

### **35 Fall from truck tailgate – Inspection 1256444**

A **39 year old male** employee was fatally injured when he fell from a moving truck while riding on the tailgate. On the day of the incident, three employees had finished their lunch break and were going back to their work location to continue weed-eating. Two employees got into the cab of the Chevrolet 1500 work truck and the victim sat on the tailgate. As they were in route to their work location, the driver looked into the rear-view mirror and saw the victim lying on the ground. The truck had traveled approximately 150 yards. The investigation revealed that the most likely scenario was that the victim was riding on the tailgate of the truck when he fell and his head contacted the asphalt ground.

### **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**

TCA 50-3-105(1)	<p><b>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.</b></p> <p>On August 14, 2017, an employee fell and was seriously injured while riding on the tailgate of a truck.</p>
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Photo 1 of 1 – Photo shows the work truck and the tailgate where the victim was riding. Also in the photo is the shop building where the employees ate lunch just before the incident.