

**PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**J. F. Wilkerson Contracting Wins Top Industry Safety Award**  
*North Carolina Construction Company's Safety Program Best In Nation*

(Fairfax, Va.) – The National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA) proudly awarded J.F. Wilkerson Contracting Inc. of Morrisville, North Carolina, the Overall Winner of the association's prestigious William H. Feather Safety Award.

"Safety programs, safety policy, safety training are never easy, and require dedication, planning, and enforcement," wrote the company safety office Michael Coates in their award application. "We at J.F. Wilkerson Contracting understand the commitment needed to keep safety as a priority...Safety is not an event, it is a process. Our 2024 motto is 'SAFETY - QUALITY - PRODUCTIVITY.' Notice the order--that says where our heart is."

The company's impressive record in 2023 of 126,650 man-hour worked with zero recordable accidents or injuries, and zero fatalities, brought J.F. Wilkerson to the final selection by NUCA's safety experts.

J.F. Wilkerson is known in the North Carolina region as one of the premier utility contractors, and also one that has as a top company priority employee safety and safety training. Wilkerson achieved NUCA STAR recognition in 2022, and is no stranger to the Feather Safety Awards.

The company has long been recognized and is widely known for their emphasis on safe working conditions, accumulating hundreds of thousands of man hours working safely on their projects in the region.

These protocols, training, and employee self-awareness have all contributed to J.F. Wilkerson's award-winning safety record over the past three decades. The company has won NUCA Safety Awards in 1990, 2004, 2014, 2015, and in 2022.

The William H. Feather Award was created by NUCA in 1978 to honor the contributions of the founding chairman of NUCA's Safety Committee. William Feather. The awards recognize the superior safety commitments demonstrated by NUCA members in an industry where jobsites can present hazards on a daily basis. The annual awards are awarded based on the safety

documentation submitted by interested member companies and judged by industry safety professionals.

NUCA and the industry are extremely proud of those who win these important awards in each award category. Other NUCA members who won the association's three other 2023 safety awards in these manhour categories include:

- 0 – 100,000 Manhours – Fort Worth Civil Contractors LLC of Fort Worth, Texas
- 100,001 – 200,000 Manhours – J.F. Wilkerson Contracting, Inc. of Morrisville, N. Carolina
- 200,001 – 500,000 Manhours – Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors Inc. of Jacksonville, Florida
- 500,000 – 1,000,000 Manhours – JHL Constructors Inc. of Englewood, Colorado
- 1,000,000+ Manhours – Hunter Contracting Co. of Gilbert, Arizona

The 2023 Overall Award was presented to J.F. Wilkerson representatives at the association's Convention & Exhibit held March 23 in Palm Springs, California. J.F. Wilkerson's exemplary achievement will be the subject of the "SafetyWORKS" column in an upcoming issue of *Utility Contractor* magazine.

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#### **About The National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA)**

Founded in 1964, the National Utility Contractors Association represents over 2,000 U.S. utility and excavation contractors, manufacturers, and suppliers who provide the materials and workforce to build and maintain our nation's intricate network of water, sewer, gas, telecommunications, and electric infrastructure. The association is celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2024. NUCA is found online at [www.nuca.com](http://www.nuca.com), and can be followed on Twitter at [@NUCA\\_National](https://twitter.com/NUCA_National). The association's Twitter hashtags are #NUCAdigs and #WeDigAmerica.