

Case 210. 45-year-old construction business owner died when he was pinned between a dump truck and a box truck used for tool storage.

A 45-year-old male construction business owner died when he was pinned between a dump truck and a box truck used for tool storage. The box truck was parked in the street in front of a residential driveway. The dump truck was located in the driveway. The driveway had a slight incline from the street to the residence. The driveway was snow-covered and icy. At the time of the incident, one worker was on top of the box truck securing tools, one worker was inside of the box truck, and two workers were positioned at the rear of the dump truck. It appears that the decedent moved the dump truck forward to facilitate driveway clean-up prior to leaving for the day. He moved the truck ahead, stopped it, and leaving it running, placed it in neutral and appeared to engage the emergency brake. He exited the dump truck and walked forward to the box truck, possibly to load something into the cargo door located on the passenger side or to secure the cargo door. The dump truck rolled/slid forward toward the street and struck the decedent, crushing and pinning him between the vehicles. One of the decedent's coworkers, who was positioned at the rear of the truck and picking up debris ran to the dump truck and entered the cab. He placed the dump truck in reverse and moved it away from the decedent. Exiting the truck, he placed a chock under the front wheel to secure the truck from rolling forward. Police conducted a vehicle inspection and found the vehicle to be in proper working order. The police were unable to determine if the dump truck's parking brake was fully engaged and the truck slid on the snow/ice, or if the parking brake was not fully engaged and the truck rolled down the driveway.

MIOSHA Construction Safety and Health Division did not issue any citations at the conclusion of their investigation.