

A **60 year old male** employee was fatally injured when he **fell 14' off a flat roof** while replacing metal flashing on a 13" parapet wall. The company had been on site for approximately 15 days staging material and performing work on multiple wings of the building, such as removing ridge caps from parapet walls. The company had staged materials on the southern portion of the building and had set up a safety line approximately 10' from the perimeter of the roof of the Western most wing of the building to begin removing the old roof. The warning line was used in conjunction with a safety monitor as part of the company's fall protection plan. The company began by removing metal flashing parapet wall caps and installing temporary covers. The covers were in place to protect against moisture from weather while the old roof was removed. The company would replace the temporary cap with a permanent one as the new roof was installed.

On the day of the incident, the victim was rolling bonding adhesive onto the top of the parapet wall located on the Northern wall of the Western wing. The roofing employees that were on the roof with him stated they were all spread out along the Western wing performing similar job tasks, both inside and outside of the warning lines. One employee stated that he was working approximately 25' from the victim. The employee stated that he turned away to perform his job and when he turned back around the victim was no longer there. He stated he looked over the edge of the roof where he saw the victim lying on the ground.

During the inspection it was determined that the employees were not wearing fall protection. The employer did not require the use of fall protection as the company was supposedly utilizing a safety monitor and warning lines as part of a fall protection plan. However, the safety monitor was not properly trained as he did not recognize the fall hazard when employees worked at the roof's edge beyond the safety line without fall protection.

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 Type of Violation: Serious \$5,400

29 CFR 1926.501(b)(10): Each employee engaged in roofing activities on low-slope roofs, with unprotected sides and edges 6 feet (1.8 m) or more above lower levels, was not protected from falling by guardrail systems, safety net systems, personal fall arrest system:

In that employees performing roofing duties, such as removing and replacing ridge caps, on a 14' high roof of a school building were not provided adequate fall protection as the safety monitor was not competent.

Citation 1 Item 2 Type of Violation: Serious \$1,200

29 CFR 1926.502(f)(1)(iii): Points of access, material handling areas, storage areas, and/or hoisting areas were not connected to the work area by an access paths formed by two warning lines:

In that the point of access from the ladder to the barricaded work area was not connected by an access path formed by two warning lines.

Citation 1 Item 3 Type of Violation: Serious \$4,000

29 CFR 1926.503(a)(1): The employer did not provide a training program for each employee potentially exposed to fall hazards to enable each employee to recognize the hazards of falling and the procedures to be followed in order to minimize these hazards:

In that one employee had not received fall protection training and 3 employees could not recall training in regards to height requirements and types of fall protection. The employees were not aware of the hazards they were exposed to.

11 Fall from elevation (roof)--Inspection #1410206 Ragan Construction



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Red arrow depicts metal flashing parapet wall cap the employee was removing. Yellow arrow depicts the temporary cover the employee was applying with bonding adhesive when he fell.

