new U-Haul truck and storage facility. #ABCMeritShopProud #mn02



4:21 PM · Jun 30, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

7 Retweets 11 Likes




e·Chatter

A bi-monthly email update for the members of Associated Builders and Contractors

July 2, 2020

Candidate for Congress Tyler Kistner Visits ABC's Tailgate Tuesday Event



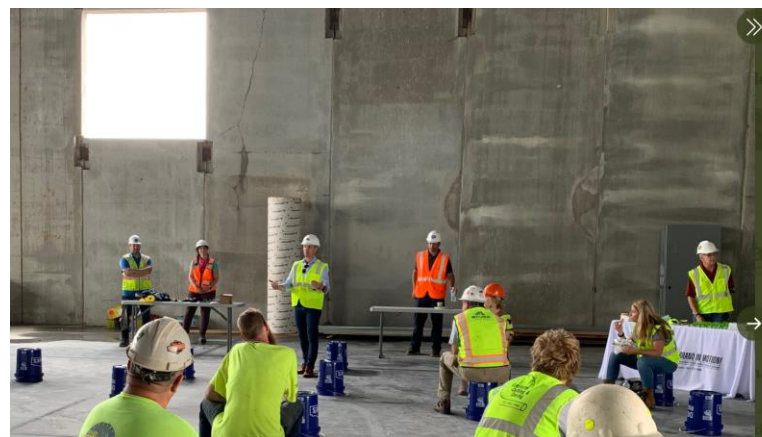
ABC Calendar

July 16, 2020
[ABC MN Golf Outing](#)
Shakopee, MN

August 17, 2020
[ABC ND Golf Outing](#)
Moorhead, MN

September 17, 2020
[FEA Sporting Clays Shoot](#)
Grand Forks, ND

September 21, 2020
[FEA Sporting Clays Shoot](#)



It was great to stop by @ABC_MNandND's Tailgate Tuesday lunch and safety talk in Lakeville! We were on site with ABC member Bauer Design Build as they are finishing a new U Haul and truck storage facility. #MN02 #SendInTheMarine

6:03 PM · Jul 1, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

6 Retweets 9 Likes



Maryland Secretary of Labor Tiffany Robinson and Baltimore Mayor Bernard C. “Jack” Young Attend ABC Greater Baltimore CEA Groundbreaking Ceremony



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ABC's Construction Education Academy Groundbreaking

AMBER RAMSEY / DECEMBER 10, 2019 / EVENTS

ABC Greater Baltimore's groundbreaking ceremony for our Construction Education Academy will be held Monday, January 13th at 10 am. We will be moving into our new facility in Spring of 2020 and we could not be more excited to share this journey with everyone. Our work with Project Jumpstart and their partnership with the Job Opportunities Task Force has led us to the creation of the Construction Education Academy.

The Construction Education Academy is currently being built in Baltimore City. This facility will present multiple classrooms and interactive labs for our training courses. Although the buildings outer "shell" has already been built, this "groundbreaking" ceremony symbolizes the beginning of building a greater Baltimore. This state-of-the-art training facility will assist in developing the future generation of construction employees and build tomorrow's workforce.

This year's Build Baltimore Gala, is a fundraiser for our Construction Education Academy and will be held February 22, 2020. Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are currently for sale. There will be music, dancing, good food and drinks, and must-hear stories from 'Craft Training Heroes'.

NEWS > REGION > BALTIMORE CITY



Construction education academy to bring in jobs, training



Filling more construction trade jobs in the area, Associated Builders and Contractors Greater Baltimore is moving to the city.



By: Kelly Broderick

Posted at 5:15 PM, Jan 13, 2020 and last updated 5:19 PM, Jan 13, 2020

BALTIMORE — Filling more construction trade jobs in the area, Associated Builders and Contractors Greater Baltimore is moving to the city.

The company is building an education hub for apprenticeship training as well.



ADVERTISEMENT



MD Department of Labor
@MD_Labor

Secretary Tiffany Robinson had the pleasure of speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony for @ABCBaltimore's new Construction Education Academy, which will give thousands of Marylanders the opportunity to pursue a career in construction through an apprenticeship! #BuildBaltimoreCEA



5:30 PM · Jan 14, 2020 · Twitter Web App

2 Retweets and comments 7 Likes

****Held pre-COVID-19
(January 2020)**

After the Visit

- Always send a thank-you note. Reiterate key points made during the visit.
- Send photos to the official and their staff. If open to media coverage, recommend they include the visit in their newsletter.
- Send a photo with a long caption listing the participants, location and topics discussed to any media who did not attend the event.
- Promote on your own social media platforms.
- Keep ABC National up to date – send a brief description of your meeting, including highlights of what was discussed and photographs, to the following contacts: Rachel O’Grady (ogrady@abc.org) and Patrick McCarty (mccarty@abc.org).