

**#24: Fall – Inspection #317804706**

A **21 year old male** employee fell to his death. The employer was contracted to remove interior concrete walls from breezeways and terraces during a renovation project. Large openings in the floor were created to accommodate removal of debris. The openings were guarded with chain link fencing and signs warning employees to stay on the outside of the fence at all times. A front end loader was used to push the piled debris to the openings for disposal. On the day of the incident, the victim went to the 10<sup>th</sup> floor to assist in debris removal. Without assistance, the victim opened the fencing and stepped backward toward the opening falling 43 feet to this death.

**Citation(s) as Originally Issued**

A complete inspection was conducted at the accident scene. Some of the items cited may not directly relate to the fatality.

**Citation 1**

Item 1 1926.21(b)(2)	The employer did not instruct each employee in the recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions and the regulations applicable to his/her environment to control or eliminate any hazards or other exposure to illness or injury: In that employees had received no training in the proper procedures for reposition fence sections to allow access to floor openings for pushing off debris. Employees performing this task improperly could be exposed to falls of up to 43 feet through floor openings.
Item 2 1926.85(i)	Floor openings, not used as material drops, were not securely covered: In that the 8 foot diameter openings created by the removal of the package chutes on Floors 7 through 10 were not provided with covers. The condition exposed employees to falls of up to 43 feet through the openings.

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Photo 1 of 1: Floor openings where debris was removed from the site