

Case 339. 31-year-old Hispanic carpenter died when he fell 30 feet from a roof edge to the frozen ground below.

A 31-year-old Hispanic male carpenter died when he fell 30 feet from a roof edge to the frozen ground below. The decedent was one of five crewmembers working on a home under construction. The decedent and a coworker were on the eastern side of the home, decking a 10/12 pitched roof. The OSB decking was icy in spots. The decedent was at the peak of the 2-story roof when he lost his footing. His coworker turned when he heard a scream and saw decedent sliding down the roof trying to catch hold of anything on the roof to stop his fall. The crew had not placed roofing toeboards on the roof deck. Neither the decedent nor his coworker was wearing fall protection. The coworker yelled to get the attention of general contractor who was working in a different part of the home. Emergency response was called and the decedent was transported to a local hospital where he died.

MIOSHA Construction Safety and Health Division issued the following alleged Serious and Other-than-Serious violations to the employer at the conclusion of its investigation:

SERIOUS: GENERAL RULES, PART 1, RULE 114(1):

An accident prevention program was not developed, maintained and coordinated with employees.

Employees are working on site without an accident prevention program developed.
Employees are performing carpentry work.

SERIOUS: FALL PROTECTION, PART 45

- RULE 4502, REF OSHA 1926.501(b)(13):

Employee(s) engaged in residential construction activities 6 feet (1.8 m) or more above lower levels were not protected by guardrail systems, safety net system, or personal fall arrest system, nor were other provisions of paragraph (b) of this section used to provide an alternative fall protection measure.---

Employees are sheathing a roof at 30 feet to the ground below without any fall protection.
Employees are performing carpentry work.

- RULE 4502, REF OSHA 1926.503(a)(1):

A training program was not provided for each employee who might be exposed to fall hazards.

Employees are decking a roof at 30 feet to the ground below without any fall protection training. Employees are performing carpentry work.

OTHER-THAN-SERIOUS: GENERAL RULES, PART 1, RULE 132(3):

A person who has a valid certificate in first aid training was not present at the worksite to render first aid.

No person on site has a valid aid certificate. Employees are performing carpentry work.