

Fall from roof—Insp # 1716690 Team Farrell Inc

A 47 year old male employee fell 20 feet from a roof while installing a commercial cooktop vent through the roof of the building. This inspection was initiated after an employer reported in patient hospitalization of an employee who fell from a roof to the ground with serious injuries but then later succumbed to his injuries.

The foreman and his work crew, which consisted of 2 other employees including the victim, arrived at the worksite. The foreman and the victim ascended a 32-foot aluminum extension ladder to gain access to the roof top 20 feet above the ground below. The roof was an aluminum roof and had a 4/12 pitch. The employees were bringing materials and equipment up onto the roof and placing them at the ridge cap. The materials and equipment were to be used during the installation of a commercial cook-top vent. The Foreman went onto the roof first and was placing materials on the ridge cap and the victim was bringing materials up onto the roof. Once all the materials and equipment were placed on the roof the victim and another worker on the ground attempted to move the ladder closer to the location of the vent install. The victim had to move a tree branch that was extending over the roof to move the ladder and in doing so lost his balance and fell from the roof to the ground below, where he sustained fatal injuries.

It was determined that no fall protection systems were being used and interviews with the employees working on site the day of the incident had not received training to recognize the hazards of falling and the procedures to be followed to minimize these hazards.

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 \$1050

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 two employees working on a roof 20 feet in the air had not been trained on fall protection hazards nor the use of fall protection.

Citation 1 Item 2 Type of Violation: Serious \$1050

29 CFR 1926.1060(a): The employer did not provide a training program for each employee using ladders and stairways, as necessary, which would enable each employee to recognize

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hazards related to ladders and stairways and train each employee in the procedures to be followed to minimize these hazards.

In that one employee required to use a ladder to access the roof was not trained to recognize hazards related to ladders.

Citation 2 Item 1 Type of Violation: Willful-Serious \$40,000

29 CFR 1926.501(b)(1): Each employee on a walking/working surface with an unprotected side or edge which was 6 feet (1.8 m) or more above a lower level was not protected from falling by the use of guardrail systems, safety net systems, or personal fall arrest systems.

In that two employees installing a commercial cooktop vent on a rooftop were not protected from falling 20 feet to the ground below, and one employee fell, sustaining fatal injuries. The on-site Foreman was working on the roof along with the employee who fell and indicated that he knew fall protection was required while working on roofs. Personal fall arrest systems were available in the work truck but the TN-OSHA standard requiring fall protection for employees working on the roof was willfully disregarded.

Citation 3 Item 1 Type of Violation: Other-than-Serious \$300

TDLWD Rule 0800-01-03-.03(27)(b)1: The log of all recordable work-related injuries and illnesses (OSHA Form 300 or equivalent), was not completed in the detail as required by the rule.

In that the employer did not ensure that column F of the 2021 and 2022 OSHA Form 300 contained a description of the injury or illness, the parts of body affected, and the object/substance that directly injured or made person ill.

Citation 3 Item 2 Type of Violation: Other-than-Serious \$150

29 CFR 1910.1200(g)(8): The employer did not maintain in the workplace copies of the required safety data sheets for each hazardous chemical and did not ensure that they were readily accessible during each work shift to employees when they were in their work area(s).

In that three employees did not have access to safety data sheets when working with Lexel sealant and APOC on the job site.

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