



SACRAMENTO VALLEY ASSOCIATION  
OF BUILDING OFFICIALS  
1215 K STREET, SUITE 940  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
P 916.451.9093 | F 916.231.2141  
WWW.SVABO.ORG

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 10, 2013**

Contact: Andrea Coley/Michael Vieira

Email: andrea.coley@us.bureauveritas.com/michael.vieira@us.bureauveritas.com

**Sacramento Valley Association of Building Officials Increase Elementary Students' Awareness of Building Safety**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Sacramento Valley Association of Building Officials (SVABO) Outreach Committee Co-Chairs, Andrea Coley and Michael Vieira, both with Bureau Veritas, along with Outreach Committee members, Alice Mefford and Nancy Springer, both with Butte County, presented five separate educational outreach programs to elementary students during May and June, in recognition of Building Safety Month. Coley, Mefford, Springer and Vieira taught building safety education to more than 170 first, second and third-grade students from Butte, Sacramento, Sutter and Yuba Counties using safety brochures, stickers, activity booklets and Code Enforcement mascots CODiE and CODEtte.

Coley is passionate about the educational outreach to the children. "It's important that children begin to learn about building safety at a young age. By teaching them about hazard awareness, fire prevention and emergency preparedness in a fun and lively manner, children are captivated and excited to learn," stated Coley.

Vieira stated, "The educational outreach programs were a huge success and they will be a part of an ongoing effort by SVABO to increase the public's awareness of building safety." SVABO is looking to expand the educational programs to include other elementary schools throughout the Sacramento Valley.

Teachers interested in featuring this program as part of their classroom curriculum will find a welcome resource in SVABO, [www.svabo.org](http://www.svabo.org).

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*SVABO is a non-profit corporation representing the interests of building officials and building-code compliance in the Sacramento Valley. With more than 200 active members, SVABO provides its members, associates and the general public with the latest developments in building safety from local, state, national and international perspectives. This mission of the Sacramento Valley Association of Building Officials is to promote effective building codes, enforced uniformly, to create a safer built environment.*