

A 57-year-old man was crushed by a falling load of granite sheets that were being readied for transport. The granite sheets were positioned on two A-frame racks mounted to a flatbed trailer utilizing a fork truck with clamp attachment. The A-frame racks were mounted parallel to the trailer. The rear rack was loaded first, and the load was left unsecured when loading the forward rack began. As this loading was proceeding, the victim climbed on the trailer to begin strapping down the sheets loaded in the rear rack. After lowering a sheet to the front rack, the fork truck operator began to lift the loosened clamp to back away. The clamp did not clear the sheet of granite, dislodging the sheet, and causing it to fall from the trailer. This shift of weight as the sheet fell in the front of the trailer, causing sheets in the rear of the trailer to fall. The victim was positioned directly in front of the granite and was pushed off the trailer. The victim fell to the ground and the load landed on top of him.

Citation 1 Item 1 Type of Violation: Other-than-Serious

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.

TDLWD Rule 0800-01-03-.05(1)(a)1: Within eight (8) hours after the death of any employee as a result of a work-related incident, the employer did not report the fatality to the TOSHA Division of the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development:

In that the employer did not report an employee fatality that occurred on September 23, 2024, to TOSHA within the 8-hour time frame; the employer reported the fatality on September 25, 2024.

Proposed Penalty: \$1000.00

