

#1: Crushed by – Inspection #317585545

A **40 year old male** employee was working to demolish the old Hwy 22 Bridge over I-40 and construct a new bridge in its place. The victim and a co-worker were in the basket of a JLG 660 SJ aerial lift. According to the co-worker, the victim had inspected the aerial lift before they started working from the basket. He said there were no problems with the aerial lift and there were no problems with the aerial lift's controls. According to the co-worker, they were both wearing the personal fall arrest system (PFAS) full body harnesses and lanyards and they were both tied to the anchor points in the aerial lift's basket. They were removing bolts from the top of the easternmost concrete bulb tee beam. The bolts were used to support a catwalk along the easternmost edge of the Hwy 22 Bridge. According to the co-worker, they had removed a number of bolts and had to reposition the aerial lifts' basket to gain access to more of the bolts. The victim was operating the controls of the aerial lift and started to extend the aerial lift's boom. They were both facing away from the bridge and facing towards the aerial lift's control panel. The co-worker said he saw the beam coming up behind them, ducked down and called out a warning to the victim but the victim did not duck down. The victim became trapped between the easternmost concrete bulb tee beam and the control panel of the aerial lift. The co-worker said the victim's body was covering the controls and he could not get access to the controls to retract the boom or to lower the basket. He started yelling for help and other workers came to assist. A foreman and another carpenter got into the basket of a second aerial lift that was located nearby the site and maneuvered their basket to get up against the basket the victim was located. They were able to pull the basket down enough to allow the co-worker to get to the victim off the aerial lift controls enough so that the foreman in the second aerial lift was able to reach over and hit the emergency stop switch and restart the victim aerial lift's engine while the co-worker laid the victim on the platform of the first lift and reset the dad-man switch. The foreman and the carpenter with him in the second aerial lift maneuvered both baskets simultaneously to the ground level. Workers on site started administering cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid to the victim while he was lying on the platform of the first aerial lift's basket. An automatic external defibrillator (AED) was retrieved from a nearby truck on site and applied to the victim. The victim was transported via ambulance to the hospital but was pronounced dead sometime after his arrival. During the TOSHA inspection, an operational test was conducted for the JLG 660 SJ aerial lift the victim was operating. The aerial lift operated properly.

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.

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Citation 1

29 CFR 1926.454(b)	The employer did not ensure each employee operating the aerial lift was trained by a competent person to recognize the hazards associated with the work during erecting, disassembling, moving, operating, repairing, maintaining, or inspecting a scaffold.
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Photo 1 of 2 – the JLG 660 SJ
aerial lift

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Photo 2 of 2 - Victim and co-worker were removing bolts from the top of the easternmost concrete bulb tee beam. The bolts were used to support a catwalk along the easternmost edge of the Hwy 22 Bridge