

**Case 204. 52-year-old tow truck driver was killed when he was pinned under a vehicle he was attempting to jump start.**

A 52-year-old male tow truck driver was killed when he was pinned under a vehicle he was attempting to jump start. A vehicle driver had pulled off to the side of the road after he had thought he had run out of gas. The driver called for assistance and the decedent was dispatched to the site. After the decedent placed gas in the gas tank, the vehicle still did not start. The decedent made two attempts to jump start the vehicle by attaching jumper cables to the battery. Both attempts were unsuccessful. The decedent then tried another approach to start the vehicle. He laid down on his back on the ground in front of the vehicle to place power directly to the starter by attaching a jumper cable to the side of the starter that has a small wire on it, bypassing the gear selector. When power was supplied to the starter, the engine turned over and the vehicle lurched forward, apparently still in gear. The vehicle driver attempted to stop the forward movement of the vehicle by grabbing the front bumper, but was unsuccessful. The driver then ran to the driver's side and placed the vehicle in park. The driver tried to locate a jack on the tow truck, but could not find one. Another driver who drove by the incident stopped and called for emergency response on the CB in the tow truck. Emergency response arrived, and pushed the vehicle off of the decedent. He was transported to a local hospital where he died four days later from the injuries sustained.

At the conclusion of the MIOSHA General Industry Safety and Health Division investigation, the following Serious and Other-than-Serious citations were issued:

**SERIOUS:**

**AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE OPERATIONS, PART 72, RULE 7211(a)**

An employer shall provide training to an employee as to the hazards, safe operations of the assigned job and applicable rules of this part.

Inadequate training for employees as to the hazards of trying to jump start a vehicle from under the vehicle at the starter.

**OTHER-THAN-SERIOUS:**

**RECORDING AND REPORTING OF OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND ILLNESSES, PART OSH 11, RULE 1129(4):**

Each recordable injury or illness was not entered on the MIOSHA 300 log and/or incident report (MIOSHA 301 or equivalent) within seven calendar days of receiving information that a recordable injury or illness had occurred.

**RECORDING AND REPORTING OF OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND ILLNESSES, PART OSH 11, RULE 1139(1):**

An oral report of a work-related incident resulting in a fatality or the inpatient hospitalization of three or more employees was not made within eight hours after the occurrence to MIOSHA.