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DID YOU KNOW?

The U.S. Attorney recently filed charges against James J. McCullagh, the owner of a roofing company, related to the fatal fall of one of his employees.

The indictment alleges that McCullagh failed to provide his employee with proper safety equipment including a safety harness, lied to OSHA investigators about the incident and told his other employees to corroborate his lies.

If convicted, McCullagh could face 25 years in prison and \$1.5 million in fines.

NIOSH and ASSE Report: Young Hispanic Immigrants Have Higher Risk of Injury

Young Hispanic immigrants working for small construction companies face an especially high risk of workplace injury or death, according to a new report released by the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) and the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

The report describes the main reasons for that demographic's vulnerabilities:

- Hispanic immigrants often suffer from language barriers
- Young workers under the age of 25 lack sufficient training or experience
- Small companies often lack safety personnel or resources to adequately address risks

The report identifies some possible interventions—specifically suggesting collaborative efforts with outside groups like safety organizations, community groups and Latin American consulates—that could help fill in the gaps and provide vital supplemental safety training for employees.

While they highlight some possible interventions, NIOSH and ASSE view their report as a first step—one that they hope will help them to develop even better strategies for promoting workplace safety.



ANSI Standard May Not Protect Workers

NIOSH recently warned that the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) released a revision of its standard on nail guns that failed to take into account NIOSH input and current scientific research. As a result, NIOSH warns, the ANSI standard may not sufficiently protect workers from the dangers of nail guns.

NIOSH encourages employers and workers to refer to NIOSH publications for the most effective recommendations regarding nail gun safety. [Nail Gun Safety: A Guide for Construction Contractors](#) and [Straight Talk About Nail Gun Safety](#) are both available online for free in both English and Spanish.