

Case 128. 79-year-old volunteer helping to install vinyl siding on a church addition died after a 4-tier, 20-foot high tubular welded frame steel scaffold fell and struck his head.

A 79-year-old male shipping clerk died after a 4-tier, 20-foot high tubular welded frame steel scaffold fell and struck his head. The decedent was a volunteer who was one of many volunteers installing vinyl siding on a church addition. The scaffold that struck him was not tied to the building and did not appear to be properly supported at its base. The scaffold frames did not appear to be locked together vertically with pins where uplift may occur. The scaffold did not have proper guardrails and the working platforms were not fully decked. The scaffold did not have base plates or leveling jacks. The base consisted of concrete blocks laid directly on the ground with a wood board over the top of the blocks. The decedent was standing on the ground when the scaffold tipped over and landed on him. There were other co-workers present who responded and drove him to the hospital where he was pronounced dead in the emergency room.

MIOSHA Construction Safety Division determined that the fatality was not program-related.