

A **56 year old male** was fatally injured when he **fell from a flatbed truck** while trying to strap a load. The employee was a full time truck driver for Fleet Driver Service, Inc making local deliveries and pick up. He did not load or unload the truck.

On the day of the accident the victim had just picked up a shipment from one company and was on his way to another. On the road between the two facilities, he noticed the pallets that were loaded on his flatbed were leaning significantly and appeared to be unsteady. He pulled over and spent about an hour fixing the pallet stacks.

After arriving at his destination, he relayed his troubles with the shipment to the employees there. The employees loaded additional pallets on the back of his flatbed and by request of the victim reloaded the stacks that he had trouble with.

The victim had thrown a strap from the right side of the trailer over the first set of pallets on the truck to secure them on the left side of the trailer. In doing this the strap did not make it to the other side. He may have then tried to pull the strap back making it catch onto the top pallet on the load.

It appears that the victim then climbed onto the flatbed trailer on the right side and fell backwards from the trailer off of the right side hitting the back right section of his head against the pavement.

No citation will be issued directly relating to the fatality as the flatbed trailer he was working from is considered to be "rolling stock" and not covered by OSHA's standard relating to general industry fall protection.

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.

41 Fall from flatbed truck—inspection #1373264 Fleet Services Inc

Citation 1 Item 1 Type of Violation: Other-than-Serious

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 TOSHA Division of the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development:

In that after gaining knowledge of a fatality on 12/17/18 the employer did not report the accident to TOSHA within 8 hours.



Photo demonstrates the scene on the day of the accident. The employee fell off the left side of the trailer. The red circle indicates the strap that is hung onto the top of the pallet stack.

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