



## H.R. LaBounty Safety Awards Nomination Form

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### Nomination Deadlines:

Fall Awards: **September 30, 2018**  
Spring Awards: **February 28, 2019**

Agency: **Vista Irrigation District**

Project/Initiative Title: **Vault Entry – Fall Protection**

Employee/Department/Committee Nominated:

Name(s): **Chris Craghead and Levi Marana**

Job Title/Department: **System Controls Technician II/Operations and Facilities  
Worker/Facilities.**

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### Nomination Summary:

*Write a brief summary of your project/initiative. Clearly state the problem/hazard recognized by the nominee and the specific reasons that they initiated corrective action.*

District employees recognized a potential hazard related to the installation of fall protection devices, such as davit arms, in preparation for entry into the vault(s).



*Describe the specific actions taken to resolve the problem(s) or challenge(s). Share the best practices that made this initiative successful for the agency and its impact.*

A potential hazard related to the installation of fall protection devices was brought to the attention of the District's safety committee; Chris Craghead, committee chair, took the initiative to find a solution. He researched options to guard the vault opening with netting, a rail/barrier system or hatch configurations with build in grate systems. Chris learned that most of the options created additional complications for the entrant and needed to be retrofitted prior to use. Alternatively, he decided to design a solution in-house. Chris worked with Levi Marana to design and construct a simple solution. Levi used a welder to cut a small opening in the vault lid directly above the fall protection receiver and installed a hinged cover to secure the opening and receiver when not in use. This design allows the davit arm to be attached to the receiver and the employee tied off prior to the vault lid being opened.

*State whether the hazard was reduced with engineering controls, introduced a new administrative or work procedure, or relied on personal protective equipment to solve the problem.*

Engineering controls were used to make vault entry safer by eliminating the possibility of a fall when installing the fall protection device.

*Describe any extraordinary circumstances that made this nominee's safety accomplishments significant. Describe whether the nominee influenced safety in the workplace, encouraged employee participation in safety efforts, obtained organizational "buy in" to implement the solution.*

This design and outcome illustrates that the solution to a potential safety hazard may best be solved by the personnel who do the work on a regular basis. They are the subject matter experts and often know the best way to make a situation safer for themselves and their co-workers.

*Describe whether the project/initiative addressed a hazard or exposure included in the JPIA Commitment to Excellence Program.*

- Office/Field Ergonomics
- Vehicle Operations
- Slips/Trips/Falls – Falls from Heights

*List and attach any supporting materials that you feel are important for the reviewers to gain a complete picture of the nomination. Digital photos, supporting documentation, sample forms, etc.*

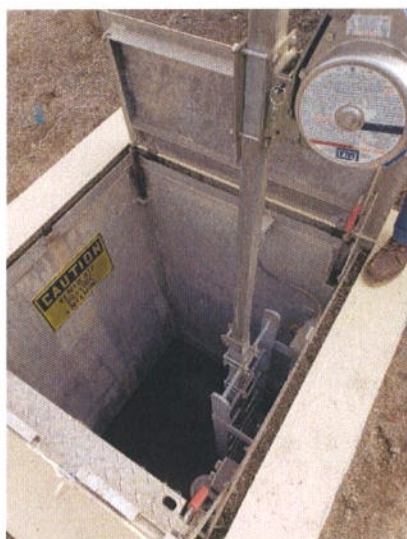
Photos below.



Before Opening the Vault.



Small Opening to access the fall protection receiver.



Open vault prior to safety upgrade.



Illustrates the fall hazard is eliminated.

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NOMINATED BY: Frank Wolinski

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

10/2/18

GENERAL MANAGER: Eldon Boone

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

10/2/18





Fall Protection Vault



Entering the vault



## Terry Lofing

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**From:** Peter Kuchinsky  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 09, 2018 8:18 AM  
**To:** Terry Lofing  
**Subject:** Fwd: Safety Award - Vista, Craighead, Marana, Nom #49  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg

Can this one still get in to the judging? Chuck and I would review.

Thanks

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** "Sherry Thorpe" <[SThorpe@vidwater.org](mailto:SThorpe@vidwater.org)>  
**Date:** Tue, Oct 9, 2018 at 8:13 AM -0700  
**Subject:** RE: Safety Award - Vista, Craighead, Marana, Nom #49  
**To:** "Peter Kuchinsky" <[pkuchinsky@acwajpia.com](mailto:pkuchinsky@acwajpia.com)>

Peter,

I am so sorry for the delay in getting this information back to you. I thought I sent it but it was in draft – Ugh! Answers are below.

Thank you,  
Sherry

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**From:** Peter Kuchinsky <[pkuchinsky@acwajpia.com](mailto:pkuchinsky@acwajpia.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 2, 2018 5:44 PM  
**To:** Sherry Thorpe <[SThorpe@vidwater.org](mailto:SThorpe@vidwater.org)>  
**Cc:** Terry Lofing <[tlofing@acwajpia.com](mailto:tlofing@acwajpia.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: Safety Award - Vista, Craighead, Marana, Nom #49

I will completing the initial evaluation of this nomination. Can you provide any additional information (see questions below):

- What is cost of the fall protection equipment / davit arm?

We purchased the davit arm and wench many, many years ago. The system is expensive I would estimate around \$5,500 – \$8,500 depending on the system purchased.

- Can you send a copy of the brochure / installation instructions for the davit arm attachment? If the attachment was job made, provide drawing and engineering related to the attachment.

The brochure is not user friendly to scan but I can check on-line if you like.

- Cost and time to modify vault lids for hinged lid and install fall protection equipment?

Two employees – two hours at approximately \$120. Per hour. \$480.00

- How many vaults have been modified with this improvement?

At this time only our deepest vault at Lupine Hills but the plan is to modify them all starting with the deepest vaults first.

- How many workers have benefited from this improvement?

The crews that benefit the most are Facilities, Operations, System Controls and to a lesser degree Construction/Maintenance. So in all about 30 employees.

The goal of the revised safety program is to create a roadmap for other members to follow to implement similar improvements. Any information you can provide will help us to fully evaluate your nomination. Would it be possible to get this information to me no later than Oct 5?

Thank you.



## **Peter Kuchinsky II, CSP, CEAS I, STS-C**

### **ACWA JPIA**

Lead Risk Management Advisor

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-----Original Message-----

From: Terry Lofing

Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2018 3:15 PM

To: Peter Kuchinsky <[pkuchinsky@acwajpia.com](mailto:pkuchinsky@acwajpia.com)>

Subject: Safety Award - Vista, Craighead, Marana, Nom #49

I told Sherry they could have until today to complete this nomination. Please complete the judging form and return to me. Thanks