

Case 483. 57-year-old crossing guard was struck by a vehicle while in the crosswalk attempting to stop oncoming traffic.

A 57-year-old female crossing guard was struck by a vehicle while in the crosswalk attempting to stop oncoming traffic. The decedent was a special education teacher, assigned morning crossing guard duties. The decedent was wearing a high visibility vest and had a hand-held stop sign with flashing lights. As she walked out into the crosswalk to stop motorists traveling east/west, she was struck by an oncoming minivan traveling east. The decedent struck the hood and front windshield of the minivan. It is unknown if the decedent had received crossing guard certification from local law enforcement. Emergency response was called and she was transferred to a local hospital where she died approximately one week later.

MIOSHA General Industry Safety and Health Division did not issue a citation to the employer at the conclusion of its investigation

MIOSHA General Industry Safety and Health Division issued a Safety and Health Recommendation to the employer at the conclusion of its investigation.

Safety and Health Recommendation: An inspection/investigation of your worksite revealed the following condition(s) that may constitute a safety or health hazard to your employee(s).

- An employee was struck by a motor vehicle after walking into the roadway to stop traffic for school children to cross the road.
 - Retraining for crossing guard employees to ensure that the training curriculum establishes guidelines, tactics, and precautionary measures when entering areas where there is moving traffic. Also, include steps to ensure the crossing guard does not advance farther into the roadway when traffic does not seem to be slowing down.
- The roadway in which crossing guards frequent, is a heavily traveled artery. Vehicular and pedestrian accidents have occurred along the roadway in the past.
 - Where crossing guard operations take place in the roadway, the use of portable school crossing signs; such as the examples in documents #1 and #2 provided with this recommendation, be used.