

CASE 11. 30-year old Hispanic roofer died as a result of a 30-foot fall from a roof.

A 30 year-old male Hispanic roofer died as a result of a 30 foot fall from a roof that he was shingling. The victim came from Mexico to the United States to work during the summers and returned to Mexico in the fall. The victim wore a harness during the morning while performing work, but did not place the harness on after lunch. There was no anchor point on the roof to attach the harness line. Working alone, while shingling a roof with a 4/12 slope, he backed off the roof edge and fell to hard clay.

MIOSHA issued the following serious citations to the employer:

1. No fall protection was in use on the roof with an eave height of up to 33 ' and 4/12 slope which exposed employees to a possible fall to the ground while installing roofing material. (Fall Protection, Part 45, Rule 408.44502, REF OSHA 1926.501(b)(10))
2. Ladders did not extend 3' above the upper landing surface. Employees were using a 30' extension ladder to access the roof with an eave height of 30' exposing employees to a possible fall of up to 30'. (Fixed and Portable Ladders, Part 11, Rule R408.41124(5))
3. Employer failed to report the fatal accident within the 8 hours required by standard. (Administrative Rule R408.22139, Reporting to MIOSHA, Rule 1139(1))
4. The employer did not have a written safety/accident prevention program. (General Rules, Part 1, Rule 408.40114(1))
5. The employer did not have a person on the site that was trained in first aid/CPR. (General Rules, Part 1, Rule R408.40132(2))