

An 23 year old male employee working as a roofer experienced a fatal heat stroke on August 23, 2023.

The temperature in Clarksville, Tennessee on August 23, 2023, peaked of 97 °F at 3:52pm. At around 3:00pm, the victim began to display symptoms of heat illness including shaking and vomiting. His supervisor along with other coworkers at the site helped the victim into a shaded area to cool down. After approximately 5-15 minutes, when the victim's symptoms did not abate, the Supervisor transported the victim to the emergency room at Tennova Healthcare Clarksville, an approximately 12-minute drive. Upon arrival to the emergency room, the victim had a temperature of 109 °F. The victim was admitted to the ICU and ultimately died of complications caused by heat stroke on August 25, 2023. Employees at the worksite had access to cold water; however, there was no training on the signs or symptoms of heat illness, no dedicated break schedule. There was not an employee at the site trained in first aid extending the time the victim was exposed to heat without treatment.

**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**

**\$4000**

**TCA 50-3-105(1):** The employer did not furnish employment and a place of employment which were free from recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees, in that the employees were exposed to excessive heat:

On 08/23/2023, employees were exposed to the hazard of excessive heat from the climate during roofing operations including cleaning the ground surrounding the residential roofing job. On 08/23/2023, exposure to excessive heat at the worksite caused an employee to experience a work-related heat stroke which ultimately resulted in the employee's death.

**Citation 1 Item 2**

**Type of Violation: Serious**

**\$4000**

**29 CFR 1926.50(c):** In the absence of an infirmary, clinic, hospital, or physician, that is reasonably accessible in terms of time and distance to the worksite, which is available for the treatment of injured employees, a person who has a valid certificate in first-aid training from the U.S. Bureau of Mines, the American Red Cross, or equivalent training that can be verified by documentary evidence, was not available at the worksite to render first aid:

On 08/23/2023, there was not a person available at the worksite at 1400 Dudley Road, Clarksville, TN 37043 to render first aid when the nearest infirmary, hospital, or clinic was approximately 12 minutes away.

**Citation 2 Item 1a    Type of Violation: Other-than-Serious    \$1000**

**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 OSHA Division of the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development:

On or before 08/29/2023, the employer did not report an employee's death to TOSHA following a work-related heat stroke.

**Citation 2 Item 1 b    Type of Violation: Other-than-Serious    \$0**

**TDLWD Rule 0800-01-03-.05(1)(a)2:** Within twenty-four (24) hours after the in-patient hospitalization of one or more employees or an employee's amputation or an employee's loss of an eye, as a result of a work-related incident, the employer did not report the in-patient hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye to TOSHA:

On or before 08/29/2023, the employer did not report an employee's inpatient hospitalization to TOSHA following a work-related heat stroke.



Heat Exhaustion—Insp # 1694606 Arceny Santizo dba Arceny B Santizo Construction Company

