

**Case 155. 66-year-old male volunteer was electrocuted when he contacted an un-insulated 4,800-volt overhead power line.**

A 66-year-old male volunteer was electrocuted when he contacted an un-insulated 4,800-volt overhead power line. He was volunteering electrical services for a 301K non-profit organization (club). The decedent's family was a member of this club. The club was in the process of sponsoring a show, and club members were arriving at the site. The decedent and one of his family members were installing a 120/240-volt power bank. They were hot tapping an un-insulated 4,800-volt overhead line to add more power for the show. Neither the decedent nor his family member was a licensed journeyman/electrician. The new line went underground to feed a panel. Working in a rented, un-insulated JLG aerial lift approximately 12 inches from the energized line, the family member had completed crimping the center phase to the new line. The decedent was handing tools to the family member from the rear of the platform. After the family member removed his hot tap gloves and was clear of the line, he told the decedent that he was clear. The decedent turned at his hips and his right elbow contacted the now energized line. 911 was called and the decedent was transported to a local hospital where he died two days later.

MIOSHA Construction Safety and Health Division determined that there was no employer-employee relationship so no citations were issued at the conclusion of their investigation. However, the compliance officer identified the following issues and the club was given the relevant MIOSHA Construction standards that addressed these issues.

ISSUE: The club did not have an Accident Prevention Program.

STANDARD: MIOSHA Construction Safety and Health Standard, Part 1, General Rules.

ISSUE: The individual were hot tapping 4,800-volt overhead lines from an un-insulated JLG aerial work platform that was 12 inches from the energized lines. They were not licensed journeypersons, were not wearing the proper personal protective equipment and were not wearing safety harnesses with lanyards while performing the work. The only training they had on operating an aerial work platform was from the rental company when it was dropped off. The training was quick and did not cover working on energized lines.

STANDARD: MIOSHA Construction Safety and Health Standard, Part 16, Power Transmission and Distribution

STANDARD: MIOSHA Construction Safety and Health Standard, Part 32, Aerial Work Platforms.