

# Workplace Fall Sparks Investigation

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A worker in the Quaker PepsiCo plant in Danville, Illinois, fell to his death in late July, sparking an investigation by the police department and OSHA. According to reporting by the Associated Press, the man fell 5 stories at his workplace. An autopsy is planned, according to the reporting, and the man was pronounced dead after the fall.

Falls are frequently the causes of death and serious injury in the workplace. One of the reasons they happen is that, sometimes, employers do not provide the training or equipment necessary to protect their workers when those workers are up in high places. Here are some hazards you may want to look for in your workplace.

## **No Fall Protection**

OSHA has specific regulations about fall protection for workers. If you're working over a given height, you'll have to use fall protection, which may vary in design and functionality, depending upon your job. There are some jobs, however, where workers are allowed to ascend to very high places without fall protection. Tower climbers, the men and women who work on the electronics at the top of radio towers, are allowed to free climb after a certain height to minimize the amount of time they're actually up on the tower. In the vast majority of cases, however, you will need some type of fall protection to be in compliance with safety regulations.

## **No Training**

Workers who are expected to ascend to high places are generally trained for it. If you're asked by your employer to take on a risk involving climbing up to a height and you don't have any training or equipment, it's definitely a red flag. Even though your employer may be rather irate at you if you refuse to take on a certain job, remember that falls can easily take your life or cause injury that could prevent you from working at all.

If you [fell at work](#) because somebody was irresponsible in adhering to safety regulations or because somebody asked you to take a risk that you weren't qualified to take, contact an attorney. If you were injured, there's no reason that you should have to pay for all of the expenses involved in an injury on your own. A good attorney may be able to help you to file a lawsuit against the company that caused you harm and, via that lawsuit, you may receive enough compensation to pay for everything you've been put through.