



DEADLY SKYLIGHTS!

SOLAR ENERGY AND WAREHOUSE WORKERS KILLED

A 46-year-old electrical worker, Luke J.*, and a 56-year-old warehouse worker, Roberto M.*, both died after falling through skylights while working on a roof. Luke was carrying a solar panel and tripped on the ledge of the skylight and fell backward through the skylight. Roberto was on the warehouse roof repairing a broken air conditioner. It is not known exactly how Roberto fell through the skylight.

WHAT WENT WRONG?

Luke worked close to a skylight that was not guarded and didn't wear personal fall protection equipment.

Roberto went to the roof to fix the air conditioner. This was not part of his regular job.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE?

Make sure skylights are guarded or that workers near skylights use personal fall protection.

Make sure workers only do work for which they've been trained.

The California Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) program has been investigating work-related deaths since 1992. The goal of the FACE program is to prevent these deaths by informing workers and managers of worksite hazards and how to avoid them.

For a complete report of these (09CA003 & 09CA007) or other cases, and information on the California FACE Program, contact:

California Department of Public Health
Occupational Health Branch (OHB), FACE Program
850 Marina Bay Parkway, Building P, Third Floor, Richmond, CA 94804
OHB phone: (510) 620-5757
CA Relay Service: (800) 735-2929 (hearing/speech impaired)
Please allow at least ten working days to produce this document in an alternate format.

[California FACE Program's website \(http://cdph.ca.gov/face\)](http://cdph.ca.gov/face)

* Not the victim's real name

PLEASE POST

California Department of Public Health
Occupational Health Branch, FACE Program
850 Marina Bay Parkway, Building P, Third Floor
Richmond, CA 94804

FACE stands for "Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation." The purpose of the FACE program is to find problems that may cause work-related deaths so that employers and employees can help prevent them.

FACE is a public health program run by the California Department of Public Health, Occupational Health Branch, and funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor
State of California
Kimberly Belshé, Secretary
Health and Human Services Agency
Mark B. Horton, MD, MSPH, Director
Department of Public Health
March 2010

