

Case 129. 49-year-old printer was killed while raising a foyer wall at a residential construction site.

A 49-year-old male printer was killed while raising a foyer wall at a residential construction site. His family member, who was a self-employed contractor, was subcontracted to build a residential home by one of the coworkers (homeowner) on the scene. The family member asked the decedent to come to the worksite to help tip up the 12-foot 6-inch by 18-foot tall foyer exterior wall. The foyer wall was framed with 2-inch by 6-inch lumber and had plywood sheeting nailed to it. After the decedent arrived, the family member, two crewmembers, and the decedent attempted to manually lift the foyer wall. Nearby was an unprotected 10- by 3-foot floor opening for the basement steps. The crew was able to set the wall approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up by lifting on the wall. As they were lifting the wall, the crewmembers apparently lost their grip on the wall and the wall fell inward toward the interior of the home. The falling wall caused the decedent to fall through the unprotected floor opening. He fell 9 feet to the dirt floor below and hit his head on a concrete pad footing for a support column. It is unknown if the wall, as it fell, hit the decedent on the head or if he just fell straight through to the basement floor. The wall they were lifting was found lying on top of the floor opening. Emergency response was called and the decedent was declared dead at the scene.

MIOSHA Construction Safety Division determined that this incident was not program-related.