

## **18 Fall from roof – Inspection #1164904**

A **30 year old male** employee was fatally injured when he fell approximately 30 feet from the roof of a residential house. On the day of the accident, the victim was installing coping, a custom aluminum cap, along a 6 inch tall parapet wall surrounding a flat roof. The victim and co-worker had been working on the roof 4 to 5 hours before lunch. Shortly after returning to work from lunch, the co-worker heard the victim yell and when he turned around the victim was gone. During the investigation it was determined that fall protection, harnesses and lanyards, were available onsite, but the employer did not see a hazard since they were working on a flat roof and did not require their use. The employer did not provide another form of fall prevention such as a guardrail system or safety net system to keep the employees from falling from the leading edge of the roof.

### **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**

29 CFR 1926.501(b)(10)	Each employee engaged in roofing activities on low-slope roofs, with unprotected sides and edges 6 feet or more above lower levels was not protected from falling by guardrail systems, safety net systems, personal fall arrest systems, or a combination of warning line system and guardrail system, warning line system and safety net system, or warning line system and personal fall arrest system, or warning line system and safety monitoring system. In that employees were working near and at the edge of the flat roof with no fall protection. The victim, who was installing coping on the roof parapet wall, fell 30 feet to his death.
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#### **Citation 1 Item 2**

29 CFR 1926.503(a)(1)	The employer did not provide a training program for each employee who might be exposed to fall hazards. In that training was not provided for employees exposed to fall hazards while working on a roof. Due in part to the lack of training an employee did not recognize fall hazards and fell 30 feet to his death while working on a flat roof.
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Photo 1 of 2 – Red arrow designates where the victim fell 30 feet from the flat roof.

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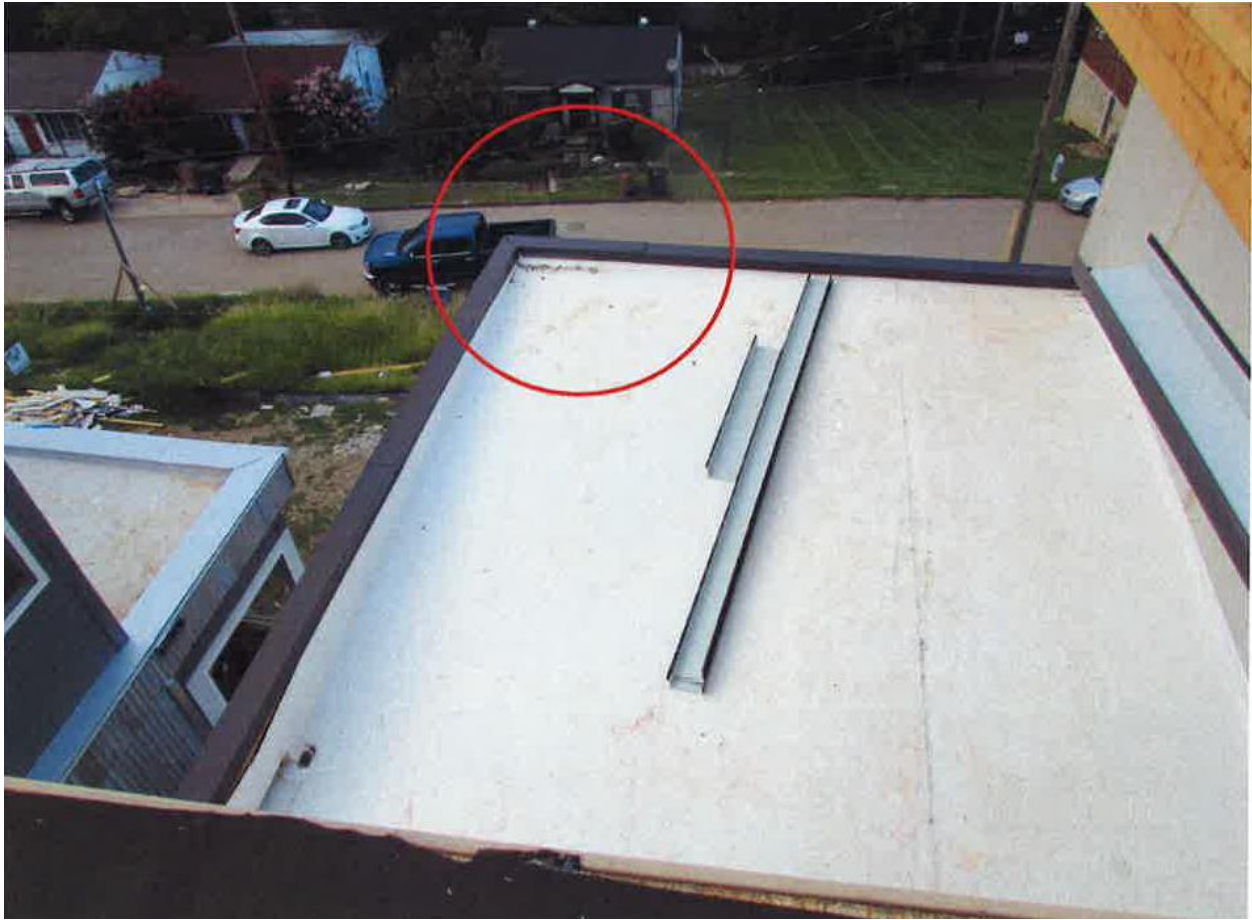


Photo 2 of 2 – Red circle designates the coping being installed on the parapet wall and where the victim fell 30 feet from the edge of the flat roof.