

**22 Fall into excavated crevice – Inspection #1170653**

A **69 year old male** employee was fatally injured when he fell into a crevice 24 inches wide, 200 foot long, and 22 feet deep. On the day of the incident the victim, a masonry superintendent, was assisting the forklift operator in the placement of a Kawasaki Gator onto the north side of the parking garage. In doing so, the victim entered a barricaded area protecting the crevice between the parking garage block wall and bedrock. Instead of using the fabricated bridge that spanned over the crevice onto the parking garage floor, the victim attempted to jump the over the excavation into the main deck of the parking garage. As he attempted to jump over the crevice and guard rail, he lost his balance falling between the garage block wall and the bedrock. The victim suffered internal injuries, a fractured hip, and succumbed to his injuries 15 days later.

**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)(1)	Each employee on a walking/working surface (horizontal and vertical surface) with an unprotected side or edge with is 6 feet or more above a lower level was not protected from falling by the use of guardrail systems, safety net systems, or personal fall arrest systems. In that the employer did not have effective fall protection while attempting to cross a 24 inch wide by 22 feet deep crevice located between the prefab structure and rock wall along the north side of the parking garage.
-----------------------	---

**22 Fall into excavated crevice – Inspection #1170653**



Photo 1 of 2 – The red arrow indicates where the victim fell 22 feet deep into the crevice.

**22 Fall into excavated crevice – Inspection #1170653**



Photo 2 of 2 – The wooden bridge built for employees to enter the parking garage located approximately 60 feet for the area where the incident occurred.