How Do I Notify MIFACE of a Work-Related Fatality?

MIFACE Hotline: 1.517.353.1846
Fax: 1.517.432.3606
E-Mail: MIFACE@msu.edu
Mail MIFACE a notification:
(MIFACE) Michigan State University
Department of Medicine
117 West Fee Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824-1315

MSU Occupational and Environmental Medicine Website:
www.oem.msu.edu/

Your cooperation and assistance in increasing the safety of workers and making the MIFACE project a success is critical and greatly appreciated.

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PLEASE NOTE: Reporting a work-related death to MIFACE DOES NOT replace MIOSHA work-related fatality reporting requirements. Employers must notify MIOSHA of all workplace fatalities within 8 hours by calling their 24-hour hotline @ 1-800-858-0397.
MIFACE is a program designed to:
- Identify the underlying causes of the work-related fatalities;
- Identify types of industries and work situations which are at an increased risk of fatalities;
- Formulate and disseminate prevention strategies to prevent similar work-related fatalities.

MIFACE IS:

About Prevention. Through a narrative report on each investigated fatality, MIFACE will notify employers and workers to increase awareness about commonly occurring hazardous operations and how to prevent injuries.

About Education. MIFACE will publish Hazard Alerts to help employers and workers find solutions to safety issues and improve safety on the job using information collected during the workplace investigation.

MIFACE IS NOT:

About Enforcement. MIFACE does not enforce MIOSHA health and safety regulations. MIFACE is not a regulatory agency.

About Fault or Blame. MIFACE is not interested in "who was to blame", but rather in "what went wrong" and how a similar fatality can be prevented in the future.

Who Are the MIFACE Investigators?

The investigators are experienced health and safety professionals, who have received training in conducting work-related death investigations.

MIFACE Investigations

The MIFACE investigators will make an appointment to conduct a site visit to better understand the series of events that led to the fatal injury. While at the workplace, the investigator will directly observe the area where the fatality took place and will talk with appropriate individuals.

Information collected during the voluntary site visit remains anonymous and confidential. Sketches, drawings, and photographs taken at the worksite are used to educate others about what happened and how to prevent something similar from happening at their worksite. Workers are not photographed without their permission and pictures will be taken in such a way that the company’s identity is not revealed. Any pictures taken that have a personal identifier, such as company name on a truck, or of a worker will be revised to preserve anonymity.

MIFACE Investigation Report

After each site visit, MIFACE staff will prepare an investigation report. The report will not contain personal identifiers, such as the name and address of the company, victim, witnesses, or coworkers.

The report will include:

1) Summary statement,
2) Detailed narrative of the investigation,
3) Cause of death as determined by the Medical Examiner,
4) Recommendations to prevent future fatalities, including a discussion of recommendations,
5) References. When available, the MIFACE report will include drawings, sketches, and/or pictures of equipment or source of injury involved in fatality.

Why Notify MIFACE of a Work-Related Fatality?

Your report of a work-related death to MIFACE is the important first step in the prevention of work-related fatalities.

Identifying underlying causes of work-related fatalities and the detection of common patterns of fatal injuries in Michigan will increase the understanding of the specific problems in our State. Prevention efforts can only be directed if we know more about the circumstances surrounding each death.

Who/What Should Be Reported?

Any person who dies from a work-related injury that occurs on a person’s job. Farming work-related deaths include family members, of any age, that work on the farm.

Examples of work that are covered:
- All paid employees
- Self-employed
- Working in family business
- Work activity where vehicle is considered work environment (taxi, bus, pilot, truck driver)
- Traveling “while on the clock” or compensated travel
- Volunteers such as firefighters and hospital workers

Deaths from natural causes, such as a heart attack, are not included.

How Will Information Collected by MIFACE Be Used?

The MIFACE Investigation Report will be distributed to the employer and/or site owner, labor union, and to the family of the deceased, if requested. The Investigation Report and/or Hazard Alerts will also be distributed to trade groups, health and safety professionals, magazine publications, and other individuals who can affect workplace and work practice changes.

Information collected from each site visit and statewide surveillance of all work-related fatalities will be entered into a database. A statewide comprehensive report analyzing and discussing the data will be published annually.

MIFACE Hazard Alerts and the MIFACE Investigation Reports are available on the Internet. (See back of brochure for details).