

Case 39. 38-year-old construction laborer died after falling 13 feet from a roof.

On March 26, 2003, a 38-year-old construction laborer died after falling 13 feet from the roof of a residential dwelling. He and several co-workers were installing shingles on a roof. He mentioned to a co-worker that he did not feel well and was told to take a break. No one saw what happened. He was found lying on the concrete sidewalk in front of the dwelling. He died two days later in the hospital.

MIOSHA issued the following “Serious” and “Other” citations to the employer:

Serious

1. The employer did not implement fall protection or slide guards on a steep roof with a pitch of 7N12. Employees were engaged in re-roofing work for condominiums and walking/working on steep roof, 13 feet above the concrete sidewalk below. (Fall Protection, Part 45, Rule 408.44502, REF OSHA 1926.501(B)(13))
2. The employer did not develop a written safety program. (General Rules, Part 1, 114(1))

Other:

1. The employer did not have a trained first aid person on the job site. (General Rules, Part 1, Rule R408.40132(3))